

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF PORT COQUITLAM

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMITTEE

MINUTES

A meeting of the Environmental Protection Committee was held in the Third Floor Meeting room, 2580 Shaughnessy Street, Port Coquitlam, on Tuesday, February 20, 1990 at 5:30 p.m.

In attendance were:

Alderman M. R. Wright, Chairman
Alderman J.J. Keryluk, Co-Chairman
D.G. Riecken, Deputy City Engineer
D. Alpe, SPCA
J. Vander Hoeven, SPCA
H. Kelly, Dayton & Knight

ITEM I: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

That the Minutes of the Environmental Protection Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, January 16, 1990 be considered read and adopted.


Carried.

ITEM II: ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW; RACCON AT 3627 McRAE

Two representatives of the SPCA were present to address the complaint which had been received from Mr. Bennett of 3635 McRae that a raccoon was being kept at 3627 McRae in contravention of the recently amended Animal Control Bylaw.

They noted that, in their opinion, the animal has been well cared for since they first received complaints from Mr. Bennett in mid 1988. Although the raccoon's cage does not meet the Provincial guidelines now incorporated into the City's Bylaw, it was noted that the animal does not spend all its time in the cage. The owners have indicated to the SPCA that they would be prepared to construct a larger cage, however, the SPCA feels that, for the circumstances at 3627 McRae, the Provincial standards would be excessive resulting in a cage 6 metres by 3 metres by 2.4 metres high. These standards were thought to be more applicable to a zoo environment where the animal spends all its time in the cage. They feel that a cage double the size of the present 1.2 by 2.4 metre cage would be sufficient. They also noted that the Health Department were satisfied that no health hazard exists.

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It was noted that the Provincial Fish and Wildlife Branch are in the process of amending the Provincial regulations to require permits to be obtained for any wild animals including squirrels, skunks, and raccoons, which are currently exempt for two or less animals. The amendments are expected to come into effect in six to eight weeks time, and the SPCA feels that when this happens there will be no need for the City's Bylaw to incorporate standards of care for specific animals. They would rather see general standards of care included for any and all animals, and noted that North Vancouver is in the process of incorporating such standards into their bylaw. It is not known whether the new Provincial regulations will be retroactive.

The Committee determined that no action should be taken against the residents of 3627 McRae at the present time, and that the matter be held in abeyance pending adoption of the changes to the Provincial permitting procedures, and a review of North Vancouver's Bylaw.


ITEM III: RECYCLING STUDY UPDATE

Harlan Kelly of Dayton and Knight was present to give the Committee an overview on progress made to date on the recycling study currently being carried out for the City by his firm. He explained the different modes of collection, options for processing and marketing the recyclables collected, initiatives being undertaken by the GVRD, programs currently in place in other municipalities in the region, and costs associated with curbside programs.

He identified three options which the City may wish to consider. These are essentially to do the collection, processing and marketing ourselves as Port Moody has apparently decided to do; to do the collection ourselves and utilize the GVRD processing and marketing facilities when these become available; or to contract out all collection, processing and marketing. Pros and cons as well as costs for each option were presented and discussed. The necessity of giving CUPE an opportunity to have some input into the decision making process prior to presenting a report to Council was also discussed.

It was decided that the Chairman would speak to the Mayor about scheduling a special In Committee meeting of Council during the first week in March to discuss the results of Dayton and Knight's work, and to give the Environmental Protection Committee some direction as to which option should be pursued in more detail. The Deputy Engineer was instructed to discuss communications with CUPE with the City Administrator so that their input would be available for discussion at the In Committee meeting.

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The Committee then discussed a request from the GVRD for a list of concerns about recycling and solid waste management planning issues for discussion at an upcoming GVRD meeting to be held on February 28, 1990. The Committee expressed a concern about the timing, location, and method of operation of the proposed processing and marketing facilities for recyclables collected at curbside, how these would interrelate with existing private sector marketing operations, and whether commitments are expected from member municipalities now. These concerns will be forwarded to the GVRD.

ITEM IV COMPOSTING PROPOSAL

Mr. Reynolds was unable to attend the meeting to present details of his composting proposal.

ITEM V BURRARD INLET DRAFT ACTION PLAN


The Committee was in receipt of a request from the GVRD for formal comments on their draft action plan for environmental improvements to Burrard Inlet. The Deputy Engineer noted that while most of the recommendations had no direct affect on the City given that none of the City's sewers or drainage outfalls are tributary to the Burrard Inlet, there were some activities in the plan that would result in programs which would apply to the Region as a whole. These include source control of non domestic waste to sewers, implementation of the GVRD Liquid Waste Management Plan, and implementation of a comprehensive special waste collection and disposal program.

The Committee determined that the GVRD should be requested to ensure that the City has an opportunity to provide some input to the decision making process for those activities which would have a direct impact on the City.

ITEM VI COMPLAINT RE DOG FECES

The Committee was in receipt of a complaint from Michel Gendron that the abundance of dog feces in parks, school grounds, public roadways and elsewhere is making it impossible for his family to enjoy these amenities. The SPCA representatives noted that, while there is a provision in the City's Bylaw requiring dog owners to clean up after their pets, enforcement of this provision is next to impossible. To get a conviction they virtually have to catch the animal and its owner in the act of committing the offense. They did, however, agree to take note of the complaint and visit the Gendron's neighborhood to investigate the problem.

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The Committee also suggested that the Director of Parks and Recreation should be made aware of the complaint, as it relates to City Parks and Playground facilities.

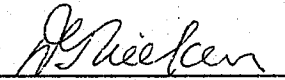
ITEM VII CORRESPONDENCE FROM VANCOUVER PORT CORPORATION & BOARD OF TRADE

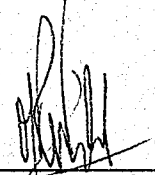
The Committee reviewed correspondence from the above noted agencies describing their initiatives and concerns relating to environmental issues, and voted to receive the correspondence.

ITEM VIII: OTHER BUSINESS

There were no other items of business.

The Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

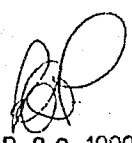

D.G. Riecken, P. Eng.,
Deputy City Engineer


Alderman M.R. Wright,
Committee Chairman

DGR:gc

Note: Minutes not read and adopted by the Committee until certified correct by the Committee Chairman's signature.

cc Mayor and Aldermen
City Administrator


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