



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF ROSSLAND

**Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Sustainability Commission
Wednesday, October 9, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.
City Hall, Council Chambers
Minutes**

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Terry Miller	Sustainability Commission Chair
	Steve Ash	Energy Task Force Member Chair
	Fletcher Quince	Innovative Education Chair
	Sara Golling	Member at Large
	Alex Loeb	Car Share/ Energy Task Force Member
	Kelvin Saldern	Columbia Basin Trust Community Liaison
	Kathy Moore	Rossland City Council Liaison Alternate
	Tracey Butler	Deputy CAO/Corporate Officer – City of Rossland
	Cynthia Añonuevo	Executive Assistant – City of Rossland
<u>ABSENT:</u>	Aaron Cosbey	Energy Task Force Member
	Jill Spearn	Rossland City Council Liaison
	Tara Howse	Sustainability Commission Member

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

MOTION: GOLLING/LOEB

RESOLVED THAT THE OCTOBER 7, 2013 AGENDA OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION BE ADOPTED WITH THE AMENDMENT TO MOVE THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE FROM ITEM 10A) TO ITEM 4).

CARRIED.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

MOTION: LOEB/GOLLING

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2013 BE ADOPTED.

CARRIED.

UPDATE – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Update by Mr. Kelvin Saldern regarding the Economic Development Task Force:

- Mr. Saldern explained that he is now the new Community Liaison for Columbia Basin Trust and will be stepping down as the Chair of the Economic Development Task Force. Mr. Saldern will be meeting with Ms. Tara Howse regarding her interest in becoming the Chair of the Economic Development Task Force.
- Recently met with Economic Development Task Force members, where Ms. Deanne Steven brought forward an idea to create a webpage to promote different business options in Rossland and to identify services that are missing. This idea maybe a good fit with the Lower Columbia Initiatives Corporation.
- Economic Development Task Force projects were broadband which is progressing through the Broadband Task Force now and Columbia Basin Trust has approved the Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation's 5-year business plan.

Mr. Kelvin Saldern updated on the Columbia Basin Trust Granting Programs:

- Mr. Saldern's new role is to inform people about Columbia Basin Trust's mandate and assist local governments, individuals and community groups navigate their programs. The area that he covers includes Balfour, Salmo and Rossland.
- Grants in the amounts of \$250 to \$1000 are available through the Columbia Basin Trust Sponsorship program for community events and are distributed through Mr. Saldern.
- Mr. Saldern explained the Community Development Program which has a continuous intake for community development projects. Funds available under this program range between \$1000 to \$25,000.
- Community Directed Funds – Columbia Basin Trust has set aside \$2 million per year as grants to sub-regions to encourage community collaboration and is administered by the Lower Columbia Community Development Team with a separate steering committee made up of non-politicians and nominated members by local government.
- Columbia Basin Trust has approximately 40 different funding avenues.
- Mr. Saldern stated that Rossland continues to be a beacon regarding sustainability discussions within Columbia Basin Trust and encourages the Sustainability Commission to try to continue to seek assistance through Columbia Basin Trust.
- Mr. Steve Ash inquired about possible funding for the Sustainability Commission.
- Alex Loeb inquired about having a specific person with grant writing as the Sustainability Commission grows and encouraged members to think of anyone who may have an aptitude for grant writing.

Mr. Saldern was excused at 3:30 p.m.

UPDATE– ENERGY TASK FORCE:

a) Car Share/ Carbon Neutral Kootenays, Ms. Alex Loeb

- In the final stages of the project Task Force will be meeting tomorrow and are currently working all the details.
 - Ms. Loeb is hoping that most of the loose ends will be wrapped up by the end of November
 - Ms. Loeb encouraged members to use word-of-mouth to encourage exposure as they require 60% usage for daytime hours
 - Presented at the Seniors Hall yesterday to answer questions about the Car Share Program.
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ACTION: Ms. Butler is currently securing a downtown parking space for the Car Share vehicle.

b) Energy Task Force Update, Mr. Steve Ash

Kootenay Energy Diet

- Project currently stalled due to the FortisBC lockout and due to staffing changes. Currently, 46 people signed up in Rossland and 56 more would still be able to take advantage of the City of Rossland's reduced rate.
 - FortisBC who has been reallocated a new representative, however contact information is misleading and confusing. Ms. Butler stated that she has contacted the representative in order to resolve this issue.
 - Mr. Ash suggested writing a letter to British Columbia Utilities Commission and suggest that some of the clawed back funds be reallocated to the Kootenay Energy Diet and possibly extend program
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ACTION: Mr. Ash to write a draft letter and will run by Sustainability Commission members, to be signed by Mr. Terry Miller, Chair of the Sustainability Commission and presented to Council for approval and the Mayor's signature.

c) Rate Disparity (BC Hydro vs. FortisBC) Update, Mr. Steve Ash

- A political session and then another session will be held to develop ideas and proposals to effectively lower Fortis Rates.
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UPDATE – INNOVATIVE EDUCATION TASK FORCE:

- Mr. Fletcher Quince and Mr. Terry Miller attended Royal Roads Leadership Challenge and received great feedback from the participants in regards to the Sustainability Commission's Innovative Education Project.
- 30 Royal Roads students spent one week on this project where, in total, five reports were received.
- Mr. Miller spoke to one proposal that included forging a strategic alliance to run a satellite campus of Royal Roads University in Rossland and will be exploring this option's feasibility.
- Mr. Miller expressed that this was a great way to market a community through student research, many students expressed an interest in Rossland after researching the community.

- Mr. Miller thanked the Rossland City Council for the financial support for travel expenses received in order to attend.
 - Mr. Miller will be following up with the members of the task force and is hoping to eventually put together a business plan and find funding through Columbia Basin Trust for this project.
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ACTION: Mr. Miller to send copies of the received reports to the Sustainability Commission members and will report back to them on if Royal Roads University wants to liaise with the Innovative Task Force.

ACTION: Mr. Miller and Fletcher Quince to present to Council in November about the Royal Roads project and to seek support from Council.

COMMUNITY INDICATORS:

Mr. Terry Miller updated on the following:

- Ms. Sharon Stoddart, Coordinator, Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute is creating a 5-minute video on the Rossland Community Indicators to be ready for the Columbia Basin Trust Symposium in Creston.
 - 2014 is the next year for collecting the indicator information the Sustainability Commission will need to start thinking about planning for the next round which will require City Staff and possibly a coordinator to complete.
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ACTION: City to coordinate what indicators are completed within the City Offices. Ms. Butler to speak with Ms. Stacey Lightbourne and to report back to Sustainability Commission to develop a plan.

CHAIR UPDATE:

- a) **Sustainability Commission Membership Update, Mr. Terry Miller**
Nil
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UPDATE FROM COUNCIL & STAFF:

Councillor Kathy Moore gave updates on the following:

- Will be attending first Regular Meeting of Council this month since returning from vacation.
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Ms. Tracey Butler gave updates on the following:

- Rossland Broadband Initiative is going ahead.
 - There currently is a Request for Proposal for a specialist to execute the Social Planning Exercise with Council.
 - Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) resolutions that Rossland put forward are progressing.
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CORRESPONDENCE:

Nil

OTHER BUSINESS:

Request for Decision to host the 2014 Rural BC Summit

Sustainability Commission members discussed the merits and interest in hosting the 2014 Rural BC Summit and concluded that it was not a priority at this time.

Columbia Basin Watershed Network Symposium, Ms. Sara Golling

- Attended the watershed governance symposium in Fairmont Hot Spring, BC
- Governance for the Canadian side of the Columbia Basin, and a task force has been struck to form an entity for the purpose of watershed governance particular to the Columbia River Basin.

MEMBER UPDATES:

- Mr. Miller asked members if they had any thought or concerns that they wanted to share.
- Ms. Loeb spoke to the interesting content of this meeting.
- Mr. Ash expressed frustration from correspondence arising from the last meeting. Mr. Ash reiterated the importance of discussion and opposing opinions and that the Sustainability Commission requires a balance of scope and opinion.
- Ms. Butler mentioned that Sustainability Commission has tangible projects on the go and is pleased with the progress thus far.
- Councillor Moore values the well-balanced approach, but voiced concern over lack of a manager for the Sustainability Commission (i.e. grant writing, organizing events), but is appreciative of City staff.
- Mr. Miller summarized that advertising for new membership is good marketing to the community, that he believes liaising with City has been a positive experience. He also expressed concern that the lack of a manager to do some of the organizing is taxing on volunteers and therefore wants to support membership.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting of the Sustainability Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, November 13, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

I hereby certify the preceding to be a true and correct account of the Sustainability Commission Regular Meeting held on October 9, 2013.



Terry Miller
Chair



Cynthia Anonuevo
Executive Assistant