

THE CORPORATION OF THE
CITY OF PORT COQUITLAM

MINUTES OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 2, 1986

PERSONNEL IN ATTENDANCE:

Alderman M.C. Farnworth, Chairman
Alderman J.J. Keryluk, Co-Chairman
T.M. Chong, P. Eng., Deputy City Engineer/Operations Manager
Mr. John Leslie, President, Downtown Merchants Assoc.
Mrs. Linda Leslie, Secretary-Treasurer, Downtown Merchants Assoc.
Ms. Cathy Fox, Representative of S.P.E.C.
Ms. Thelma McAdam, Representative of S.P.E.C.

ITEM 1: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Recommended:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Environmental Protection Committee held on Tuesday, August 26, 1986 be taken as read and adopted.

Carried

ITEM 2: SMOKING REGULATION BYLAW

The Committee asked Mr. John Leslie and Mrs. Linda Leslie for their comments regarding this proposed Bylaw. They advised the Committee that based upon the comments from people they have spoken to, the concept of the Bylaw is well received. However, they object to the proposal that restaurant owners may be required to decide whether or not they will have non-smoking sections in their premises. Mr. Leslie suggested that the draft Bylaw be revised to require all restaurants to have a minimum designation of 25% of the total seating capacity as non-smoking. T. Chong pointed out that some restaurant owners may object to this amendment and depending upon the size and location of the restaurant perhaps this is impractical. Mr. Leslie also stated that this Bylaw will be difficult to enforce and that the City cannot expect the proprietors of premises affected by the Bylaw to enforce the regulations. The Committee then moved to revise the original draft Bylaw to require all restaurants to have a minimum of 25% of the total seating capacity as non-smoking. T. Chong advised the Committee that according to the Purchasing Manager's findings, the approximate cost of printing 500 of each of the signs required under the proposed Bylaw is \$5,000.00. Further discussion on the proposed Smoking Regulation Bylaw ensued with the Committee recommending the following:

1. That the Clerk be instructed to prepare the Bylaw in its final form for Council's consideration and adoption.

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2. That 500 of each of the signs required under the proposed Bylaw be purchased by the City at an estimated cost of \$5,000.00 and put into inventory.
3. That the first six of each of the signs required under the Bylaw be given out to the proprietors or premises affected free of charge and that the associated costs of giving out these free signs be charged against the Environmental Protection Committee.
4. That any additional signs above those specified in the above be sold at cost to the public.
5. That the costs of any signs required by City Facilities be charged against the respective Building Maintenance Account.
6. That a Public Hearing be held to discuss this proposed Bylaw at a suitable time to be selected by the Clerk.

ITEM 3: MEMO FROM PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR - USE OF CHEMICALS FOR FLOWER BEDS

The representatives from S.P.E.C., Ms. Cathy Fox and Ms. Thelma McAdam spoke on the proposed use of chemicals. They voiced the following concerns:

- a. There is not a great deal of literature on the chemical CASORON but based on what they have read this chemical is toxic and must be handled very carefully. They pointed out the manufacturer's warning "Notice to Users".
- b. The chemical must not be applied at a temperature greater than 18 degrees celcius and it must have water to act.
- c. Inhalation of this chemical is a health hazard.
- d. The chemical is toxic to children.
- e. What was the figure of \$60,000 increase in the Parks budget as the alternative of not using chemicals based upon? Seems awfully high.
- f. Why was CASORON selected? Are there less toxic chemicals available?
- g. In view of the stability of herbicides, run-offs from the flower beds are likely to be carried downstream possibly causing harmful affects to unsuspecting others.

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Ms. Fox and Ms. McAdam recommended the following to the City:


1. The City should continue its present policy of not using chemicals.
2. The Parks & Rec Director look into the feasibility of hiring summer students to do the required weeding.
3. The City make better choices of ground covers for flower beds in order to reduce the need for weeding. Examples of good ground cover selections are some of the landscaped areas of A.L.R.T. stations.
4. The Parks Crew should vacuum up the dandelion cuttings in grass fields since matured dandelion flowers may still produce seeds even after they are cut.
5. If the City decides to use chemicals, adequate signs must be posted to warn the public, especially in areas where children play.


The Committee apologized that unfortunately the Parks and Recreation Director was unable to give her comments on the foregoing and that the foregoing comments and concerns will certainly be conveyed to Ms. Taylor to assist her in the preparation of her report to Council on this subject. Ms. Cathy Fox asked for a copy of Sheila Darrs' report on the Integrated Weed Management Program for the City. This request will also be conveyed to Ms. Taylor for a response.

ITEM 4: OTHER BUSINESS

None.

MINUTES TAKEN BY:


T.M. Chong, P. Eng.,
Assistant City Engineer


Alderman M.C. Farnworth,
Chairman

NOTE: Minutes not read and adopted by the Committee until certified by Committee Chairman's signature.

c.c. Mayor and Aldermen
City Administrator
City Clerk
City Engineer

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