

Municipality of North Cowichan Committee of the Whole MINUTES

July 7, 2020, 6:00 p.m.
Electronically

Members Present	Councillor Christopher Justice, Chair Councillor Rob Douglas Councillor Tek Manhas Councillor Rosalie Sawrie Councillor Debra Toporowski
Members Absent	Mayor Al Siebring Councillor Kate Marsh
Staff Present	Ted Swabey, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Sarah Nixon, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer (D/CAO) Megan Jordan, Acting, Manager, Communications and Public Engagement Shaun Mason, Municipal Forester Michelle Martineau, Corporate Officer Tricia Mayea, Deputy Corporate Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

There being a quorum present, Councillor Justice called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

1.1 Open Meeting Transparency Resolution

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That pursuant to Ministerial Order No. M192 and the procedures established by the Municipality of North Cowichan to protect the health and safety of the public and municipal staff while they perform work within the Municipal Hall, the attendance of the public at today's Committee of the Whole meeting cannot be accommodated because of the limitations placed on mass gatherings by the Provincial Health Officer; our inability to provide for adequate physical distancing between members of Council, staff, and the public or to create separate entrance and exits with one-way walkways for the public in Council Chambers; and further that to ensure openness, transparency, accessibility and accountability for this meeting, the Municipality of North Cowichan:

- is livestreaming the meeting to enable the public to hear and see the proceedings;
- is allowing the public to submit input on agenda items by email;
- is allowing the public to submit questions during the Question Period portion of the meeting, in real time;
- has provided notice of today's meeting, including how the public may view and participate in the meeting;
- has made the meeting agenda, as well as all other relevant documents, available on the municipal website prior to today's meeting; and

- will be archiving the meeting video for future viewing by members of the public.

CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That the Committee of the Whole agenda be adopted, as amended, to remove item 5.2 (Safer Community Office Update) from the agenda.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held June 24, 2020 be adopted, as circulated.

CARRIED

4. PUBLIC INPUT

No public submissions were received.

5. BUSINESS

5.1 UBC Partnership Group Presentation

Dr. Brad Seely, 3GreenTree Ecosystem Services Ltd. & Faculty of Forestry, UBC, Dr. Clive Welham, 3GreenTree Ecosystem Services Ltd. & Faculty of Forestry, UBC, and Dr. Peter Arcese, Prof./FRBC Chair Forest & Conservation Sciences, UBC, provided an overview and update on the Strategic Forest Planning Review and Technical Analysis of the North Cowichan Municipal Forest Reserve. A copy of the presentations and supplemental documents were included in the agenda.

The review of the goals and objectives included past management activities and regional context, the development of spatial data resources, understanding management goals and evaluating outcomes, a multi-objective scenario analysis, an assessment of the feasibility of developing a carbon project, and support for development of forest management plans.

The review of the feasibility analysis, which forms the basis for the carbon project, highlighted how many carbon credits a carbon project could generate, how much revenue might be realized from carbon credits as compared to traditional sources like harvesting, how logging and carbon are not mutually exclusive, and how credits can be allocated for more than one purpose.

The review of the possible outcomes to the economy, people, and native species highlighted the associated trade-offs and synergies found in the management of public lands and resources, how focal species mapping informs us about landscape conditions and long-term consequences of management, and how the co-benefits of habitat restoration can enhance the price of carbon off-sets, economic activity, and the direct and indirect benefits of recreation/tourism.

Councillor Sawrie left at 8:00 p.m. and returned at 8:02 p.m.

5.2 Safer Community Office Update

This item was removed from the agenda.

6. NEW BUSINESS

No items.

7. QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Justice called for a recess at 8:07 p.m. to allow viewers to submit questions via email on the matters discussed during the meeting. No questions had been submitted when the meeting reconvened at 8:18 p.m.

8. ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That the meeting be adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

CARRIED

Certified by Corporate Officer

Signed by Mayor