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Windsor, Ontario February 7, 2013

A meeting of the **Windsor Essex County Environment Committee** is held this day commencing at 5:30 o'clock p.m. in the Board Room, Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant, 4155 Ojibway Parkway, there being present the following members:

Charlie Wright, Co-Chair
Alan Halberstadt, Co-Chair
Councillor Hilary Payne
Mark Bartlett
Pauline Cheslock
Dean Clevett (arrives at 5:37 p.m.)
Derek Coronado
Rick Coronado
Jesse Costa Gardner
Roger Dzugan (alternate for Mark Bartlett)
Paul Henshaw
Tamara Stomp
Radwan Tamr (arrives at 6:02 p.m.)

Guests in attendance:

Richard Wyma, Director, Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA)
Chitra Gowda, Water Quality Specialist, ERCA

Regrets received from:

Evan Freeman-Gibb
Karen Fallon
John Miller
Mike Nelson
Phil Roberts

Also present are the following resource personnel:

James Bryant, County Engineering Department
Beau Wansbrough, Planner II
Karen Kadour, Committee Coordinator

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Charlie Wright, Co-Chair calls the meeting to order at 5:32 o'clock p.m. and the Committee considers the Agenda being Schedule "A" **attached** hereto, matters which are dealt with as follows:

2. **DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT**

None disclosed.

3. **MINUTES**

Moved by R. Dzugan, seconded by P. Cheslock,
That the minutes of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee at its meeting held January 7, 2013 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.
Carried.

4. **PRESENTATION**

Richard Wyma, Director, Essex Region Conservation Authority is present to provide information relating to the Trail On Campaign and Canada's response to the International Wildlife Reserve. A brochure entitled "Essex Region Conservation Authority – Greenways & Trails Trail on Campaign" is distributed and **attached** as Appendix "A".

The salient points of discussion relating to the Trail On Campaign are as follows:

- Essex Region Conservation Authority - Chrysler Canada Greenway: The vision started in 1995 with a 50 km trail (developed in partnership with Chrysler Canada, senior levels of government, and support from individuals, corporations and others in the community).
- The Chrysler Canada Greenway opened in 2000 and has become one of the most important trails in the region for hiking, cycling, running, cross-country skiing and horseback riding.
- Essex Amherstburg Greenway - This vision was shared with CN who, based on the success of the Chrysler Canada Greenway, donated the 22 km abandoned rail line between Essex to Amherstburg to the Essex Region Conservation Foundation in 2003.
- With support of local communities, service clubs and senior levels of Government, ERCA has prepared the trail infrastructure and built 5.5 kilometres of the trail within the municipality of Essex which intersects with the Chrysler Canada Greenway.
- Plan underway to link the Windsor Essex Parkway to the Lasalle Trails.

- Doable for Windsor, Tecumseh and Lasalle to link into the Chrysler Canada Greenway
- Town of Leamington undertaking bike path trail to Pointe Pelee.
- Information relating to the Trail On Campaign to be placed on the WECEC website.

The salient points of discussion relating to the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge are as follows:

- Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge is the only international wildlife refuge in North America and was established in 2001. It is managed jointly by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Canadian Wildlife Service.
- Located along the western coast of Lake Erie and much of the southern portion of the Detroit River.
- The Wildlife Refuge consists primarily of coastal wetlands, several islands in the Detroit River and waterfront parks. It also includes Humbug Marsh, which is classified as a wetland of international importance.
- Gaps identified are the declining Federal and Provincial support for environmental issues. This area is the most threatened part of the Great Lakes.
- Priority natural area on the Canadian side is focused on the Lake Erie watershed. The boundary is located where the watersheds drain into Lake Erie.
- Next step is to work with local municipalities in advancing initiatives on the Canadian side.

Moved by Councillor Halberstadt, seconded by P. Cheslock,
That the verbal report of Richard Wyma, Director, Essex Region Conservation Authority relating to the Trail On Campaign and the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge **BE RECEIVED** and further, that information relating to the Trail On Campaign **BE PLACED** on the WECEC website.

Carried.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

5.1 Fluoride Campaign Update

Windsor City Council at its meeting held January 28, 2013 approved the following motion:

Moved by Councillor Dilkens, seconded by Councillor Jones,
CR18/2013 That **Report No. 45 of the Environment & Transportation Standing Committee**, of its meeting held January 25, 2012 regarding the fluoridation of the water system **BE RECEIVED**,

and further,

That City Council **PASS** a by-law **DIRECTING** the Windsor Utilities Commission to **CEASE** the fluoridation of the City of Windsor water supply while ensuring continued regulatory compliance, and that the savings from this action **BE DIRECTED** to oral and health nutrition education in Windsor and Essex County, for a period of 5 years, to be spent at the discretion of the Community Development and Health Commissioner.

Carried.

Councillors Valentinis, Gignac and Payne voting nay.

Councillor Halberstadt advises R. Dzugan presented on behalf of WECEC at the City Council meeting. He states D. Coronado provided a written submission extolling the toxicity of fluoride.

6. **COORDINATOR'S REPORT**

No report at this time.

7. **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

7.1 **Air**

D. Coronado indicates the proposed environmental impact statement for Fermi II has been published. He states his organization (Citizen's Environmental Alliance) will comment on the statement.

D. Coronado advises the Department of Energy will lift the moratorium on recycled radioactive metal.

7.2 **Transportation**

Councillor Halberstadt indicates WECEC met with representatives from the Windsor Bicycling Committee regarding the proposed bike lane across the new International Crossing. The subcommittee submitted comments to the Ontario Ministry of Transportation regarding their recently released *Cycling Strategy*.

7.3 **Provincially Significant Wetlands**

No report.

7.4 **Water Quality**

No report.

7.5 Surplus Parks Strategy

Councillor Halberstadt states a meeting was recently held regarding the closure of South Tilston Park.

R. Dzugan notes he attended the meeting and the residents are opposed to the closure of the park. He indicates information was provided relating to possible options to naturalize the park or to create a community garden. He advises the neighbours are willing to purchase playground equipment out of pocket.

Councillor Halberstadt indicates the next hearing to consider the closure of Titcombe Park will be held on March 5, 2013. He notes the Province owns Titcombe Park and wishes to naturalize the park.

Charlie Wright, Co-Chair advises St. Clair College is interested in having a board member sit on WECEC.

Moved by M. Bartlett, seconded by R. Dzugan,
That board member representation on the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee from St. Clair College **BE REFERRED** to the WECEC Membership Subcommittee to discuss the matter and to report back at the March 7, 2013 meeting.
Carried.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Generator Design of Canada Inc.

A more detailed breakdown of the invoice supplied by Generator Design of Canada Inc. is requested.

Moved by Councillor Halberstadt, seconded by Councillor Payne,
That approval for an expenditure in the upset amount of \$661.90 payable to Generator Design of Canada (as part of the Energy Conservation Campaign) **BE DEFERRED** to the March 7, 2013 meeting of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee.
Carried.

8.2 Green Speaker Series – Proposal for Green Speaker Series

Councillor Halberstadt indicates the cost to retain Dan Burden, Executive Director and Cofounder of the Walkable & Livable Communities Institute for the Green Speaker Series is approximately \$10,000. He suggests each of the Business Improvement Areas (BIA's) contribute \$250-\$500, the St. Clair Architectural Society contribute \$1,000

and WECEC also contribute \$1,000. He states the BIA's will be contacted to determine their interest in this initiative.

9. COMMUNICATIONS

- 9.1 The article from Jamie Choi – Avaaz.org dated January 19, 2013 entitled “Attack of the Frankenfish” is received for information.

Councillor Halberstadt requests Communication #16 from the City Council meeting held January 21, 2013 be added as an Agenda item for the March 7, 2013 meeting of WECEC. The letter from the Chair of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative Mayor of Milwaukee regarding Asian Carp in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence, is attached as Appendix “B”.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on March 7, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. at the Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 7:15 o'clock p.m.

Charlie Wright, Co-Chair

Committee Coordinator