

MINUTES

GOVERNANCE REVIEW CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Held at the Police / Fire Building, Kirby Room, 760 Vernon Avenue

Wednesday, July 26, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Chair: John Schmuck

Present: Julian Anderson; Art Beck; Joe Calenda; Zig Hancyk; Caleb Horn; Phil Lancaster; Andrew Medd; Mano Sandhu; Jim Schneider (7:13 pm); Brian Wilkes

Absent: Matt Gauk

Guest: Jennifer Kroeker-Hall, Sirius Strategic Solutions Ltd.

Staff: Tania Douglas, Senior Committee Clerk, District of Saanich

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed the Committee and guests.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by J. Calenda and Seconded by M. Sandhu: "That the agenda be adopted, as amended."

CARRIED

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by Z. Hancyk and Seconded by J. Calenda: "That the minutes of the Governance Review Citizen Advisory Committee meeting held on June 28, 2017 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

3. SIRIUS STRATEGIC SOLUTIONS – REVIEW OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Ms. Kroeker-Hall provided an update on the public consultation that has been undertaken and noted that survey results (which highlights key themes) and data are in the drop box for information.

- They looked at both internal (Council) and external processes as well as regional governance.
- Feedback on financial stewardship, organizational performance and culture: more strategic planning is needed for the long term as opposed to the short term.
- Clarity is needed in terms of authority, roles & responsibility, and delegation of authority.
- A discussion will occur about community associations and how can they be better used and how to formalize their input.
- How to better use advisory committees, and what their role is to be clarified.
- Specific comments were received about amalgamation. More information and research is needed regarding shared services.
- Good input was received regarding community engagement and its value.
- Discussions with staff revealed the challenges of obtaining public participation.

The Chair noted that the committee is disappointed in the public participation received specific to governance review and can appreciate the challenges staff has in obtaining public participation. J. Kroeker-Hall stated that she will ensure her report states that a broad effort was made to engage the public, and that the participation rate was low.

4. SIRIUS STRATEGIC SOLUTIONS – UPDATE OF TARGETED ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS

The following was noted:

- Sessions were held with Saanich senior staff as well as three social agencies. All social agencies are multi-jurisdictional.
- The draft notes of the staff meetings are to be sent to the Saanich Directors.
- The next meetings will be held with business groups (eg. Lumber World, UDI, Tri-Eagle, Uptown Mall, Tuscany Village etc.).
- An interview with the Saanich Chief Administrative Officer and Police Chief is desirable.
- Two Council members have agreed to an interview and three have declined.
- Had hoped that the Chamber of Commerce would respond to the request for a meeting as their perspective would be good.
- The Chair met with C. Edge recently as well as the Mayor of Metchosin, where regional governance was discussed.

5. SIRIUS STRATEGIC SOLUTIONS – REVIEW OF TIMELINES AND DELIVERABLES FOR SUBMISSIONS OF FINAL REPORT IN OCTOBER

Ms. Kroeker-Hall referred to a Gantt chart that committee members received. A discussion occurred and the following was noted:

- The intention is to present the final report to Council on October 23, 2017.
- The three committee groups will need to discuss editing and figure out where their pieces fit into the report. Two workshops to occur (August 16th and September 13th).
- Committee and consultants to start drafting and final review. Edits/polishing to be done by September 28th. Report to be submitted by October 18th to go to Council meeting of October 23rd.
- Consultants are developing recommendations and rationale for recommendations.
- Concern was expressed about detail overload in the report and a suggestion was made to have appendices within the report. Members can decide at the workshop what goes into the report and how much detail to provide.

Committee members to send in their information to the consultant in a simple format for the Consultant to edit and format.

6. REVIEW OF STUDY TOPICS FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS: DISCUSSION OF TASKS/RESEARCH AND NEXT STEPS

External group: Reviewed what external is and public participation, roles of community associations', how Saanich imports and exports information, election process. Looking at structure and policy, public participation handbook, etc.

Internal group: Looking at budgets and bylaws, Council leadership and accountability, organization of advisory committees.

Regional group: Will have observations and recommendations on amalgamation, shared services and CRD regional issues.

The Consultant noted that the three groups (internal, external, regional) are to submit their information to her by August 11th. There will still be time to add more information and provide input at the workshop on August 16th, where the information will be in a raw but organized format.

7. ROUND ROBIN

- Citizen Survey: the methodology and question wording was changed in the last survey.
- Question on whether the EDPA report will have public input because the way the bylaw was administered is a problem. Only Saanich has run into problems (compared to other municipalities).
- Suggestion that Shelbourne Valley Concept Plan is a 'concept' so it is not really a plan. It was noted that Shelbourne does have an implementation plan now.
- Committee's survey results are different from Saanich's surveys. This could be included in the final report. It was noted that the demographics being surveyed are different.

It was noted that public input on the EDPA will happen, but delayed until the by-election occurs.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting date is Wednesday, August 30, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. and will be held in the Kirby Room, Fire and Police Building, 760 Vernon Avenue.

John Schmuck, CHAIR
Governance Review Citizen Advisory Committee (GRCAC)

Tania Douglas, Senior Committee Clerk