ST. JOHN'S

Environment & Sustainability Experts Panel Minutes

June 26, 2020
1:30 p.m.
Virtual

Present:	Kieran Hanley, MBA - Sustainable Economic Growth, Chair Joel Finnis, PhD - Climate Science & Resilience Dennis Knight, MSc, MCIP - Sustainable Urban Planning & Economic Growth Krista Langthorne, BA, SEBT - Resilience & Natural Resources Joseph Daraio, PhD, PEng - Sustainable Urban Planning & Resilience Michel Wawrzkow, PEng, PGeo - Natural Environment & Resilience
Regrets:	Councillor Ian Froude, Council Representative Pablo Navarro - Socio-cultural & Quality of Life
Staff:	Brian Head, Manager - Parks & Open Spaces Edmundo Fausto, Sustainability Coordinator Shanna Fitzgerald, Legislative Assistant
Others:	Natalie Godden, Manager of Family and Leisure Services Bruce Knox, Healthy City Fieldworker

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved By Dennis Knight
Seconded By Joseph Daraio

That the agenda be adopted as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

3.1 Adoption of Minutes - May 28, 2020

Moved By Kieran Hanley
Seconded By Dennis Knight

That the minutes of the meeting held May 28, 2020 be adopted as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING

4.1 Review of Parking Requirements for Section 8 of the Envision St. John's Development Regulations

The Draft Recommendation of Energized Parking Requirements for Section 8 of the Envision St. John's Development Regulations was presented by the Panel members and discussed. The review focused on commercial buildings with the inclusion of apartment buildings. Residential requirements may require updates to the building code as well as larger updates to distribution standards. The Panel agree with the recommendation as it is written with one minor change. The final recommendation will be provided to the Panel before proceeding to Council.

The following motions were put forward by the Chair:

Recommendation
Moved By Kieran Hanley
Seconded By Krista Langthorne

That Council consider electric vehicle spaces in new construction regulations.

MOTION CARRIED

Recommendation
Moved By Kieran Hanley
Seconded By Michel Wawrzkow

That Council consider providing guidance for bicycle spaces and facilities in new construction regulations.

MOTION CARRIED

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Sustainability Plan Engagement & Communication Discussion

The Sustainability Coordinator presented the engagement process and outlined the next steps of the Multi-stakeholder Working Group. The Panel were invited to provide feedback.

5.2 Future Presentations/Delegations of Interest

This item was deferred to a future meeting of the Panel.

5.3 St. John’s Healthy City Strategy Presentation

Natalie Godden and Bruce Knox of Community Services were in attendance to present the St. John's Healthy City Strategy to the Panel. Members were asked to provide feedback and during discussion the following was noted:

- The Healthy City Strategy is a long-term plan to improve the physical, mental, social, and environmental conditions that impact health.
- This long-term plan runs over 10 years with short, medium, and long-term goals designed to bring health to the forefront of decision making.
- An economic pillar was suggested by the Panel members. It was noted that in the new model for BC's Healthy Built Environment toolkit, a cross section of mental and social wellness and economic impacts has been added.
- Members noted the importance of the linkage between environment and urban design and built environment (designing green infrastructure).
- It was recommended that the pillar should be labeled as 'Environment' with the asset of 'Protection of Environmental Benefits (Ecological Services)' which could further be expanded to include the protection of the natural environment - natural systems and ecosystems services including wetlands, natural flood mitigation and water cleansing, reduced air pollution due to planting sufficient trees, reduced urban heat impacts, and pollination.

- The Multi-stakeholder Sustainability Team workshops will include members of the Healthy City Strategy group.

This matter will be discussed further at a future meeting of the Panel.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

7. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is to be determined.

Purpose of next meeting:

1. Drive Thru Referral
2. Further discussion of the St. John's Healthy City Strategy
3. Future Presentations/Delegations of Interest

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:18 pm.

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CHAIRPERSON, KIERAN HANLEY