

**DISTRICT OF METCHOSIN
Minutes**

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY SELECT COMMITTEE MEETING

**Tuesday, January 24, 2023 at 7:00 pm
COUNCIL CHAMBER, MUNICIPAL HALL**

Present: Councillor Steve Gray, Ric Perron (Chair), Merrilee Hoen (recorder), Andy MacKinnon, Bill Cave, Anna Hall, Garry Fletcher, Erin Van de Water

Regrets: None

Guests: Sue-Lin Tarnowski, Alison LeDuc

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm

Sue-Lin Tarnowski (CFO and interim CAO) gave us an “Advisory Committee Orientation” during which she reviewed the role of Select Committees as defined in the Community Charter. Her principle message was that select committees must adhere to their Terms of Reference, be mindful of Risk Management for the District and that Council is the body that makes final decisions. She made special reference to the subdivision process noting that rezoning goes through Council but subdivision goes through administrative staff. She also reminded us that committee members are covered by District insurance during their committee activities but guests are not.

1. Agenda, Additions and Approval

Moved and seconded by Andy and Erin that the Committee approve the agenda with the addition of an update on United We Stand Declaration, an invitation for MEASC to meet with Council and the Mayor, and a discussion of a WCMRC workshop.

Carried

2. Presentations:

Alison LeDuc made a presentation giving us background information concerning the location of bulk carrier anchorages in the Salish Sea including those near Metchosin (Royal Roads, Esquimalt, Constance Bank) and the environmental impact when ships are using them. This information pertains to the proposed resolution to the AVICC that was discussed under New Business, item 7B.

3. Public Participation: None.

4. Adoption of Minutes

Moved and Seconded by Andy and Garry that the minutes of the Environmental Advisory Select Committee meeting held on November 22, 2022 be approved.

Carried

5. Receipt of Minutes

**Council & Standing Committee Minutes and
Advisory Committee Minutes**

Moved and Seconded by Andy and Erin that the Committee receive the Council & Standing Committee Minutes and the Advisory Committee Minutes for information.

Carried

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

a) Trans-mountain - Fate and Behavior of Bitumen Research

The committee reviewed Trans-Mountain's response (06Jan23) to our letter (06Dec22).

Action Item: Garry will compose a reply to Trans-mountain to be reviewed at the next meeting. Committee members will provide input to assist with this

7. New Business:

a) Proposed 7-Lot Subdivision, Section 40, Neild Rd:

Moved and seconded by Ric and Andy that the letter containing the Committee's comments about this subdivision be passed over to District Administration after some revisions.

Carried

b) Potential AVICC (Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities) Convention Resolution "Anchorage"

The Committee commends Alison for her very well researched resolution document and presentation.

MEASC urges council to receive and discuss the AVICC Draft Resolution on or before February 6th for the AVICC February 9th conference.

Moved and seconded by Andy and Garry that we recommend to Council that they support this resolution at AVICC and that Alison be put on the Council agenda to make her presentation when this recommendation is brought forward

Carried

Action item Solicit co-sponsorship of the AVICC resolution from neighbouring municipalities (e.g. Colwood, Esquimalt).

c) District of Metchosin Declaration on the Climate Emergency and Biodiversity Crisis:

This was submitted for information.

d) Tree Preservation • Tree Management Bylaw (with MEASC track changes):

Moved and seconded by Ric and Bill to direct this document back to Council for them to consider MEASC's comments.

Carried

e) Update on the green space buffer land (verbal)

A covenant has been placed on the property for a retention pond for water coming off the residential area. Steve has raised with Council the idea of creating a wetland to manage that outflow. There will be more discussion about this at the next meeting.

8. Reports:

a) United We Stand Declaration (opposing old growth logging):

The Environment Standing Committee motion that Council should consider signing this declaration was defeated. Councillor Gray and Councillor Shukin are preparing a letter appropriate for the Council to consider.

b) Proposed meeting with WCMRC:

The Committee recommends that a targeted workshop be arranged between WCMRC technical staff and Metchosin residents with expertise in marine and coastline issues. WCMRC will be asked to provide an update on their current list of local GRS (Geographic Response Strategies), and to explain why some areas identified as priorities at an earlier Metchosin workshop are not in the current list of GRS's.

c) Proposed meeting with Council:

Steve informed us that we can expect to be invited to a meeting with Council and the Mayor in the future.

9. Correspondence:

Correspondence was received from Bev Bacon and Alison LeDuc on the topic of anchorages.

10. Adjournment and Next Meeting Date

Moved and Seconded by Andy and Ric that the Committee adjourn the meeting at 9:40 pm.

Carried

Next meeting date: Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 7:00pm, Council Chambers