

AGENDA

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SIOUX LOOKOUT

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE Council Chambers, Municipal Office Thursday, April 6, 2023 5:30 P.M.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

A. Attendance

Committee Members

Mr. George Hoggarth (Chair)
Ms. Anne Saltel (Vice Chair)
Ms. Joanne Falk
Mr. Bruce Van Horne
Cllr. Joyce Timpson
Ms. Jessi Jones
Cllr. Reece Van Breda
Ms. Jennifer Hancharuk
Mr. Hari Sankar

Staff

Mr. Jody Brinkman, Manager of Development Services
Staff Resource
Ms. Komal Shah, Development Services Administrative
Assistant

Regrets

Guest

Mr. Clifford Mushquash

- B. Chair to Call the Meeting to order.
- C. Motion to excuse _____ from the meeting.

THAT the above mentioned members be excused from the meeting.

Moved by:
Seconded by:

2. AGENDA

- a) Additions to the Agenda
- Mr. Clifford Mushquash presenting COP
 - Honeybee Appreciation Month – May and June
- b) Confirmation of Agenda

THAT the Agenda for the Environment Committee Meeting of April 6, 2023 be approved, as amended/ presented.

Moved by:
Seconded by:

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

THAT the Minutes of the March 2, 2023 Environment Committee Meeting be adopted as presented/amended.

Moved by:
Seconded by:

5. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

- Mr. Clifford Mushquash will present on COP.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Green Team Discussion: Cllr. Timpson organized the meeting for Green Team. From the public: Merle Berkeholder, Edith Berkeholder, Susan Hochstedler, Bill Hochstedler, Corrine Sever, Karl Friesen, Jennifer Hancharuk (member of Environment Committee) were present. Cllr Timpson, Cllr Van Breda, Ms. Shah present from the Municipality. Cllr. Van Breda opened the meeting and began with attendees introducing themselves and describing their efforts in cleaning up litter. Some have been doing this for decades. (See attachment)
- Order Garbage Picker for Green Team

6.1 ACTION ITEMS

- 01-2023-01 – Discuss with Mr. R. Chakraborty (Recreation and Culture Department Manager) about the town planters and reusing organic materials from them.
❖ Ongoing
- 01-2023-02 – Contact Mr. Clifford Mushquash regarding COP27 and ask if he would report on the conference to the Committee – Ms. Saltel.
❖ Cllr. J. Timpson said Mr. Mushquash would be interested in doing an activity with Committee and Council in 2023.
❖ The Committee discussed that Mr. Mushquash was interested in conducting a Blanket Ceremony, but that this should be separate from a discussion with the Committee about COP27.
❖ Ms. Saltel will reach out to Mr. Clifford about the learning outcomes of COP27.
- 03-2023-01 – Create a contest to paint Garbage bins with colors or Sioux Lookout attractions during the Blueberry festival - Cllr. Van Breda
❖ Ongoing
- 03-2023-02 – Recommendation to default all printers to double sided printing in Municipal facilities - Mr. Hoggarth
❖ Ongoing
- 03-2023-03 – Contact Pelican Lake High School in repairing bikes and the potential market for refurbished bikes in North - Mr. Hoggarth

❖ Ongoing

03-2023-04 – Discuss with high school about litter pick up, and incorporating leadership experience to school kids. Speak to Nicole Carbone - Mr. Hoggarth

❖ Ongoing

03-2023-05 – Post and Promote on the Curbside Swap page about reusable bikes on Facebook Page– Cllr. Timpson

❖ Ongoing

03-2023-6 –Contact the hospital to discuss an industrial-scale composter. - Mr. Hoggarth & Ms. Saltel

❖ Ongoing

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

7.1 Annual Work Plan and Budget Request

Curbside Swap

- ❖ **Goals:** Continue promoting Curbside Swap
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Cllr. J. Timpson
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media, Municipal Website
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Biweekly (Saturday and Sundays) April through October
- ❖ **Tasks:** Ads and signs to encourage participation in Curbside Swap. Continue promoting Curbside Swap Facebook page and add link to Environment Committee's Facebook page.
- ❖ **Updates:**

Explore Composting Options

- ❖ **Goals:** To explore options for composting. To promote composting.

- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Municipal World magazine
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Tasks:** Research and promote municipal composting options. Promote backyard composting
- ❖ **Updates:**

Communication and Education

- ❖ **Goals:** To communicate with residents and educate regarding sustainable environmental practices.
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media (Facebook), Ads
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Tasks:** Through a variety of media, including the Environment Committee Facebook page, educate the community regarding sustainable environmental practices of any nature.
- ❖ **Updates:**

Community Garden

- ❖ **Goals:** To establish and maintain community gardens that promote and encourage locally grown produce, food security, the reduction of carbon footprints, composting and educational opportunities.
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Ms. J. Falk
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Municipal staff needed to help with maintenance as required.
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** April through October
- ❖ **Tasks:** Maintaining the gardens, advertising, gardening classes.
- ❖ **Updates:**

Municipal Projects Review

- ❖ **Goals:** To review municipal projects that may have an environmental impact and report on their environmental effect
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** List of Capital Projects
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Tasks:** Review environmental impacts of capital projects
- ❖ **Updates:**

Environmental Recognition

- ❖ **Goals:** Recognize groups or individuals for their environmentally sustainable activities/initiatives
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Ms. A. Saltel
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Tasks:** Recognizing groups or individuals on Social Media and distributing certificates.
- ❖ **Updates:**

Adaptation and Mitigation to Climate Emergency

- ❖ **Goals:** To communicate with and educate residents about effective strategies to adapt to the effects of climate change including the impact of the environment on people's health
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media, Policies
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Tasks:** Present information through a variety of media and act in an advisory capacity to the Municipality

❖ **Updates:**

Promotion of Locally Sourced Food and Self-Sustainability

- ❖ **Goals:** To communicate with and educate residents about access to sustainably sourced food
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media, Workspaces
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Tasks:** Present information and education through a variety of media and act in an advisory capacity to the Municipality. Promoting different gardening options (examples: raised gardens and containers). Provide support to local gardeners by providing a platform for knowledge exchange. Promote sustainably sourced food. Through education and promotion at the farmer's markets, increase awareness about sustainably sourced foods. Advertise and encourage people to share their produce through activities such as gleaning. To approach other Northern Communities for ideas related to locally sourced food.

❖ **Updates:**

Waste Reduction/Diversion

- ❖ **Goals:** To reduce and divert waste
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Task:** Introduce policies, practices, and by-laws to eliminate single use plastics. Advertise Waste Reduction Week. Promote reduction of litter around town. Encourage the enforcement of the existing littering By-law. Educate people on hazardous waste and how to dispose of it. To encourage households and commercial businesses to reduce the amount of recyclables thrown out with garbage
- ❖ **Updates:**

Promoting the Establishment of Natural Ecosystems

- ❖ **Goals:** To promote the use of and benefits of mow free zones. To increase mow free zones in the community on municipal properties. To encourage pollinator friendly residential yards. Create a pollinator friendly community. To support native ecosystems.
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Staff
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Task:** With the assistance of the Staff Resource, discuss potential mow free and pollinator friendly areas with the Recreation and Culture Manager for municipally owned property. To communicate with and educate residents on the benefits of mow free zones. Inform the Community of the benefits of pollinator friendly yards, and promote the growth of native species.
- ❖ **Updates:**

Eco Friendly Transportation

- ❖ **Goals:** To promote different means of eco-friendly transportation
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Social media, attend trade shows, Internet
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Task:** Research different means of eco-friendly transportation and promote them to the Community. To act in an advisory capacity to the municipality to ensure infrastructure and initiatives supporting eco-friendly transportation are being considered.
- ❖ **Updates:**

7.4 Committee Budget Discussion

7.5 Committee Term Review and Future Directions

8. NEW BUSINESS

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Environment Committee is scheduled for 5:30p.m. on Thursday, May 4th, 2023 at Council Chambers at the Municipal Office.

10. MEETING ADJOURNED

Meeting adjourned at _____.

**Summary of Inaugural meeting of Sioux Lookout Green Team
Council Chambers
29 March 2023**

5:00 pm

Present: From the public: Merle Berkeholder, Edith Berkeholder, Susan Hochstedler, Bill Hochstedler, Corrine Sever, Karl Friesen, Jennifer Hancharuk (also member of Environment Committee)

From the Municipality: Cllr Joyce Timpson, Cllr Reece Van Breda, Komal Shah

Regrets: Cathy Carpenter (who sent several pages of comment via Jennifer Hancharuk)

Joyce welcomed the attendees and introduced herself and Reece Van Breda and reviewed general reasons for the meeting., namely, the Environment Committee of Council wishes to honour and support citizens who regularly collect garbage on their own and look at with them ways we might be able to address the larger problem.

Reece opened the meeting and began with attendees introducing themselves and describing their efforts in cleaning up litter. Some have been doing this for decades. Before we completed the round table introductions, enthused discussions occurred with notes taken, recommendations made. People are very passionate about the need for a clean town and expressed frustration with those who litter and the extent of the littering.

The following are highlights of points made in the discussion categorized thematically:

Issues to assist citizen Litter Collectors

- What to do with garbage they collect? They should not have to pay for disposal
- How to get more people collecting garbage
- Get high school students involved to get volunteer hours
- Other persons Interested: Cathy Carpenter, Randy Hendrickson, Lawrence Durante, Lew Morgan
- Picker-uppers needed
- Group not interested in T-shirts as they have enough “stuff”
- Have rewards to those for picking up garbage such as a free bag tag, reward such as package of chicken wings as done in Pickle Lake
- Supply collectors with garbage bags, and have method of disposal so they do not have to pay

Public campaign to Stop Littering

- Messaging Example: Take pride in your community, Take pride in your land, or Respect your community, Respect your land...
- Place Ads on places like Hub Transit buses
- Ask businesses to put Ads on windows

Enforcement Measures

- By-law officer needs to be on side. The littering by-law needs teeth. Now it is complaint driven and by-law officer needs to see some violating the law
- OPP and MNR need to be involved. Someone reported being stopped by OPP with back of trunk open driving slowing picking up litter
- Look at by law about securing garbage bags in trucks
- Have a Phone # to call for complaints about littering, “Litter Hotline”

Garbage Disposal Mechanisms

- Garbage disposal needs to be easier
- Garbage cans need to be at the schools
- Need more garbage cans
- Town needs to collect garbage from these cans more frequently
- 1st Ave has no garbage can at all
- Cans need to be emptied more often as they get full. A new design is also needed so garbage does not bulge out and fall out
- A sign for the landfill is necessary on the east side of King St/Alcona drive

Role of Town

- Getting town to pick up “rogue” (Joyce’s term) garbage such as stuff that falls off a truck and is left
- Getting town employees to pick up garbage before mowing the grass
- Street cleaner need to be used more (PW)
- Put ads on Handi Transit bus, (TOWN)
- Vacuum street cleaner should be used more
- ATV cleaner

General

- Clean up should be an all year round endeavour not just in Spring
- Simply asking people not to litter versus consequences for doing so, asking is not enough.
- How do we make it unacceptable to litter?
- One member was concerned that is he tells a First Nation’s person not to litter, he is seen as racist
- We need to keep cleaning up after people but work towards making it unacceptable to litter.

Decisions

- Group seemed interested in pursuing Green Team idea but did not want to bother with T-shirts.
- We did not make a decision about April 22nd Earth Day as several people will be away.
- Group had picture taken by Komal for newspaper. Joyce will write an article for the Bulletin to be in just before Earth Day and include the picture
- Will take recommendations from meeting back to Environment Committee
- Group will meet again and possibly wait until Chamber of Commerce announces its Spring Clean-up campaign.
- We will get Picker Uppers bought by Environment Committee to those who need one
- Have as a motto ”Respect the community. Respect the land”

RECOMMENDATIONS/DIRECTIONS

1. Support volunteer garbage collectors by:
 - a. supplying each individual a Picker-Up’r if required;

- b. develop a structure whereby Collectors can pick up garbage bags free from municipality; and can deposit garbage for free disposal of garbage collected.
2. Make garbage disposal easier for the public by:
- a. Collecting garbage from public garbage cans more frequently so they do not overflow;
 - b. Installing garbage cans at the schools;
 - c. Putting garbage cans on First Avenue;
 - d. Looking at new design of garbage and re-cycle cans
 - e. Place wayfare sign for landfill site at east side of King St (Alcona Drive) past by-pass.
3. Make littering NOT acceptable:
- a. Design an ad campaign with ad posters placed on Hub Transit, businesses etc;
 - b. Do article for Bulletin for edition before Earth Day;
 - c. Message: Focus on Respect, “Respect your community, Respect the land”;
 - d. Enforce by-laws against littering.
4. Municipal staff and involvement of others:
- a. Engage by-law officer in campaign and adjust by-law as necessary to be more enforceable;
 - b. Engage Public Works to look at town picking up garbage that has fallen off trucks, picking up garbage before mowing grass, using the street cleaner more, and acquiring better equipment for street garbage clearance;
 - c. Engage OPP and MNR in ant-littering strategies.

