



## MEETING #18 – NOTES

**Date:** August 23rd, 2010  
**Time:** 5:00pm **Page:** 1 of 2  
**Project:** The City of Welland Conservation Committee  
**Subject:** Summer Recap and Green Communities Canada  
**Location:** Community Room

### Present:

Councillor Paul Grenier (Chair)  
Ric Harry  
Gary King  
Giulia Forsythe  
Erik Nickel  
Councillor David Alexander  
Elyse Finley

### Distribution:

Those Present  
Lino Ventresca  
Jeff Carl

### Discussion:

#### 1. Approval of Notes from Meeting November 19, 2009

- a) Notes approved.

#### 2. 2010 Summer Program Summary

- a) Toilets are behind schedule compared to previous years – 199 have been approved so far (25% of the budget or \$10,380). We will most likely not surpass the budget by early December. We are expecting a surge right before the end of the year when it is advertised that the program will be coming to a close.
- b) Washing machines are using more money than the toilet program – 122 have been approved so far (44% of the budget or \$12,200). We will most likely not surpass the budget by early December.
- c) Eco-energy audits – little to no interest in the program this year due to funding being removed by the Federal Government. Residents have been expressing discontent with being limited to one home energy auditor (Green Venture).
- d) Youth Sustainability Conference – was very well received by the students/schools that participated. Four students each from 16 of 18 elementary schools participated. Committee endorses the idea to make this an annual event.
- e) Public Awareness – have published 2 articles in the Welland Tribune (Masdar City, Hybrid vehicles). Would like a firm commitment to publish 2 more before the Fall. Suggestion raised for future articles to be prepared by a committee member or by participant of the Youth Conference.
- f) Rain Barrels – have had minimal problems with Norseman barrels (300 were purchased). Had a few problems with Riversides in terms of manufacturing, delivery and resident interest. Re-evaluate which manufacturers to use next year. Full budget allocation for rain barrels has been reached this year (337 in total).

#### 3. Green Communities Canada

- a) Within the City's 2010 Workplan, a specific item is stated for the establishment of a stand-alone agency (Green Communities Canada) to deliver Environmental related programming for the City and for the community at large.
- b) Chair elaborated on recent discussions with various agencies/groups in support of establishing a separate delivery agent for the Conservation Program. Foremost, a Trillium Grant is required in order establish funding. To achieve this the following steps must follow:

- Council approval required (Erik to prepare report for the October 5 council meeting);
  - A non-profit corporation, completely independent of the City, would be established; this corporation would operate the local agency. Corporation would be established based on, at minimum, 3 current committee members who would become the board of directors.
  - Once incorporated the non-profit corporation would apply for a Trillium Grant (total amount and span of grant to be determined). A meeting with the Trillium Foundation should be held as soon as possible. Without a Trillium Grant, start-up and initial operation of a local Green Communities branch will not be possible.
  - Councillor Alexander noted that the typical cost to incorporate is approximately \$2,500.
  - A public meeting could be held to invite others to join the board – ideally need 3-5 people.
  - A corporate name needs to be established that would inspire other municipalities to join in the future.
- c) Funding:
- Trillium Grant: Deadline November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010.
  - Possible funding partners for future operation include: Welland Hydro, Niagara Region, WRCC, Enbridge
  - Explore TD Friends of the Environment, Shell, RBC Bluewater and Sobeys grants
- d) Who will do the work?
- Sharyn Inward, a business consultant from Green Communities Canada has offered her services to prepare a comprehensive proposal to apply for a Trillium grant and develop the organization. Approximate cost for her services is \$7,000.
  - Staff to look into previous Trillium Grant applications.
  - Build volunteer capacity over the 1<sup>st</sup> couple years and have an engaged full time executive director.
- e) Motion to Pass
- Motion tabled to proceed with:
    - a. Establishment of a corporation formed by three existing citizen members serving as the board of directors. Cost for incorporation to be covered by undersubscribed funds originally set aside for toilet/washer incentives.
    - b. Retention of Sharyn Inward to proceed with a comprehensive proposal and preparation of a Trillium Grant application before the November 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. Costs for services to be covered by undersubscribed funds originally set aside for toilet/washer incentives.
- Ric Harry motioned resolution to pass. Gary King seconded the motion. Everyone was in favour.

#### 4. 2010 Fall Conservation Program

- a) Erik propose to retain part-time student staff for the Fall to continue processing replacement incentives and oversee day-to-day operations. No objections.
- b) Outreach: NPCA's Children's Water Festival for grades 3 and 4 students will be looked into.

**5. Other Business**

- a) Councillor Grenier attended the Canadian Water Summit where the Premier announced the Water Opportunities Act. The Canadian Water Innovation Lab is holding a conference for young leaders in Alberta from October 21-24, 2010. Sending Welland youth from high schools or the Mayor's Youth Council will be explored.
- b) Potential donation of a subscription to Water Magazine for the library.

**6. Next Meeting**

- a) To be determined.

**7. Adjournment**

- a) Meeting adjourned at 6:15pm.

Notes taken and prepared by:

Elyse Finley  
Conservation Program Coordinator