

AGENDA

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SIOUX LOOKOUT

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE Virtual Meeting Thursday, May 05, 2022 6:00 P.M.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

A. Attendance

Committee Members

Mr. George Hoggarth (Chair)
Ms. Anne Saltel (Vice Chair)
Cllr. Joyce Timpson
Cllr. Joe Cassidy
Ms. Trisha Frempong
Ms. Joanne Peacock
Mr. Bruce Van Horne
Ms. Jessi Jones
Ms. Yoko Schreiber

Staff

Mr. Jody Brinkman, Manager of Development Services
Staff Resource
Grace Malcolm, Development Services Administrative
Assistant

Excused

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

- i. Cllr. Joyce Timpson would like to address the Nuclear Waste issue in NWO

b) Confirmation of Agenda

THAT the Agenda for the Environment Committee Meeting of May 05, 2022 be approved.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

THAT the Minutes of the April 07, 2022 Environment Committee Meeting be adopted as presented.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

5. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

- i. Ms. Nazli Sharma – Service Representative for Tim Hortons. To Discuss the “Green Team”
- ii. Ms. Christina Zardo – To present Committee Members on the use of a Food Cyclor

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- i. Cllr. Joyce Timpson to invite the Owner of Sioux Lookout Tim Hortons to discuss “Green Team” for ideas and suggestions to make Sioux Lookout inviting and beautiful.

- ii. Jody Brinkman to invite Rec Centre Manager, Rony Chakraborty, to be included in the “Green Team” discussion.
- iii. Cllr. Joe Cassidy was to provide notes to the Committee members in regards to the online soils webinar he attended. A discussion is to follow.
- iv. Jody Brinkman to provide an update on the reasoning of lights being left on in Municipal buildings, into the late evening. Are there policies or practices in place?

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

7.1 2022 Work Plan

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. Peacock
- ❖ **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:**

8. NEW BUSINESS

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Environment Committee is scheduled for Thursday, June 02, 2022 via Zoom.

10. MEETING ADJOURNED

Meeting adjourned at _____.

MINUTES

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SIOUX LOOKOUT

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING THURSDAY, April 7, 2022 6:00 P.M.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER/CHAIR'S INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

A. Attendance

Committee Members

Mr. George Hoggarth, Chair
Ms. Anne Saltel, Vice Chair
Cllr. Joyce Timpson
Ms. Trisha Frempong
Cllr. Joe Cassidy
Ms. Joanne Peacock

Staff

Ms. Kristen Bartmann, Planning Coordinator

Excused

Ms. Yoko Schreiber
Ms. Jessi Jones
Mr. Bruce Van Horne

Absent

B. The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

C. MEMBERS EXCUSED

Motion to excuse members.

THAT Mr. Bruce Van Horne, Ms. Jessi Jones, and Ms. Yoko Schreiber be excused from the April 7, 2022 meeting.

Moved by: Cllr. Joyce Timpson

Seconded by: Ms. Joanne Peacock

CARRIED

2. AGENDA

a) Additions to the Agenda

- i. Chilliwack, B.C: Single use plastic bag ban passed
- ii. Eco Carbon Foam Inc. (Thunder Bay)
- iii. Northwest Goods (Dryden)
- iv. Bicycle rack at Rec Centre

b) Confirmation of Agenda

Motion to Adopt Agenda

THAT the Agenda for the Environment Committee Meeting of April 7, 2022 be adopted, as amended.

Moved by: Cllr. Joyce Timpson

Seconded by: Ms. Joanne Peacock

CARRIED

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Motion to Adopt Minutes.

THAT the Minutes of the March 3, 2022 Environment Committee Meeting be amended and adopted as discussed.

Moved by: Cllr. Joyce Timpson

Seconded by: Ms. Joanne Peacock

CARRIED

5. DELEGATIONS

None

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- i. Update from Cllr. Joyce Timpson in regards to her discussion with Tim Hortons.

Cllr. Joyce Timpson said that she experienced a very positive contact. Some ideas that were provided by the Service Representative included reinstating the use of garbage receptacles on Tim Hortons' property (it was stopped because of safety concerns); placing well worded and attractive signs about litter at the entrance and exit of property. It was noted by the Service Representative that there was no active 'Green Team' in Sioux Lookout. It was suggested that they would take a lead role in sponsoring and leading such a team and that they were open to any and all suggestions to make Sioux Lookout inviting and beautiful. The Service Representative is located in Winnipeg but comes to Sioux Lookout frequently. The 'Green Team' in Winnipeg is made up of volunteers. Cllr. Joyce Timpson provided names to the Service Representative of potential volunteers for Sioux Lookout. They will be taking the lead. Ms. Anne Saltel suggested that the Committee post on the Face Book page to search for volunteers. She also requested that the Service Representative of Tim Hortons join the next Environment Committee meeting as a delegation to discuss the 'Green Team' and ideas. Cllr. Joyce Timpson will contact the Service Representative of Tim Hortons about attending the May meeting. Ms. Anne Saltel also suggested to invite the Recreation Centre Manager to the May meeting. The Recreation department would be in charge of emptying the garbage cans etc., so it would be a good idea to connect; Jody Brinkman could invite Rony Chakraborty, Recreation Manager. Mr. George Hoggarth reiterated what Mr. Brian MacKinnon had said; that we can put garbage cans out but if people aren't in the habit of using them they won't. The distribution of more garbage cans would more than likely help but there are still lots of people that just don't think about using them.

- ii. Update from Cllr. Timpson regarding the Environment Committee Facebook page:

The Facebook page is going well, other people are posting things (not just Committee members) and there has not been any negative postings so far. Currently there are one hundred plus members.

- iii. Question from Mr. George Hoggarth: Is Mr. Brian MacKinnon going to submit the by-laws that relate to the Environment Committee which were requested by Ms. Trisha Frempong at the March 03, 2022 meeting?

Kristen Bartmann will follow up and let the Committee know.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

The Committee discussed the 2022 Work Plan:

7.2 2022 Work Plan

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:** Committee discussed how the weather is putting a bit of a damper on things and may cause official events to be pushed back, but people are still posting items and placing them out for others. People need to be reminded to place things out of the snowplows way.

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. To act in an advisory capacity to the municipality to ensure infrastructure and initiatives supporting eco-friendly transportation are being considered.
- ❖ **Updates:** Mr. Joe Cassidy and Ms. Anne Saltel both attended the online Soils Webinar that had been sent out amongst the Committee; both felt it was very informational although technical at times. There was some great information shared and Mr. Joe Cassidy offered to send some notes he took, around to the Committee. One key item shared was that good compost/soil will produce crops that have a higher nutrient content, showing the importance of good compost and soil. The Committee will discuss this next month if anyone has questions based on what Mr. Joe Cassidy sends out. There were some good resources shared in the webinar including books, the Committee discussed posting some of the resources on the Facebook page.

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: The Sioux Bulletin posted an article about the Environment Committee in the most recent edition (April 6 2022). Staff reached out to Ms. Anne Saltel and Cllr. Joyce Timpson, and the article gives a great overview of the new Facebook page and various initiatives of the Committee, though it does incorrectly identify the Committee Chair.**

❖ **Sioux Lookout Environment Committee looks for new ways to connect with residents**

❖ **Mike Lawrence - Staff Writer**

❖ The Sioux Lookout Environment Committee has a new way to connect with area residents and highlight various environmental issues to the wider community. Individuals wishing to catch up on area environmental initiatives and projects can check out the Sioux Lookout Environment Committee's Facebook page. Anne Saltel, Environment Committee Vice-Chair, explained, "The Environment Committee is a municipal committee. Being a committee of the municipality, our main goal is in an advisory capacity and also to educate the public about the environment and climate change.

"As part of our education side of things, we recently started the Facebook group. The purpose is to bring awareness about environmental issues and also climate change, and what we can do locally in our community to make change. We decided that anyone can post in there and comment on posts. We didn't want the page to be just advertisements for committee initiatives. Advertising Curb-Side Swap, those kinds of things, will still go through the municipal website and the municipal Facebook page. Our purpose on our Facebook page is to bring awareness to issues that are happening. For example, this new greenhouse that's starting in Dryden, that's posted on there. Joyce (Timpson) added a post on the impacts of crypto-currency, about how much electricity it uses."

Speaking of the new Facebook page, Joyce Timpson, Municipal Councillor and Chair of the Environment Committee added, "In light of the need for all of us to act to address the climate crisis, we were looking for a way to reach as many people as possible with information about what they can do as individuals. So, we created a public Facebook Page, Sioux Lookout Environment Committee. We have posted information such as webinars on matters such as gardening and composting. One member of the group posted her experience with owning an electric car. We have 87 members so far and anyone can join the group. We encourage people to join."

While the Facebook page may be a recent development for the committee, it continues to create and implement work plans in cooperation with the municipality. One such recent initiative is the institution of a voluntary "no-mow zone". Saltel explained the idea as such, "The 'no mow zone' has been approved by the municipality again this year. We are encouraging people to support

pollinators by allowing lawns to grow uncut, for April, May and June. The bylaw restrictions of lawns above a certain height will be put on hold so that people can let their lawns and dandelions grow.”

Another popular initiative supported by the committee is the Sioux Lookout Community Garden. As Saltel noted, “The community garden is doing great. The municipality has been excellent at supporting the garden and making any kind of repairs that it may need. Joanne Falk is the lead person should anyone want a plot; she’s been so good at getting that garden going and keeping it going.”

Saltel also encourages anyone who knows of an individual or group that deserves to be recognized for their environmental initiatives or sustainable practices, to please reach out to the Environmental Committee, stating, “Another thing too is the environmental recognition. We are trying to reach out and find those people that are doing those little things and trying to make a difference. We’d like to recognize them. Sometimes one thing leads to another, and if someone hears how someone has started say, a greenhouse, maybe it will spark them to think of ways they can contribute as well.”

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. Peacock
- ❖ **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:** Ms. Joanne Peacock is hard at work getting the greenhouse ready to plant. Ms. Joanne Peacock asked the Committee if they could raise the cost of renting a bed to \$30 (\$25 total, as \$5 is given back when the key to the garden is returned). Materials have increased in price and there is a need to replace tools each year; the increase would help cover these costs. The Committee accepted the price increase; the new cost to rent a bed in the community garden is \$30.

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:** The Committee briefly discussed the Rec Centre's acquisition of a new battery operated Zamboni and are very happy to see a more environmentally friendly option be selected.

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:** Ms. Anne Saltel has contacted Mike Redcliffe for pictures, etc. to recognize him but has not yet heard back from him. Enviro recognition is referenced in the recent Bulletin article, which will hopefully lead to people reaching out about those to nominate and recognize. Ms. Joanne Peacock asked whether the Bulletin had an article in the past about

Redcliffe's greenhouse; the Committee was not sure and Ms. Anne Saltel said she would look in to it.

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:** None.

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:** Ms. Anne Saltel and Ms. Joanne Peacock both attended an online webinar about the AgriTech North initiative in Dryden. The goal of the initiative is to use technology to create greenhouses capable of providing locally sourced foods year round on Indigenous reserves. The first building is soon to be up and running in Dryden, capable of providing fresh produce year round with 450 kilograms of leafy greens, vegetables, and fruit crops grown per week. The webinar included information about the increased nutritional benefits of locally produced food, the economic and social benefits to the communities, and the reduced environmental impacts by the hydroponic vertical farming system. The enterprise is entirely Indigenous owned and has received funding from various private partners as well as multiple levels of government and public agencies. A tour of the facility will be available on April 18, 2022 to the public. Mr. George Hoggarth asked if there are any similar projects around the world that this group has modelled their enterprise on. Ms. Anne Saltel and Ms. Joanne Peacock both confirmed that there was, it is based on current activities going on in Europe. Mr. George Hoggarth notes that the Committee's role can be to follow the project and advertise using Facebook so that people are aware of what is going on and can get involved if they choose.

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:** Mr. George Hoggarth stated that although Council rejected a single-use plastic bag ban in the past, the Committee should revisit the issue once there is an in-person opportunity to send a delegation to Council. Other communities are doing so and Sioux Lookout is being left behind despite being early to discuss the opportunity. Discussion was had about current businesses and their plastic bag stance. Mr. Bruce Van Horne said he would follow up with Fresh Market about their position. Ms. Joanne Peacock was supportive of bringing this issue back to Council in the future. Mr. George Hoggarth noted that this is one area where the Municipality can take action.

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:** A discussion was had as to whether the Committee should create more bee-friendly yard signs. Ms. Anne Saltel said that the Chamber of Commerce were pretty sure that they still had some signs left from last year, though this needed to be confirmed. The Committee

decided this year to advertise leaving lawns to grow rather than mow for May and June as the Municipality will not be enforcing the Property Standards By-law maximum grass/weed height during that time. The Committee noted that Mr. Bruce Van Horne and Mr. Jody Brinkman were to follow up with the Recreation Manager to find out if the Municipality will participate by not cutting some of the Municipal lawns during that time.

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:** Mr. George Hoggarth pointed out that the bike rack at the Rec Centre is in poor condition and only has space for a couple of bikes. He suggested using some of the Committee's budget this year to purchase a new bike rack. Cllr. Joyce Timpson noted that there is a bike rack at the Town Office that she doesn't see get used often, and perhaps it could be relocated to somewhere where it might see more use like the Rec Centre. Ms. Joanne Peacock mentioned that a few years ago the Committee did purchase some bike racks that were to be placed at the Centennial Centre, the parking lot in front of the Post Office, and the library. The Committee discussed moving existing racks to more desirable places to encourage more people to cycle, and that perhaps some racks were being removed for the winter months and then not being put back out. The Committee agreed that doing an inventory of existing racks would be a good place to start, and then see if adding more would be useful in encouraging bike use.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- i. Mr. George Hoggarth mentioned how Chilliwack, B.C. just passed a by-law banning single use plastic bags
- ii. Mr. George Hoggarth provided some information on Eco Carbon Foam Inc., a new company in Thunder Bay that manufactures foam insulation board from #6 plastics. The foam insulation board is mainly used in underground applications.
- iii. Mr. George Hoggarth highlighted a store in Dryden called Northwest Goods, which is a refill store. You can buy a glass container from them and then take it back for refilling once empty. The shop is located at 64 Van Horne Ave, #2, in Dryden.
- iv. Ms. Trisha Frempong reminded everyone that April 22 is Earth Day, and wondered if there were any thoughts or anything planned for the Facebook page. Ms. Joyce Timpson said that nothing was planned yet but the Committee certainly could do something, and in the past have done so. A brief discussion was had about Earth Hour, which happened on March 26. Ms. Trisha Frempong offered to draft something up to put on the Facebook page and noted that the theme for Earth Day this year is '**Investing in our Future**', so if anyone had ideas for content relating to that that would be helpful to her. Mr. George Hoggarth suggested certain items that should be highlighted like trying to avoid single-use products like razors and pens. Ms. Trisha Frempong asked whether the Committee had ever addressed the fact that lights are often left on at night in buildings around town when no one was in them. It was noted that the lights could be for cleaning staff or security purposes, but that there could be room to improve and that conserving energy could be encouraged by asking to turn off the lights at night. Ms. Trisha Frempong suggested asking Mr. Jody Brinkman to provide context on the Municipality's stance; is there a reason why lights are left on so late in Municipal buildings and have there been any discussions around ensuring lights are turned off when not in use? Some discussion was had in regards to approaching private businesses as well. Cllr. Joyce Timpson suggested starting with the Municipality and if there is some positive feedback to then write an article and use the Municipality as a role model. Ms. Kristen Bartmann will follow up with Mr. Jody Brinkman on Ms. Trisha Frempong's question and find out if there are any policies or practices related to lights in place.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Environment Committee is scheduled for Thursday, May 5, 2022 via Zoom.

10. MEETING ADJOURNED

Meeting adjourned at 7:05pm.