

Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting held on Monday, March 7, 2016 in the portable classroom at Anmore Elementary School, 30 Elementary Road, Anmore, BC



MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillor Ryan Froese (Chair)
Grace Bergman
Paige Crawley
Coleen Hackinen

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mike Barnes
Elaine Willis

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Froese called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was Moved and Seconded:

“That the Agenda be approved as circulated.”

Carried Unanimously

3. MINUTES

(a) Minutes of the Meeting held on February 1, 2016

It was Moved and Seconded:

“That the Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting held on February 1, 2016 be adopted, as amended.”

Carried Unanimously

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nil

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Nil

6. NEW BUSINESS

- (a) Review of Anmore Tree Management Bylaw (Consolidated)**
- (b) Review of Anmore Works and Services Bylaw (Consolidated)**

Committee reviewed items 6(a) and (b) in parallel. The following points were raised during discussion:

- Bonding for 5 years to ensure trees remain in good health
- Tree removal on steep land change from 30% to 20% slope and ensure percentage is consistent throughout bylaw
- Include a prohibition for damaging a tree; intent to kill it or in addition to cutting it down
- Include the protection of trees and vegetation within tree protection area
- Tree cutting on lot sizes more than 1 acre
- Require root protection to ensure there is no damage from machines

Action item: The Chair will talk to staff to request that someone inquire with the environmental consultant regarding the safe distance on top of bank.

- Require a no disturbance buffer at top of bank, irrespective of RAR regulations
- Require replanting of trees along top of bank on slopes where trees fell due to previous clearing along top of bank.
- Enforceability with the ticketing bylaw
- Ability to issue Stop Work if non compliance
- Unsure on whether village could enforce a review of security

The Committee recommends to Council the following additions be incorporated within the existing Tree Management Bylaw:

- Preservation of a natural environment requires protection of not just the trees, but also the understory, ground cover and intact natural soil profile. Include provisions which encourage protection of native trees, other native vegetation and undisturbed soils within a “protection area”, rather than destruction and replanting.
- Require a permit for all trees, as a documentation process for noting ones being removed, with no application fee if removed as per TMB s 5(2)(c) "*where, in any 12-month period, no more than 2 trees are cut down with a lot size of 0.4 ha (1 acre) or less, plus 1 additional tree for every additional 0.4 ha of lot area*"
- Include a prohibition for removal of "protected tree" (e.g. heritage tree, wildlife protected tree, etc.). Include specific areas and species and any tree protected by covenant in the definition of "protected tree"
- Include explicit wording regarding lots that were previously cleared (prior to TMB, or illegally afterward) that on development (or prior to issuance of any permit), replanting of native trees and vegetation will be required on 20% of the lot
- Steep slope protection
 - Require development permit for areas designated as steep slopes (e.g. OCP Schedule D2).
 - Require a “top of bank protection area” (no disturbance buffer) to reduce the risk of tree windfall on the adjacent slope and slope instability, even where there is no watercourse present. “Top of bank protection area” to be determined in

accordance with best practices and our environmental consultants' recommendations

- Use “*Top of Bank*” definition in the Riparian Areas Regulation of the BC *Fish Protection Act*, 376-2004, Section 1 Definitions, page 4.
- Require replanting of trees along the top of bank of slopes where trees fell due to previous clearing or natural falling along top of bank
- Re TMB section 11(1) *Tree removal on steep land*. Change “with a slope greater than 30%” to “with a slope equal to or greater than 20%” to be consistent with OCP Policy E-1 and Schedule D2 which specify steep slopes as equal to or greater than 20% slope.
- Definition of a “steep slope” will be a slope angle of 20% or greater over the distance of 9 meters or further horizontally
- Ensure that the percentage denoting a “steep slope” (i.e. equal to or greater than 20% slope) is consistent throughout all bylaws
- Improve enforceability via:
 - Implement Municipal Ticketing Bylaw
 - Provide authority to issue stop work order if non-compliant with Tree Management Bylaw
- Require bonding for 5 years to ensure trees remain in good health and provide arborist report to release bond; ensure the Village has authority to inspect and take action if trees are not in good health
- Include mechanisms to prevent a person from willfully damaging a tree for the purpose of subsequently removing it under the “dangerous tree” provisions; include penalty for such in Municipal Ticketing Bylaw.
- Require root protection to ensure there is no damage from machines; cordon off areas and trees to be protected
- Timeline for replanting should be included
- Require replanting in a foot for foot replacement of removed trees as per a predefined calculation based on specific trees.
- Mandatory replanting of illegally removed trees within a certain time frame, with a minimum height as determined by the tree removed. If not done by the owner, the village will perform the work at the cost of the owner
- Re: Security TMB s 12(2)(c):
- Review security annually to ensure that amount of security is still appropriate and replanting work actually gets completed. May be appropriate provision for any bylaw that where security is required.
- Specify who estimates the cost of replacing/maintaining trees for purpose of establishing amount of security

(c) Review of Anmore Municipal Ticket Information Bylaw No. 479-2009

Committee recommended to strengthen the bylaw to ensure applicable fines are included.

(d) Waste Diversion - Communication to Residents

Committee reviewed a brochure prepared by a neighbouring municipality and it was agreed that some information could be used in the same template for Anmore.

Committee reviewed an article written by a member to be included in the Anmore Times edition regarding tips on keeping residents and Bears in Anmore. Further information on waste diversion will be compiled for members to review.

(e) Welcome to Anmore Brochure

Committee agreed that a Welcome to Anmore brochure should be created, and that tabs be included for each category

7. ADJOURNMENT

It was Moved and Seconded:

“That the meeting be adjourned.”

Carried Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Certified Correct:

C. MILLOY

Christine Milloy
Manager of Corporate Services

Approved:

R. FROESE

Councillor Ryan Froese
Chair, Environment Committee