

**Advisory Planning Commission Minutes
RDOS Electoral Area "A" Monday December 14, 2015
Sonora Centre, Osoyoos, BC**

Present:

Acting Secretary: Mark McKenney

Members: Chair Peter Beckett, Vice Chair Mark McKenney, Gerald Hesketh, Bill Plaskett, Dwayne Svendsen

Absent: Grant Montgomery, Bonnie Douglas

Meeting was called to Order at 7:05 pm

Minutes of previous meeting were adopted by consensus

Agenda adopted by consensus

Delegations: Christopher Garrish, RDOS, Jayme Friedt (SOSCP/ shared environmental planner); Bryne White (SOSCP). Public: Lee McFaden (Osoyoos Desert Society); Barry Blomm; Mark Pendergraft (Director; Area A)

Agenda Item 2.1

Update of Environmentally Sensitive Development Permit Areas Electoral Area "A"; Official Community Plan (OCP) Bylaw Amendment

Mr. Garrish made a presentation of the scope of this proposed amendment. The purpose of this proposed amendment is to provide textual and mapping amendments to the Environmentally Sensitive Development Permit (ESDP) Area designation in the Okanagan Electoral Area Official Community Plan (OCP) Bylaws.

Mr. Garrish described how this amendment seeks to change textual language involving policies, change ESDP guidelines defining triggers for ESDP use, and identify land to be designated as ESDP Areas or "Important Ecosystem Areas" (IEA).

Discussion

Area "A" APC members asked many questions relating to this proposed amendment. There was concern expressed that the use ESDP's is not well understood by this APC, and likely much less understood by residents of Area A. Concern was expressed about the RDOS requiring a property owner to present ESDP information, through a contracted QEP at the owners cost, based on low resolution aerial mapping information that is not ground truthed.

APC members stated that if hiring a QEP is required by RDOS, and the rationale proves unwarranted, there should be a mechanism of dispute available to reimburse the property owner for the costs incurred. Other discussions revolved around the lack of communication to allow citizens to understand the core purposes of the ESDP process.

The Chair expressed this APC's general consensus that protecting ecological values in Area is important and desirable. APC members stated that the lack of clarity of what this amendment will involve and its impact on property owners is a concern.

Motion Made by Dwayne Svendsen, Seconded Gerald Hesketh

That the APC recommends to the RDOS Board that the proposed amendments related to the ESDP Area Update be denied.

The Motion is CARRIED by vote of 3 to 2

Item 2.2

Proposed Regional Conservation Fund

Ms. Bryne White made a presentation discussing the merits of a Conservation Fund in the RDOS. She pointed to other municipal jurisdictions where this has been implemented.

APC members commented that this was generally a positive idea, and one in principle that they support being considered further. The citizens of RDOS will have to be properly informed about this suggestions, and appropriate measures taken to seek their approvals (i.e. referendum or other administrative mechanisms). A suggestion was made that funds collected should be held by RDOS but administered by a multi-stakeholder steering committee.

Motion Made by Mark McKenney, Seconded Bill Plaskett

THAT the APC advises the RDOS Board that the conservation fund be supported in principle and recommends that the RDOS Board continue to work with SOSCP to conduct public consultation and assent on the conservation fund proposal under conditions to be determined.

The Motion is CARRIED unanimously

Motion to Adjourn

Made by Gerald Hesketh, Seconded Bill Plaskett

For the motion: Unanimous

Opposed: None

The Motion is CARRIED

Meeting Concluded at 8:50 PM



Mark McKenney

