

**MINUTES OF THE
HEALTHY SAANICH ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Council Chambers
September 2, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Present: **In Person:**
 Councillor Nathalie Chambers (Chair), Silvia Mangué Alene, Clare Attwell
 and Carren Dujela, Jasmindra Jawanda, T. Phelps Bondaroff

Via Teleconference:
 Rosie Croft, Nadia Rajan, and Abigail Toledo

Staff Present: Cristina Caravaca, Senior Manager, Community Services; Cameron Scott,
 Manager of Community Planning, Pierre Iachetti, Agriculture and Food
 Security Planner; Lynn Merry, Senior Committee Clerk and Megan
 MacDonald, Committee Clerk Assistant

Regrets: Ryan Henderson, Holli Rockerbie and Terri Van Well (School District 63)

CHAIRS REMARKS: FOOD STANDS/FARM GATES SALES

The Chair commented on the value of food security and the legacy of land use in Saanich. Allowing farm stands within the Urban Containment Boundary (UCB) is being considered by Saanich Council, and will be proceeding to a Public Hearing on September 15, 2020. Saanich is well poised to be food secure, and the income provided by the stands can help residents overcome the pandemic.

***** T. Phelps-Bondaroff entered the meeting at 6:05 p.m. *****

DIVISION REPORT – COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Senior Manager, Community Services provided an overview of the community services reports dated March 3, 2020 and September 2, 2020.

In response to questions from the Chair and committee members, the following was noted:

- Funding for further actions related to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion projects are underway.
- A report from the Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services regarding Diversity, Equity and Inclusion will be on the Council Meeting Agenda of September 14, 2020.
- As the committee expressed interest in Child and Youth Services, it may be appropriate to invite program staff to present to the committee.

MOVED by C. Atwell and seconded by J. Jawara “That the reports of the Senior Manager of Community Services dated March 3, 2020 and September 2, 2020 be received for information.”

CARRIED

UPDATE – FOODSTANDS/FARM GATE SALES

The Manager of Community Planning provided an update on the progress of Farm Stands within the UCB and the following was highlighted:

- Temporary measures have been enacted to allow roadside farm stands, including non-enforcement direction for current farm stands that are in place.
- Bylaw amendments to allow Temporary Use Permits (TUPs) for farm stands are scheduled for Public Hearing on September 15, 2020. If bylaw amendments are approved, farm stand owners would be expected to apply for a TUP to operate a stand.
- Permanent regulatory changes are being explored to permit farm stands in Urban Areas.
- A report regarding options on permanent changes to the Zoning Bylaw is being finalized. Feedback from the Healthy Saanich Committee was taken into consideration when preparing the report.

In response to comments from the committee, the following was noted:

- The upcoming report on potential bylaw amendments will include options on cost components associated with TUPs and/or licences.
- There is interest in having more information available to members of the community on where to find these farm stands, such as a map or app.

COMMITTEE ROUNDTABLE – ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

The committee made the following comments:

- It is important to include all members of the community when drafting an inclusivity statement.
- It is important to have the necessary resources to educate others on diversity and sustainability.
- Backyard farming has the potential to increase community resilience and sustainability in a healthy way.
- Providing free menstrual products at Saanich facilities and endorsing a motion for free contraception in British Columbia could be considered at a future meeting.
- Noise bylaws and vehicular noise bylaws could be reviewed; there are reports that link noise pollution to negative health effects.
- Plastic pollution is a detriment to health and banning single use plastics should be explored.
- The non-profit sector has been effected by the current pandemic. A recent report by the Victoria Foundation highlighted some of the challenges faced by non-profit organizations. There is interest in bringing attention to this matter and investigating if steps can be taken to support the front-line work of non-profit organizations.

MOVED by C. Atwell and Seconded by S. Mangue “That it be recommended that the committee invite Social Planning Enterprising (SPRE) to a future committee meeting.”

CARRIED

UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS:

- Presentation from 5G Network representatives.
- Response to council meeting findings regarding the report on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.
- Presentation from SPRE

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 7, 2020, 6-8 p.m.

Councillor Chambers, Chair

I hereby certify these minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary