

PRINCE GEORGE AIR QUALITY IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

TUESDAY, April 25, 2006

5:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.

2nd Floor Conference Room – City Hall

In Attendance: Jim Martin, Patricia Scott, Ron Fujino, Mark Fercho, Ken Wilkening, Sharlene Lively, Jocelyn White, Glenda Wadell, Lawrence Cook, Sherry McIntyre, Joan Chess, Lila Reynolds

Absent: Dennis Fudge, Dave Sutherland, John Swaan, Eric Rappaport, Ron Blight, Rick Blixrud, Greg Calpas,

Welcomed new members Sherry McIntyre from the Prince George Chamber of Commerce and Joan Chess from the Fraser Basin Council.

BUDGET

- Jocelyn received a grant from BC Transit in the amount of \$750.00 earmarked for educational activities.
- Total Proposed Budget would see \$11,232. in revenue (includes MOE grant of \$10,000 and BC Transit grant of \$750.00) and expenditures estimated at \$5475.00 Grant from MOE must cover expenditures for two years, (\$5,000 per year) so we would in fact be operating on a fairly tight budget.
- Budget approved.

COMMUNITIES AND CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

- To be held on May 17th at the Civic Centre. Cost is \$53.50 per registration. Several committee members will be attending but not in their committee role. If there are others on the committee who are not attending through their employer, please let Jocelyn White know, and the Committee will cover your registration fee. The committee can send 3-4 members.

ENVIRONMENT WEEK

- Environment Week will be from June 4 – 10, 2006. The Community Gardens are planning a celebration on June 4th and we have been invited to participate. We will have a display at their event with information about the Commuter Challenge and Clean Air Day on June 7th. Suggest moving the City Hall display to different locations so as not to conflict with Forest Expo.
Action: Jocelyn White
- Do a quarter, half or full page ad.
Action: Jocelyn White
- Perhaps set up the display at the Health Unit for Baby Day.
Action: Jocelyn White
- Theme will be “Personal Responsibility”.
- Jocelyn is looking for volunteers.
Action: Everyone
- Can we set up at Pine Centre Mall, the Library and Exploration Place? Jocelyn will check.
Action: Jocelyn White
- Sharlene will contact Jocelyn for information that can be published in “NH Notes” – the NHA employee newsletter.
Action: Sharlene Lively
- Suggest a portable display that can be used at several events throughout the year.
- Try to get media interested in a photo/story opportunity.
Action: Jocelyn White
- Consider submitting an entry into the Home Show next year.
- Items to include in a display:
 - We have a good monitoring record
 - The need for an Emissions Inventory
 - We are research based

- Need to clearly distinguish between our committee as an expert body grounded in scientific research. We are not a local coalition of activists. The Research Working Group has information that could be provided for the display.
- How do we compare to other communities on a variety of contributors to poor air quality – not just one item.
- Our role is to provide information on problem sources, social marketing (i.e. anti-idling campaign) and education.

EMISSIONS INVENTORY

- Started in February, 2006. Have funding for two years. Focus is on particulate matter (PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}) as it is recognized as a significant pollutant in our air-shed. Can TRS be considered in the study?
- If both can be done simultaneously, it would probably be more cost efficient.
- Working Group meets tomorrow. Glenda will find out if there is any flexibility in the contract to include TRS. **Action: Glenda Waddell**
- Glenda will also invite the Project Manager to our next meeting so that the committee can meet him and hopefully have him provide a short presentation on the emissions inventory project. **Action: Glenda Waddell**
- Discussion continued on TRS.
 - The modeling is being done on the computer and it would be the same method used to inventory other sources – shouldn't take that much more to do the TRS.
 - TRS numbers are available from the Pulp Mills, but it would take a lot of work and effort to get the numbers from other sources such as the Refinery.
 - From the Phase Two Management Recommendations, Items 1 and 13 refer to "TRS" specifically. What if the research indicates that TRS is not the major source, but something else, which has yet to be identified? Must be done within the existing budget – there is no additional funding available.
 - Consider changing wording in Phase Two Management Recommendations to read "odorous sources" and "odor management" instead of to be included in the emissions inventory. **Action: Jocelyn White**

MEMBERSHIP

- The Committee has received a couple of requests from the public to attend our meetings:
 - It would be okay to have observers to our meetings but they will not be able to participate in the discussion.
 - Could allocate a small amount of time on the Agenda to receiving questions or comments from the public.
 - Recommend that anyone who did wish to attend would be best served by reviewing the information on the website prior to attending.
- We would like to have a Ministry of Forestry representative on this Committee. Would require a change to the Terms of Reference. Jim will discuss with Bill Warner (Director of Forest Management) about interest in this. **Action: Jim Martin**
- The addition of Joan Chess of the Fraser Basin Council to the Committee fills one "NGO" spot. One position still available.
- There is a position for a representative of the Lheidli T'enneh, perhaps we can send them a letter reminding the Band that there is a position available to them on the Committee. **Action: Jim Martin**
- We have two "public" individuals interested in filling the vacant Public Member seats. They should be requested to submit a letter to the Committee outlining their interest and what they may add to the Committee's work so that the Committee can consider the addition of these individuals to the Committee. **Action: Jocelyn White**

TASK FORCE

- No update available yet.

- Can we have a representative from this group serve on the Task Force? Two members of the Committee have been approached to sit on the Task Force in their professional capacities.

PHASE TWO COMMENTS

- Jocelyn will ask for comments/responses within two weeks. Please review and provide your comments to Jocelyn by May 15th. **Action: Everyone**
- Want recommendations that we can achieve.
- Wording changes in the Phase Two Management Recommendations are required. Under the subheading "Industrial Sources, items 8 and 19 need to say:

"Further reduction in particulate emissions be done according to the plans provided by industrial sources."

Action: Jocelyn White

MISCELLANEOUS

MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE PROPOSAL

- Mark Fercho advised that there is funding available that would be applicable to air quality issues from a Provincial Pine Beetle impact funding initiative. Mark is drafting a proposal that would allow us to identify the extent of the surrounding area that can influence air quality in the Prince George air-shed. By creating this air-shed boundary we would have a better understanding of how current practices such land clearing burning or future industrial development in and around Prince George impact the air-shed. The Research Working Group needs to be on board, and then this Committee would need to agree as well. The current idea is that Dr. Peter Jackson may oversee this project.
- Jocelyn will email the proposal to everyone for information purposes. **Action: Jocelyn White**
- Bio-energy Conference will be May 31 & June 1, 2006 at UNBC.
- Please confirm your attendance at the next meeting with Jocelyn and/or Lila by Friday, May 26th, so that we will know how much food to purchase for dinner. If you have food suggestions for the dinner, please advise Lila. **Action: Everyone**

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, May 30, 2006 - 5:30-7:30pm
2nd Floor Conference Room- City Hall