

MINUTES
SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE ACTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room 2 and via MS Teams
770 Vernon Avenue

Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at 4:01 p.m.

Present: Councillor Nathalie Chambers (Chair), Ronald Jeffries, Karin Nelson, and Mattias Spalteholz

Staff: Rebecca Newlove, Manager of Sustainability; Melissa Hauzer, Senior Sustainability Planner; Angela Hawkshaw, Committee Clerk and Colton Whittaker, Committee Clerk

Regrets: Timio Colistro, Diya Courty-Stephens, Kurban Keshvani, George Klima, Leslie Miller-Brooks

Due to lack of quorum, no motions were passed.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair made the following comments:

- Annual budget deliberations are ongoing.
- Saanich staff is presently drafting the Environmental Policy.
- Additional environmental protection is needed during the development stage.

CLIMATE PLAN REPORT

The Manager of Sustainability gave a presentation (PowerPoint on file). The following was noted in response to questions and during committee discussion:

- The targets for 2025 are under review.
- This report focuses on local government, rather than provincial and federal levels.
- Living within our planetary boundaries is of high importance.
- Data on the recycling process would be appreciated.
- Incentivizing farmers to produce sustainable food could be explored.
- Providing sustainability information on social media platforms has the potential to reach a broader audience.

ZERO WASTE STRATEGY UPDATE

The Senior Sustainability Planner gave a presentation on the Climate Plan Report Card (PowerPoint on file). The following was noted in response to questions and during committee discussion:

- Plans for diversion programs are ongoing.
- Strategies could be explored to stop illegal dumping in natural areas and parks.
- Sorting and separating materials leftover from developments could be motivating if the fee was lowered.
- Deconstruction bylaws are in affect in Victoria.

- Offering educational programs on composting could benefit residents.
- Council is currently deliberating on the fees for the garden waste facility.

The Manager of Sustainability exited the meeting at 5:31 p.m.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

The following was noted in response to a round table discussion to questions and during committee discussion:

- Renting Reynolds Secondary School's parking lot could be a good location for a farmer's market. July and August would be ideal.
- Plant based food could be offered.
- The committee would undertake this pilot project.
- Donations could be collected for future advancement.
- Education tents could be beneficial.
- The city of Duncan's market model could be examined.
- Consideration of the banning of balloons is ongoing.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion from R. Jeffries the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday April 17, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

Nathalie Chambers, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Angela Hawkshaw, Committee Secretary