

# MINUTES

## *Sustainable Community Task Force*

*Tuesday February 2, 2010*



Monthly meeting of the Quesnel Sustainable Community Task Force was held on Tuesday February 2nd, 2010 commencing at 12:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Fraser Room.

**Present:** Byron Johnson, Tanya Turner, Tom Weckworth, Dora McMillan, Ron Dunn, Anna Rankin, Laurell Crocker, Kelly Pomeroy, Bernice Heinzelman, April Cheng, John Massier, Margaret Sadlon, Matt Wood

**Regrets:** Mayor Sjostrom, Mike Cave, Terry Stoneman

**Call to Order:** Alternate Chair Dora McMillan called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. in the Fraser Room.

Bernice Heinzelman moved the adoption of the agenda, John Massier seconded.

Ron Dunn moved the adoption of the January 5th meeting minutes, Bernice Heinzelman seconded.

The Chair asked the City Planner to update the task force on the next three agenda items.

The City Planner thanked all for their comments and review of the new logo noting that it received endorsement from Council.

The definition and purpose of Smart Planning (Integrated Community Sustainability Planning) was briefly reviewed. The City Planner emphasized that providing advice to Council on this process was the main purpose of the group and that the initial setting of targets, actions, and policies to meet Bill 27 requirements, which was the subject of the days meeting, would be enhanced and furthered through the Smart Planning process. The next steps in this process will include the exploration of the different options the community has for completing Smart Planning and the submission of an intent to apply for funding.

The Committee reviewed a set of questions to consider in moving through the Target Setting Workshop and moved to Council Chambers to facilitate the workshop format.

The workshop was divided into four modules. The first module provided information on the context for setting targets, actions and policies for the reduction of greenhouse gases noting the legislated and voluntary requirements the has in regards to greenhouse gas management. The second module provided information on where Quesnel is in regards to the actions that have already been taken by the City. The included becoming a member of the federal Partners for Climate Protection initiative, completing an energy and emissions inventory and forecast in

2002 with 1996 baseline data, the development of a community energy plan options report, completion of a 2005 corporate energy and emissions inventory, and the adoption of a number of sustainable policies in the City's current official community plan including smart growth and energy efficiency policies. In addition it was noted the province has also completed energy and emission inventories (CEEI) for all communities for 2007. It was reiterated from the January 5th meeting that the City Planner is in favour of using the 2007 inventory as a baseline as it is intended that the province will be updating these inventories which is a cost savings for the City and that it provides the ability to do some comparative analysis with other communities.

The committee completed two exercises. The first was designed to create discussion the City's per capita emissions based on the CEEI and how it compared to Williams Lake, Prince George and Dawson Creek. The second exercise looked at identifying opportunities and challenges to reducing emissions based on the following characteristics of the community: Geography or Natural Resources; Land-use; Transportation Systems; Population and Growth Patterns; Buildings; and Industry and Economy.

The committee moved to discussions on what type of target(s) should be set. It was noted that the purpose of a target is a stimulus for action. There is no limit on the number of targets but it is recommended that at least one target be a measureable emissions reduction target.

The City Planner introduced the following two targets for consideration:

1. Reduce emissions by 33% compared to 2007 levels by 2020 and by 80% by 2050.
2. Reduce emissions by 3% for each the sectors (industry, residential, commercial, transportation and waste) compared to 2007 levels by 2020.

There was much discussion around the form of the target: total emissions target; per capita target, or number of tonnes reduction; whether the target should include industry emissions; the ability to reach the target; whether different targets should be set for different sectors.

The City Planner emphasized that a prime goal for the target should be whether the target motivates the community to act. The Committee decided that it would like to review and determine the actions and policies before committing to a target.

The City Planner briefly reviewed a list of proposed actions and policies for consideration. There was limited discussion on these due to time constraints. The Planner committed to providing the list to the group for informal discussion via e-mail on the types of actions and policies the group feels is the most appropriate for the community.

The workshop ended.

The Chair asked if there was any other business to bring to the table. There was none. The Chair closed the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

**Actions:**

1. City Planner to provide actions and policies for committee consideration.

**Announcements:**

The meeting dates and minutes will be posted on the website at:  
<http://www.city.quesnel.bc.ca/Planning/sustainability.asp>