

2011-Feb-8 Minutes

Written by admin on February 16th, 2011

Meeting: Tuesday, February 8, 2011
Trail City Hall – Meeting Room No. 2
7:00 pm

Committee Members in Attendance:

Dieter Bogs, Chair, City of Trail
Brad McCandlish, BC Ministry of Environment
Steve Hilts, Teck Trail Operations
Jacquie Johnson, Interior Health
John Crozier, Councillor, Village of Warfield
Karin Goodison, Interior Health Authority

Others in Attendance:

Mike Patterson, Teck Trail Operations
Andrea McCormick, SNC-Lavalin Environment
Dr. Nelson Ames, former Medical Health Officer, Kootenays (retired)
Ruth Beck, Circle B Services
Christina Pistner, Kootenay Skills Connection

MEETING MINUTES: Dated November 9, 2010

MOTION: Moved: Steve Hilts, seconded: Brad McCandlish. Accepted as presented

REPORTS

Family Health:

Interior Health – Jacquie Johnson, Report attached

Winter Blood Lead Clinic – 35 of 52 identified children participated (67%) plus 4 non-targeted children; of note, 9 children were contacted 3 times with no response (included 3 Case Management children)

Case Management – 17 of 20 identified homes have had family assessments completed, 2 were “lost”, one has not returned contact

Community Education & Contact – Jacquie made lead health & safety presentations to Strong Start in Fruitvale, requested for Rossland; Castlegar has also asked but not our catchment area so she will provide info to a PHN who can do the presentation; article on home reno to appear in West Kootenay Infant magazine Spring 2011; Steve borrowed hand washing station for “Hearts@School” event in January and it was popular; the committee is providing information on our programs to the govt. on for use in developing a rationale for surveillance of lead toxicity in BC children

Portable Finger Prick Blood Lead Testing Machine: Jacquie is looking for a small group to review data to create a recommendation at the April meeting; Dieter suggested parent involvement.

ACTION: Technical Group to be formed to review data includes Jacquie, Steve, Nelson

ACTION: Email potential parent participants for this group - Jacquie

Question: Would we consider offering radon test kits at our program office? Answer: Yes

ACTION: Explore the possibility of making radon test kits available at our program office – Ruth/Andrea

Air Quality – Steve Hilts, Teck

Reviewed report. Report attached.

Question: Does Trail have issues with cadmium? Answer: Teck tracks it and we are below international guidelines in ambient air. Cadmium was also studied as part of the human health risk assessment and is part of the soil testing program. The risk assessment did not find unacceptable risks due to cadmium in soil or locally grown produce. It is important to note that in certain parts of our broader region, cadmium is present in soil naturally at levels approaching the provincial guidelines.

Question: Should we be monitoring incremental increases in sulphur from Teck stacks? Answer: Yes, sulphur, particularly sulphur dioxide, is also a focus issue. Teck is looking at switching to using Sodium Bicarbonate additions to further reduce SO₂ emissions and is looking at ways to reduce the sulphur particulate plume from the Lead Stack.

Reviewed 2 newspaper articles; ‘Pollution still impacts Northport community’ & “Study tracks reasons behind high rate of illness near Northport” (looking at ulcerative colitis)

Also discussed a study commissioned by Nelson Ames in the 1990s on the rates of inflammatory bowel disease in the Trail Health region compared to other local health areas in the Thompson-Okanagan-Kootenay Region. There is a lower incidence in the Trail population compared to other areas in study.

Question: Dieter asked Steve about a report on fugitive emissions reduction plan.

ACTION: Steve will present a detailed report on Teck’s fugitive emissions reduction plans at the next THEC meeting

Dust Control: Discussion on using water for dust control and street flushing schedule in Trail

City needs the request to be in writing from the Watersmart committee regarding the use of water in street flushing

ACTION: Provide Dieter with the wording from the Task Force Recommendations about street flushing – Steve

Discussion on waterless, dustless street sweepers purchased by Toronto for street cleaning

ACTION: Provide info about this equipment to Dieter – Steve

Discussion on new proposal re: frequency of dust control/street cleaning in Rivervale; Steve provided info on activities in the 90’s, currently a road maintenance contractor is charged by govt. to provide this

TABLED FOR NEXT MEETING

ACTION: Provide past records to Dieter – Steve

ACTION: Pass info to Linda Worley, Area B rep – Dieter and Steve

Ron Joseph offered to volunteer to provide resident input to Teck on what he sees coming from stacks on a regular basis as he lives overlooking the smelter.

Dieter suggested that Teck Plant Superintendents be invited to committee meetings to understand the issues/concerns being dealt with at this table.

Park & Wildlands: No Report

Home & Garden: Community Program Office – Andrea McCormick, SNC Lavalin Environment

Report reviewed (see attached).

Soil Assessment- have connected with City of Trail to do assessment of any public parks that are scheduled for upgrade in 2011;

Remediation- described some of the challenges met in 2010;

Home Renovation Support - increased threefold from 2009 numbers.

Property Development: Brad McCandlish, Ministry of Environment

Update-waiting for new premier and cabinet, then will brief new Minister of Environment;

ACTION: Ruth, Steve and Brad to prepare a briefing report on the history of the regulatory issues for Dieter to present to the new Minister

Brad is organizing a conference for environmental protection officers from across the province – Brad will have an opportunity to the Ministry's progress on this issue with Mike MacFarlane, Land Remediation Section senior manager.

Special Report: Brad McCandlish, Ministry of Environment

THEC was nominated by Mike MacFarlane and is one of 53 finalists for a Premier's award in the partnership category; next step is a 2 minute video to be produced (paid for by the awards committee), may use some footage from the public consultation video; the finished project will be available to view on internet; regional winners awarded in April.

ACTION: Contact committee members for participation in video – Brad

ACTION: Send Youtube link for last year's videos to THEC members - Brad

Program Planning and Operations: Report from Program Group – Ruth Beck

There has been a request that an Executive Committee be established

MOTION: Moved-Ron Joseph/Second-John Crozier; None opposed - CARRIED

Moved that THEC form an Executive Committee made up of reps from the City of Trail (Dieter Bogs), IHA (Jacquie Johnson), Ministry of Environment (Brad McCandlish) and Teck Metals Ltd. (Steve Hilts)

Executive Committee: Recommendations

- Recruit members to sit on a task group to develop a 5 year plan

ACTION: Develop expectations, deliverables and time frame for task group, submit in April for THEC members to consider and participate - Ruth

- A Group met on Jan 21 to discuss website revamp; reviewed proposal from 7am Creative for website revamp (proposal attached to minutes). The goal is to have the website work for the long term, tailored to our target audiences, provide key messaging, allow drilling down to more detailed info. The proposal quote has come within the \$8-10 K range outlined in preliminary budget.

MOTION: Moved-John Crozier; Seconded-Ron Joseph; None opposed - CARRIED

Moved that the committee accept the website redesign proposal in principal subject to further refinement by the website task group(?).

Draft 1 Year Plan: (Report attached)

Note changes on Page 4 – Goal #1 refers to total particulate and Goal #2 is PM10.

MOTION: Moved-John Crozier/Seconded-Brad McCandlish. None opposed - CARRIED

Moved that THEC accepts the 1 year plan subject to further review tabled for the next meeting.

Discussion of values/vision statements and new terms of reference for THEC

ACTION: Draft values statements and terms of reference, and send to committee members for discussion in April – Ruth

Program Manager's Report

Strategic Action Day: Community collaboration to make the Trail area an increasingly wonderful supportive place for young children - May 19/20 will feature Clyde Hertzman as keynote speaker and panel member. Events for those days are currently in planning stages. THEC members invited to participate in those events.

ACTION: Dieter would like a list of parent names and he will personally call them to invite them to attend

ACTION: Provide list of parent names to Dieter – Jacquie

Resignation: Clare Dewitt, parent, has resigned from committee and wants to thank everyone for the great work this committee is doing; she mentioned she felt this was more a listening role rather than a participatory role – perhaps we can consider that when recruiting parents to be involved

ACTION: Draft a thank you letter to Clare for Dieter to sign – Ruth

Spring Community Newsletter: will focus on children with info on home reno support, Strategic Action Day, new features of 1 year plan as they relate to children, healthy tips including recipes

Public Consultation

Ruth presented the final report but there was no time to see the powerpoint presentation; 12 bound hard-copies of the complete document (including appendices) will be made (copies to go to Warfield and Rivervale, Teck, IHA, City of Trail, MoE, THEC files)

THEC forgives the Circle B Services deliverable of presenting the powerpoint in the interests of time, as it contains no new information.

ACTION: All members will receive a copy of the final report and have 2 weeks to review – with no comments or changes, it will go for final printing – Ruth

MOTION: Moved-Ron Joseph/Seconded-Karin Goodison; None opposed - CARRIED

Moved that THEC thanks the Consultation Working Group for completing the public consultation and moves closure of the Consultation Working Group.

ACTION; Send a copy of final report to Clyde Hertzman - Ruth

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

MOTION: Moved-Ron Joseph/Seconded-Steve Hilts

None opposed - CARRIED

Move to adjourn meeting.