



June 30, 2011

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE WINDSOR-ESSEX COUNTY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Committee meeting held June 2, 2011 are ***attached***.

The next scheduled meeting of WECEC is:
Thursday July 7, 2011 @ 5:30 o'clock p.m.
YQG Windsor Airport Board Room

Yours very truly,

Susan Vadori

Susan Vadori
Committee Coordinator (A)

SV/
Windsor, Ontario June 2, 2011

A meeting of the **Windsor- Essex County Environment Committee** is held this day commencing at 5:30 o'clock p.m. in the Windsor Airport Board Room, there being the following members:

Councillor Alan Halberstadt, Co-chair
Councillor Al Maghnieh
Charlie Wright, (arrives at 5:55 o'clock p.m.)
Tamara Stomp
Shahbaz Ahmed
Mark Bartlet
Matthew Child
Derek Coronado
Ric Coronado
Juliet Mohammed
Andrew Pula
Phil Roberts
Radwan Tamr

Regrets received from:

Pauline Cheslock
Dean Clevett
Karen Fallon
Paul Henshaw
John Miller
Jennifer Nantais
Karina Richters, Environmental Coordinator

Also present were the following resource personnel:

James Bryant, County Engineering Dept., Resource/Liaison E. A. Coordinator,
County of Essex
Averil Parent, WECEC Coordinator
Susan Vadori, (A) Committee Coordinator

The following Guests were present:

Cameron Wright, Essex Windsor Solid Waste Authority, Waste Diversion
Manager
Darrell Sharon
Sonya Sharon

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Co-Chairperson calls the meeting to order at 5:35 o'clock p.m. and the Committee considers the Agenda being Schedule "A" ***attached*** hereto, matters which are dealt with as follow.

2. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Moved by P. Roberts, seconded by M. Bartlet,
That the Agenda for the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee meeting held June 2, 2011 at 5:30 o'clock p.m. in the Windsor Airport Board Room **BE APPROVED** as presented.
Carried.

3. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT**

None declared.

4. **MINUTES**

Moved by P. Roberts, seconded by T. Stomp,
That the minutes of the meeting of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee held May 12, 2011 **BE ADOPTED** as amended in Item 5.2 as follows, Regional Cooperation and Regional Coordination.
Carried.

The Chairperson welcomes the new members to the Committee, and encourages a round table introduction by all Committee members present.

5.0 **PRESENTATION**

5.1 **Essex Windsor Solid Waste Authority Recycling Initiatives**

(A) **Waste Division 2010 Annual Report**

(B) **EWSWA Enviro Tips – Volume 34 City of Windsor - Spring 2011**

Cameron Wright, Waste Diversion Manager of the Essex Windsor Solid Waste Authority provides an overview of the Waste Division 2010 Annual Report. The following salient points are discussed:

- C. Wright notes the necessity of the Annual Report for MOE certifications;
- His responsibilities to the various programs, including the Blue and Red boxes;

- The 2010 diversion rate was calculated at 37.6% up from 2009 which was 35.1%;
- Revenues generated from the Recycling Centre sale of materials in 2010 is \$3,646,666.
- Fibers and containers are processed at the Recycling Centre;

Charlie Wright joins meeting at 5:55 o'clock p.m.

- Other Residential recycling programs include: white goods, tires, scrap metal, and the very popular electronics equipment recycling.
- Yard Waste and compost sides have increased as the recent improvement of the quality of materials has expanded the market;
- Promotional and Educational – a staff member liaisons with area schools;
- Public Space recycle programs are popular and useful at outdoor public events;
- Master plan review on recycling strategy certificate of approval from the Ministry of Environment is reviewed approximately every 5 years.
- A timeline is discussed and it is noted that Public consultation will occur during this process.

C. Wright encourages questions regarding the report.

The Committee notes:

- That 60% is the provincial target for recycling.
- Presently no food waste programs exist in the Windsor Essex area;
- Bag limits on garbage has not been implemented;
- Bi-weekly garbage and weekly recycling curbside collection could increase the materials gathered;
- Market change of materials recycled (i.e. newspaper is smaller) and therefore the weight of the recycled material is lower.

Moved by R. Coronado, seconded by M. Bartlet,

That the consultant providing the data for the Essex Windsor Solid Waste Authority 2011 Master Plan **BE REQUESTED** to consult with WECEC during the upcoming Master Plan review process.

Carried.

5.1 EWSWA Enviro Tips – Volume 34 City of Windsor - Spring 2011

This EWSWA Enviro Tips is provided for information.

The Committee thanks Cameron Wright for the extensive report and providing the presentation.

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Moved by R. Coronado, seconded by M. Bartlet,

That the consultant providing the data for the Essex Windsor Solid Waste Authority 2011 Master Plan **BE REQUESTED** to consult with WECEC during upcoming the Master Plan review process.

Carried.

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6.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.1 Regional Cooperation and Coordination Report

Chairperson Halberstadt updates the Committee regarding contact with Mr. Raymond Duhamel of the Jones Consulting Group Ltd. This consulting group has been conducting renewable policy work in County in the Windsor Essex. The Committee notes interest with the consultant Mr. Raymond Duhamel and discusses inviting Mr. Duhamel to a future meeting.

Moved by C. Wright, seconded by P. Roberts,

That Councillor Halberstadt **BE AUTHORIZED** to invite Mr. Raymond Duhamel of the Jones Consulting Group Ltd. to attend and provide updated information regarding renewable policy work to the Committee at a future WECEC meeting.

Carried.

6.2 Notice of Motion

Moved by M. Bartlet, seconded by R. Coronado,

Whereas:

Due to the efforts of a broad coalition of individuals, community organizations and Municipal, County and Provincial governments, Renewable Energy has become a key economic driver for the Windsor area.

Whereas:

Several Renewable Energy companies, including manufacturers of solar panels, solar panel mounting and wind turbine components, are investing millions of dollars in the Windsor area and creating jobs.

Whereas:

In order to maintain this positive momentum, these companies will require, and deserve, the patronage of local consumers.

Whereas:

The City of Windsor and Essex County Communities are contemplating or planning installations of Solar and other Renewable Energy technologies on publically-owned facilities.

Therefore Be It Resolved That:

The City of Windsor and Essex County Communities patronize local Renewable Energy manufacturing, accessory and installation and service firms when contracting installation of Renewable Energy technologies on city-owned facilities.

Further Be It Resolved That:

The City of Windsor and the County of Essex express formal support for the Green Energy and Economy Act through adoption of this resolution and join in efforts to maintain the act.

The Committee generally discusses:

- The purchasing policy of the City of Windsor and the effectiveness of this resolution;
- That “ the lowest bidnot necessarily accepted” caveat in Purchasing Bylaw;
- If the bidder is local, and the project/commodity is local - could the local content be recognized and weighted differently in the tendering award process;
- The wording “patronize” is considered to be interchangeable with the word “customer”;

Councillor Maghnieh leaves meeting at 6:50 o'clock p.m.

- The Committee considers an addition to the last paragraph of the Notice of Motion:
“The City of Windsor and Essex County Communities are contemplating or planning installations of Solar and other Renewable Energy technologies on publically-owned facilities ... in a manner consistent with their existing procurement policies.”
- The environmental costs of transportation for the goods/services purchased must be considered.

It is generally agreed that a sub-committee meet to discuss this motion and the suggested inclusions as soon as possible. The following are the names of the volunteers, who will consider and research the information related to the Notice of Motion as could reflect the Procurement Statement, including M. Bartlet, P. Roberts, A. Parent, R. Tamr, and Councillor Halberstadt. The Committee shall invite Shelby Askin-Hager, Manager Purchasing and Risk Management City of Windsor.

Moved by M. Bartlet, seconded by R. Coronado,

That the Notice of Motion regarding Renewable Energy local suppliers **BE DEFERRED** to provide for further consultation with the sub-committee and City of Windsor Purchasing Manager and that the resulting new information **BE RETURNED** to the Committee for further discussion purposes.

Carried.

7.0 COORDINATORS REPORT

7.1 WECEC Coordinator Monthly Report

Moved by P. Roberts, seconded by C. Wright,

That WECEC **BE INVOLVED** in the 2011 EnviroExpo scheduled to take place on November 5th and 6th, 2011 Windsor Expo Center located at 1508 Walker Road and further WECEC agrees to **BE PARTNERED** in a shared booth with the Detroit River Canadian Cleanup (DRCC) and that the upset limit of \$400 **BE APPROVED** for the registration/and WECEC's cost of the shared booth space as a participant at the 2011 EnviroExpo.

Carried

Moved by P. Roberts, seconded by C. Wright,

That the Report of the Environmental Coordinator Assistant/WECEC Coordinator **BE ACCEPTED** as presented.

Carried

8. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.1 Air

D. Coronado provides an update regarding the NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board presiding over the Fermi 3 combined construction and operating license application proceeding and the negative effects on the Eastern Fox Snake, attached as Appendix "A".

Moved by R. Tamr, seconded by C. Wright,

That the Air Sub-Committee Report Update, dated June 2011 **BE ACCEPTED** as presented.

Carried.

7.2 Transportation

The Committee generally discusses the viability and the need for more information regarding the Windsor Trolley Proposal as per the article that appeared in the Windsor Star on April 14, 2011, attached as Appendix "B".

Moved by D. Coronado, seconded by R. Tamr,

That WECEC **BE APPRISED** by Transit Windsor of any and all developments regarding the Windsor Trolley proposal.

Carried.

Moved by D. Coronado, seconded by R. Tamr,

That the Transportation Sub-Committee report *re: Moving of Main Library to Aquatic Centre Proposal* **BE RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION**.

Carried.

Moved by D. Coronado, seconded by R. Tamr,
That the Transportation Sub-Committee request for a 30 day extension **BE GRANTED** in order to review the Airport Master Plan file and report back at the July 2, 2011 WECEC meeting.
Carried.

8.3 Provincially Significant Wetlands

General discussion is led by P. Roberts regarding:

- the rezoning of the Black Oak area;
- the Airport Master Plan Open House was positively received and the provincially significant wetlands do exist on airport lands;
- Co-authoring a letter of correspondence was D. Coronado and Tom Henderson, Chair of the Public Advisory Council of the Detroit River Canadian Clean up to the correspondence **attached** as Appendix "C".

Moved by M. Bartlet, seconded by M. Child,
That the verbal report from the Provincially Significant Wetlands Sub-Committee **BE RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION**.
Carried.

8.4 Community Project Fund

The Community Project Fund sub-committee met and recommends that the structure and application process of the fund be as follows:

- Upset limit of \$2000 be designated for local, not-for-profit environment and sustainability groups;
- A maximum of \$500 will be awarded to each group;
- Application form available on line and the top groups will present their project ideas to the sub-committee.
- Winners will be selected by the sub-committee and prize money will be presented.

Moved by T. Stomp, seconded by C. Wright,
That the Community Project Fund sub-committee recommendations **BE ADOPTED** and that an upset budget limit of \$2000 to **BE AWARDED** and the winners **BE SELECTED** by the Community Project Fund sub-committee from the local area not-for-profit environment and sustainability groups submissions with a maximum prize limit of \$500 per environment group **TO BE AWARDED**.
Carried.

M. Child leaves meeting at 7:38 o'clock p.m.

9. NEW BUSINESS

The Green Speaker series – A. Parent suggests on behalf of the Community Project Fund subcommittee that WECEC begin a Green Speaker series. This would include regularly inviting prominent environmental leaders to give public talks in venues around Windsor-Essex. The subcommittee suggests that Elizabeth May be invited to kick-start this initiative.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

Councillor Halberstadt updates the committee regarding the Windsor-Essex Parkway as he attended the most recent public meeting. There will be 20km of unbroken cycling recreation trails along the Parkway.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 7 2011 at the YQG Windsor Airport Board Room.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 7:48 o'clock p.m.

CHAIR

COMMITTEE COORDINATOR

WECEC Air Subcommittee Update – June 2011

1. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) presiding over the Fermi 3 combined construction and operating license application (COLA) proceeding ruled on May 20 against nuclear utility DTE's motion for summary disposition on two contentions against the proposed new reactor brought by an environmental coalition. The first contention concerns risks of Fermi 3's construction and operation exacerbating the proliferation of toxic algae in Lake Erie. The second involves risks to an endangered indigenous species -- the Eastern Fox Snake -- from the proposed new atomic reactor.

The environmental coalition includes Beyond Nuclear, Citizens for Alternatives to Chemical Contamination, Citizens Environment Alliance of Southwestern Ontario, Don't Waste Michigan, and the Sierra Club Michigan Chapter. It argued that the proposed Fermi 3 atomic reactor's thermal and chemical discharges to Lake Erie's shallow Western Basin would provide ideal conditions for the spread of a harmful cyanobacteria, *Lyngbya wollei*. The ASLB agreed with the environmental intervenors, that planned calcium discharges into Lake Erie from Fermi 3, as well as scientific documentation of the algae's presence mid-way between Detroit Edison's Fermi nuclear power plant and its coal-burning Monroe Power Plant, merit further study in a full evidentiary hearing.

Similarly, the ASLB ruled in favor of a full hearing on the risks of Fermi 3's construction upon the Eastern Fox Snake. Although Detroit Edison has now admitted sitings of the endangered species on its Fermi nuclear power plant site, has slightly modified its construction location, and has drafted a mitigation plan, the ASLB agreed with the environmental intervenors that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment's (MDNRE) approval is required, as well as more careful study of the impact of construction traffic upon the endangered species.

2. The Ontario government will not, with its current programs, meet its targets for reducing greenhouse gases (GHGs). This is one conclusion from the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario's 2011 Greenhouse Gas Progress Report, released May 31st. The full report is available at <http://www.eco.on.ca/uploads/Reports%20-%20GHG/2011/11GHG.pdf>

APPENDIX "A"

Transportation Subcommittee

Wed May 25th/11

Attendance

Regrets

Frank Butler, chair

Dean Clevett

Rick Coronado

Bernie Drouillard

Guest, Averil Parent WECEC coordinator

Windsor Trolley Proposal

Brief discussion on Windsor Star article of April 14th/11 on the pros and cons of the proposal. On first glance, the subcommittee does not believe this is a viable project. Though commendable from a historical point, investing in the existing transit system which needs real funding in keeping with the Master Transit Plan should be the priority. At this time the subcommittee asks for more information on the proposal should it go forward or receives more study.

Recommendations

That the subcommittee and WECEC be kept apprised of all and any developments on this proposal as they arise.

Moving of Main Library to Aquatic Centre Proposal

Discussion commenced based on Windsor Star article of May 10/11. The subcommittee feels there is a transportation component as well a larger environmental consideration to this proposal.

The present library is well situated on the main street, meets the needs of a vibrant local community, convenient both by pedestrian and bus access. The library gets excellent usage by citizens and still a viable building. Renovations if and when required would be more economically and environmentally sound than moving a key component of the downtown from its immediate residential area to a less accessible corner of the downtown core.

APPENDIX "B"

Recommendation

Whereas, the present main library where it situated is a viable component of a livable city, accessible to the public, meets the needs of the community and is not necessary to the aquatic centre proposal going forward;

And whereas, moving the library rather than renovating the existing building is not sound from either an environmental or economic perspective;

Be it resolved, that the main library remain in its present position, not be considered part of the aquatic centre proposal and that renovations and upgrade appropriate to its continued and future use be considered and allocated as possible

Airport Master Plan

The subcommittee has been tasked to review and make recommendations to WECEC. The master plan will be shown at a public meeting on Monday May 30th with a commentary period of two weeks. The file on the master plan is considerable and would not allow the subcommittee sufficient time to review it adequately. The subcommittee notes that most review/commentary periods are around 45 days in length. The subcommittee chair has received some information on the master plan, but will not receive the entire file until after the June WECEC mtg.

Recommendation

The subcommittee asks for a 30 day extension in order to review the file and report back at the July WECEC mtg.

Submitted by,

Frank Butler

Chair, Trsp Subcommittee

May 18, 2011

Hon. Sandra Pupatello
MPP Windsor West
1368 Ouellette Avenue
Windsor ON N8J9

Re: Windsor Essex Parkway – Provincially Significant Wetlands

Dear Honourable Sandra Pupatello,

The purpose of this letter is to bring to your attention the concerns of the local environmental community regarding the compensation for Provincially Significant Wetlands (PSWs) that will be lost due to the construction of the Windsor-Essex Parkway. Our goal is to arrange a face-to-face meeting with representatives from the Ontario Ministry of Transportation to discuss the compensation strategy for PSWs.

The Public Advisory Council (PAC) is a grass roots organization associated with the Detroit River Canadian Cleanup (DRCC). PAC members represent Non-Governmental Organizations and private citizens. The PAC provides a route through which the public can provide input on the cleanup of the Detroit River and its watershed. The PAC has identified negative effects of the Windsor-Essex Parkway concerning two key beneficial use impairments (BUI) outlined in the Remedial Action Plan for the Detroit River. They are BUI #14 the loss of fish and wildlife habitat and BUI #3 the degradation of fish and wildlife populations.

We understand the Windsor-Essex Parkway will have significant social and economic benefits to Windsor and the Province of Ontario. The Windsor-Detroit border is the most important trade corridor between the United States and Canada accounting for 40% of trade between the countries. However, the construction of the Windsor-Essex Parkway will have significant impacts on the local environment. Many concerns have been addressed through permits issued to the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR). However, a major issue not addressed through these permits is the loss of 8.9 hectares of Provincially Significant Wetlands (PSWs) in the corridor.

Wetlands are among the most productive and diverse ecosystems in the world. Provincially Significant Wetlands have been evaluated by the OMNR using the Ontario Wetland Evaluation System and are considered to be especially valuable because they contain social, hydrological, biological and/or special features. Both the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada have committed to preserving wetlands in the Great Lakes region through the Great Lakes Wetlands Conservation Action Plan. Additionally, the Ontario Planning Act Provincial Policy Statement reflects PSW importance in the following directive "development and site alteration shall not be permitted in significant wetlands". The Southern Ontario Wetland Conversion Analysis released by Ducks Unlimited Canada in 2010 indicates that 72% of wetlands in Southern Ontario have been lost.

Members of the PAC have reached out to members of the Windsor-Essex Mobility Group to discuss compensation strategies for the loss of PSWs at Public Consultation Sessions. Unfortunately, the Windsor-Essex Mobility Group is unable to answer our questions concerning compensation for loss of PSWs.



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Specifically our questions regarding the amount and type of compensation required have not yet been addressed. We have explained potential strategies to compensate for lost wetlands to the Windsor-Essex Mobility Group, but unfortunately get the impression that our strategies are not being seriously considered. We wish to work with the Windsor-Essex Mobility Group and the Ontario Ministry of Transportation to ensure that compensation requirements for PSWs are met.

It is our hope that you will facilitate a meeting between representatives of the Detroit River Canadian PAC and the Ministry of Transportation. Additionally, representatives from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and the Windsor-Essex Mobility Group could be invited to attend to act as advisors. We are willing to present compensation strategies that would facilitate the development of the Windsor-Essex Parkway in an ecologically sound manner. The question we would like answered at the proposed meeting: if in fact compensation is required for loss of provincially significant wetlands, how many hectares of compensation lands are required to fulfill this obligation?

Please confirm that you will assist the Detroit River Canadian PAC by arranging a meeting for us with a representative of the Ministry of Transportation and the other parties. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tom Henderson
Chair, Public Advisory Council
Detroit River Canadian Cleanup

Phil Roberts
President
Essex County Field Naturalists' Club

Derek Coronado
Citizens Environment Alliance

David Munro,
Chair, Land Use Subcommittee
Little River Enhancement Group

Pete Thomas
Local 200
Canadian Auto Workers

Rick Coronado
Windsor and District Labour Council

*CC: Bruce Crozier, MPP Essex
Hon. Dwight Duncan, MPP Windsor-Tecumseh*