



**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE  
FISCAL and ENVIRONMENTAL SELECT COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, October 1, 2008 at 7:30 pm  
Caleb Pike House, 1589 Millstream Road**

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**PRESENT:** Karen Burns, Chair  
Bob McMinn, Vice-chair  
Kenn Faris  
Vicky Husband  
Elaine Limbrick  
Warren Lee  
Marcie McLean

**REGRETS:** Patricia Cummins  
Paul Weyer

**COUNCIL LIAISON:** Jane Mendum

**STAFF:** Chris Coates

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:37 pm.

**1. RECORDING SECRETARY**  
Elaine Limbrick

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved by: Vicky Husband  
Seconded: Kenn Faris

THAT the agenda be approved with the addition of late items:

- 6. c) Third Party Covenants; and
- 6. d) Water use on Bear Mountain Golf Course in the Highlands.

CARRIED

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

a) Fiscal and Environmental Select Committee - Wednesday, September 3, 2008

Moved by: Marcie McLean

Seconded: Vicky Husband

THAT the minutes of the Fiscal and Environmental Select Committee dated September 3, 2008 be adopted.

CARRIED

**4. STAFF UPDATE FROM COUNCIL LIAISON/STAFF-- Chris Coates**

- Last set of recommendations – FESC meeting, September 3, 2008 in report to Council.
- Request from resident for report on development permits issued by staff.
- Hanington rezoning application.
- Swimming Pool on River Road.
- Councillor Williams is the new liaison on the APC. Alternate is Councillor Jane Mendum.
- CoTW meeting - October 15 regarding the Regional Growth Strategy Amendment
- CoTW meeting - October 27 Groundwater Monitoring Report and Sustainability Task Force.
- Council approved at the September 29, 2008 meeting, road paving for Martlett Drive at a cost of \$60,000.
- Critical dates regarding the RGS Amendment are:
  - October 13 – Municipalities wishing to participate must signify so in writing by October 13, 2008.
  - October 27 – Capital Regional District has to agree to a joint statement by October 27, 2008.
  - November 10 – Participants have to submit in written proposals. The Arbitrator then has three weeks to mull over the proposals.
- At the September 29, 2008 Council Meeting two motions were passed:
  1. Choose to participate.
  2. Submit a different proposal to the original RGS amendment. Council had asked to meet with the Minister in Victoria about the Regional Growth Strategy and passed a resolution to send a letter to the Minister of Community Development asking for an extension to the timeline.
  3. Recommendation from Council specifying a joint statement by the CRD. The CRD is going to be submitting the joint statement to all municipalities for their approval.
- No information on proposed site visit to Bear Mountain re gift back lands.
- Nominations for Council began Tuesday, September 30, 2008 and end on Friday, October 10, 2008 at 4:00 pm.

Councillor Mendum reported that the recommendations of the three committees were coming forward on Monday, October 6, 2008.

**5. Unfinished Business**

a) CRD Integrated Water Management Roundtable

Marcie McLean, a member of the CRD Watershed forum, had attended meetings in June, 2006, June 2007, September, 2007, April 2008, to prepare for the CRD Integrated Water Management Roundtable, held on June 5, 2008. The community groups had been asked to identify six items for coordination:

1. Develop a clear definition for Integrated Water Management.
2. Develop and promote a public education program.
3. Establish a multi-stakeholder, multi-jurisdictional group to provide leadership and direction to Integrated Water Management.
4. Arrange a forum for data sharing and transfer/exchange of knowledge.
5. Map and inventory watersheds.
6. Identify shared standard, design guidelines a BMP's for watershed related work.

The community group met with the CRD in April 2008 to begin drafting a "Definition". The group put forward 90 keywords and phrases from which 25 top words were chosen. CRD staff was to develop a draft definition based on the information furnished by the community group. A second draft of June, 2008 has not yet been discussed by the community group.

The community group also worked on a potential framework for a "Community Outreach" Program. The group determined which watershed issues the public needed to have increased awareness of and which watershed issues could be addressed by changing public behavior.

b) Letter – James Lam, Manager CRD Arts Development – June 9, 2008  
RE: PROPOSED COMMUNITY ARTS MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM

Moved by: Marcie McLean  
Seconded: Kenn Faris

THAT FESC supports the proposed CRD community Arts Matching grant program in principle and requests that, once staff have provided information to Council on how this program might be implemented, that the staff report be shared with FESC.

CARRIED

**6. New Business**

- a) Letter – Town of Lake Cowichan, Joseph Femandex – August 19, 2008  
RE: PILOT PROJECT – BROOM BUSTERS

It was pointed out that both the Highlands District Community Association and the Highlands Stewardship Society had broom removers and a lending policy.

Moved by: Marcie McLean  
Seconded: Vicky Husband

THAT FESC receive the letter from the Town of Lake Cowichan for information.

CARRIED

- b) Letter – Vancouver Humane Society, Leanne McConnchie – June 20, 2008  
Re: REQUEST FOR CAGE FREE RESOLUTION

Moved by: Vicky Husband  
Seconded: Marcie McLean

THAT the Council of the District of Highlands resolves to encourage Highlands's residents:

- 1) As restaurateurs and caterers in both private and district operations, to highlight the support for and availability of certified organic, free-range eggs on their menus;
- 2) As consumers, to request the option of purchasing certified organic, free-range eggs at retail food outlets and restaurants and where available, choose the certified organic, free-range option;
- 3) As wholesalers, to highlight the preference for and availability of certified organic, free-range eggs on their food supply inventories;
- 4) As retailers, to highlight the preference for and availability of certified organic, free-range eggs in their food stores;
- 5) That the operators and caterers of District-run facilities be requested to use only certified organic, free-range or free-run whole (shell) eggs;
- 6) That a letter be written to the Provincial Government, Federal Government and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency stating that the Highlands Council opposes battery cage egg production based on the inherent cruelty of confining egg-laying hens in battery cages; and
- 7) That a letter be written to the Union of BC Municipalities requesting all members to adopt a similar initiative.

CARRIED

c) Third Party Covenants

Vicky Husband reported on The Land Conservancy's Support for third party covenants:

- i) The Land Conservancy is very supportive of third party covenants.
- ii) The size of the land to be conveyed by a third party covenant may be a factor (Vicky to report back on the size issue).
- iii) It is expensive to monitor covenants annually. The TLC likes municipalities to participate in costs. Kenn Faris stated that third party covenants could be entered into with the TLC or other interested conservation organizations such as HAT. He supported the principle that, when third party covenants are entered into, the municipality should allocate funds.

The committee members agreed that the Highlands should endorse a policy of allocating funds to cover the costs of policing third party covenants

d) Water Use on Bear Mountain Golf Course in the Highlands

Marcie McLean asked how they were watering the golf course, since in the Master Development Agreement ground water was only allowed to be used during the wet season i.e. November to April. Chris Coates stated that no report on watering the Golf Course was immediately available.

Moved by: Kenn Faris  
Seconded: Vicky Husband

THAT FESC recommend to Council:

THAT the issue of golf course irrigation for the Bear Mountain Golf Course in the Highlands be brought forward to Council for consideration and for status update of the irrigation plan, as stated in the Master Development Agreement, including the amount of water taken out daily from their wells located in the Highlands, and over what specific period of time, and that this information be sent to FESC.

CARRIED

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

**8. NEXT MEETING - Wednesday, November 5, 2008 7:00 pm at the Pike House.**

If you are unable to attend, please advise the chair in order to ensure that the committee will have a quorum for the meeting.

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Karen Burns, Chair

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Elaine Limbrick, Recording Secretary