



– JANUARY, 2012 –

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

First “Green Speaker Series” event featuring Green Party leader Elizabeth May a great success!

Over 125 Windsor-Essex residents attended the inaugural “Green Speaker Series” event featuring Green Party leader Elizabeth May. Ms. May gave an interesting and inspiring speech about climate change and rising carbon dioxide emissions, as well as her experience at the UN climate convention in Durban.

The event attracted much media attention, with coverage on CTV, Am 800 and the Windsor Star, among many other media outlets. The WECEC, City of Windsor Environmental Master Plan and Citizens Environmental Alliance booths were on display for attendees to enjoy.

The final budget for the event is shown below:

Final Budget	
Dr. David Suzuki gym rental	\$186.77
Catering	\$497.20
Elizabeth May’s hotel	\$101.70
Elizabeth May’s speaker donation	\$200.00
Miscellaneous supplies	\$13.55
Elizabeth May’s gift	\$50.15
TOTAL	\$1,049.37

ONGOING INITIATIVES

1. Provincially Significant Wetlands Subcommittee

This month, the PSW sub-committee celebrated a step-forward in our quest to protect and conserve the Ojibway Shores property. At the Environment and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Wednesday, January 25th the report requested by WECEC to the Planning Department regarding re-zoning City property adjacent to Ojibway Shores from industrial to natural heritage was discussed. From this discussion a motion was made to investigate the benefits to linking existing Natural Heritage areas with the Detroit River. The sub-committee will fight for the property again when this new report is brought forward.

A report regarding the sale of the St. Clair woodlot to St. Clair College was brought forward to the Executive Standing Committee on Monday, January 30th. The Executive Committee decided to suggest a 99 year lease of the woodlot as opposed to selling it. The sub-committee will look at the report and act accordingly.

The sub-committee has now received a draft copy of the Lake Erie Costal Stewardship Trail concept and will offer any comments to Carolinian Canada.

2. Regional Integrated Community Sustainability Plan

Contact has been made with members from the Inter-Municipal Planning Consultation Committee (IMPCC) to begin discussions with the group regarding a Regional Sustainability Plan.

3. Renewable Energy Media Campaign with Generator Design

Letters requesting support for the renewable energy campaign have been sent to various solar companies in Windsor as well as the Economic Development Corporation and the Regional Chamber of Commerce. Mark Bartlett plans on following up with these companies and agencies in order to discuss our project in more detail with them.

The campaign message still needs to be finalized and approved by the Committee before our campaign will launch.

4. Student Representatives

An updated Terms of Reference for our Committee has been submitted to City and County Councils along with our recommendation to replace the City and County Citizen positions with Student positions.

The format for the St. Clair student representative has been determined. The elected student government president will be put forward to sit on our Committee. This has been written into the duties of the student government president. By the middle of March, 2012 student government elections will be complete and we will receive an application and resume from the president. She/he will be recommended to the Standing Committee and will hopefully have approval from the City and County by May 1st when her/his term begins. We will hopefully have a student from St. Clair at our monthly meeting in May. Their term will be one year until the next student government elections which occur on a yearly basis.

A similar request has been made of the University of Windsor Environment Committee and student government but discussions have not yet begun.

IMPORTANT UPDATES AND INFORMATION

1. Response letters regarding our letter submitted in support of the Zero Waste Detroit Petition

The Committee has received a response letter from the United States Environmental Protection Agency confirming their receipt of our letter in support of the Zero Waste Detroit Petition.

We have also received a congratulatory letter from “Prevent Cancer Now” in response to our support for the Zero Waste Detroit Petition.

2. Earth Day 2012

Earth Day 2012 will take place on Sunday, April 22nd at Mic Mac (displays and activities) and Malden (native plant garden) Parks. The theme this year is local food – “I like my food naked, near and natural”. The Committee must decide if they would like to purchase a booth, who would like to volunteer as well as what, if anything, we would like to hand out at this year’s event.