

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE / PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – MINUTES



Minutes for the Environment Committee and Public Safety Committee Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. virtually via Zoom meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT - Environment Committee

Councillor Paul Weverink, Chair
Grace Bergman
Trudy Schneider
Patricia Van Der Lingen
Elaine Willis

MEMBERS PRESENT - Public Safety Committee

Councillor Tim Laidler, Chair
Robert Boies
Gord McRae
Bryan Mitten
Sky Zhu

Mayor John McEwen
Juli Halliwell, CAO

Guest:

Chris Miller, BC Conservation
Alicia Stark, BC Conservation

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Ms. Juli Halliwell, CAO, provided an overview of the meeting format and protocol noting that there will be an opportunity for questions following the presentation.

3. MINUTES

None.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

6. NEW BUSINESS**(a) BC Conservation Officer Service**

BC Conservation provided a presentation on Bear-Human conflicts which is included as Attachment 1 and forms part of the original minutes.

Discussion points of presentation included:

- There are currently two conservation officers assigned to the area which includes Anmore
- Bear conflict prevention/attractant management
- Strategies for avoiding bears becoming comfortable around people
- Reporting bear conflicts
- Bear activity updates
- Statistics from last 3 years in Anmore
- Bear safety
- Conservation Officer roles

Discussion during question period included:

- Cougar sightings – reports are tracked for cougars as well
- Village of Anmore paid for bylaw enforcement to give warnings for garbage being left out in 2020 but no tickets were issued last year
- There is no relationship between bears destroyed and hunting licenses issued.
- Attractant audit was conducted in Anmore by BC Conservation and there were no tickets or warnings issued as there were secured attractants in the area canvassed.
- Information reported to BC Conservation is recorded
- Hibernation patterns and the fact the bears do not hibernate every year depending on food source and temperatures
- Anmore has a significantly lower report of conflict than other areas within the zone but there is still a risk of wildlife interactions especially with unleashed house pets

(b) Committee Procedures

Mayor McEwen thanked all of the volunteer committee members for their contribution to the Village and provided an overview of

7. ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED and SECONDED:

To adjourn this meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Carried Unanimously

Certified Correct:

“Karen Elrick”

Karen Elrick
Manager of Corporate Services

Approved:

“Paul Weverink”

Councillor Paul Weverink
Chair, Environment Committee

“Tim Laidler”

Councillor Tim Laidler
Chair, Public Safety Committee