

**Environment Advisory Committee  
 Approved Minutes  
 January 6, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.**

<b>1. Call to Order</b>	Chair Hafting called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.
<b>2. Present</b>	Councillor Hafting (Chair), Mayor Boyer (ex-officio), John Bottomley, Starr Cardwell, Katie McLean of CARP, Chief Administrative Officer Sandi Millett-Campbell, Recording Secretary Taylor Robinson, and three members from the public. All members joined via Zoom.
<b>3. Absent</b>	Amy Cameron
<b>4. Additions to the Agenda</b>	1. Under section 9. NEW BUSINESS i. Beavers at French Basin Trail 2. Under Section 10. BUSINESS ARISING v. Sea Level Rise
<b>5. Approval of the Agenda</b>	<b>MOTION #EAC2021-01-06-01</b> It was moved by John Bottomley, seconded by Katie McLean to approve the January 6, 2021 agenda as amended. <b>Motion carried.</b>
<b>Edits to the Minutes</b>	None
<b>6. Approval of the Minutes</b>	<b>MOTION #EAC2021-01-06-02</b> It was moved by John Bottomley, seconded by Katie McLean to approve the October 14, 2020 minutes as presented. <b>Motion carried.</b>

**7. PRESENTATIONS:** None

**8. PUBLIC INPUT:** None

**9. NEW BUSINESS:**

i. Beavers at French Basin Trail

CAO Millett-Campbell reported that she has received many emails and pictures from the public describing the damage that a group of beavers have made at the French Basin Trail. The beavers have been eating and destroying the trees on the trail to build a den. CAO Millett-Campbell has spoken with colleagues of the Cleaning Annapolis River Project (CARP) and the Department of Land and Forestry which they both have depicted that the beavers need to be removed as they could cause significant damage to the Sewer Treatment Plant. The Committee discussed the different options for wildlife management and agreed that the Town has to be proactive with this matter.

**MOTION #EAC2021-01-06-03**

It was moved by John Bottomley, seconded by Starr Cardwell to recommend to Council to remove the beavers on French Basin Trail after substantial review, information provided, and advice from staff and environmental organizations. **Motion carried.**

**Action:** Recommend motion to be presented to Council

**Responsibility:** CAO Millett-Campbell

**Date:** At Committee of the Whole on January 7, 2021

ii. Welcome New Member Amy Cameron

Chair Hafting noted that Ms. Cameron sent her regrets to the meeting due to illness. The Committee stated that they are looking forward to a formal introduction at the next meeting.

iii. Appointing Chair & Vice-Chair

Chair Hafting explained that she would like to step down as Chair of the Committee as she feels like she does not have enough scientific background. Chair Hafting asked for nominations for Chair. Ms. McLean nominated Mr. Bottomley in which he accepted, and it was unanimously agreed to appoint John Bottomley as the Chairperson for the Environment Advisory Committee. Nominations were called for Vice-Chair, where it was unanimously agreed to appoint Councillor Hafting as the Vice-Chairperson for the Environment Advisory Committee.

iv. Climate Action Partnership Grant

CAO Millett-Campbell informed the Committee that they have submitted the application for the grant and have not heard anything back yet.

v. Pledge to Protect

CAO Millett-Campbell reported that she has received a number of grievances on the issue of individuals not mowing their lawn due to the Pledge to Protect Campaign. It was noted that the campaign could interfere with the Town's Invasive Species By-Law. The Committee discussed the issues surrounding unkempt plots of land and the problems that it causes for the Town, citizens, and visitors. It was noted that there is no clear path on how to handle this matter, but CAO Millett-Campbell wishes to keep this matter in mind for the future.

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

i. Milestone 5 Recommendations

CAO Millett-Campbell informed the Committee that Milestone 5 has been put forward into Strategic Planning. The next meeting date is January 21, 2021.

ii. Policies to Review

The Committee reviewed both policies.

a. Invasive Species

Ms. McLean circulated via email a list of recommended changes for the Invasive Species Policy. The changes suggested are to add more species to the list as there is a risk of other species growing in Town and most website resources on the policy are no longer active, so Ms. McLean recommended new ones. The Committee thanked Ms. McLean for her work. It was agreed that Ms. McLean will work on the changes to the policy and present at the next meeting.

**Action:** Update the Invasive Species Policy

**Responsibility:** Katie McLean

**Date:** At the next EAC meeting on February 3, 2021

b. Leaf & Yard Waste Drop Off Site

Vice-Chair Hafting reported that the Leaf & Yard Waste policy is also outdated and will need to be revised. There are no longer keys as well as a nonrefundable fee as stated in the current policy. The Committee discussed how there is no longer relevant information and decided to amend the policy to state what items can be left at Leaf & Yard Waste. The Committee asked staff to modify the policy and bring back to present as soon as possible.

**Action:** Update Leaf & Yard Waste Drop Off Site Policy  
**Responsibility:** Town Staff  
**Date:** TBD

iii. Sustainable Energy Planning

Many Committee members were in attendance for presentations on the building assessments. Ms. McLean noted that the assessments are just a small piece of the larger project. The CARP students will be using the information researched to develop more for sustainable energy planning. Ms. McLean mentioned that there is room in the project to include an introductory course to staff, Council, and the public to educate everyone on the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program. The Committee thought this was a great idea and asked Ms. McLean to send more information.

**Action:** Send draft agenda of PACE introductory course  
**Responsibility:** Katie McLean  
**Date:** To be discussed at the next EAC meeting on February 3, 2021

iv. Beautification of Leaf & Yard Waste

Vice-Chair Hafting stated that the site needs to be managed differently and needs to be more organized. It was noted that there is not a clear definition of how to manage the site. The Committee discussed some potential options for the site and is hopeful that the amendment of the policy will help the site become more streamline.

**Action:** Wait for update of the Leaf & Yard Waste Drop Off Site Policy  
**Responsibility:** Town Staff  
**Date:** TBD

v. Sea Level Rising

Ms. Cardwell reported that she has not heard any new information but would like to keep it in mind. Mayor Boyer informed the Committee that sea levels rising will be a part of the strategic planning and will be looking to the Committee for more information as there is concern for the downtown area. Ms. McLean mentioned that she attended an informative wave design presentation and will share the web link with everyone to see.

**Action:** Send website link for wave design to Committee  
**Responsibility:** Katie McLean  
**Date:** As soon as possible

11. **Correspondence:**

- i. Information about the Dentiballis Marsh Group  
For information purposes. Mayor Boyer thanked Committee for the useful information.

12. **Next Meeting Date:** February 3, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

13. **Adjournment:** Adjournment was moved by John Bottomley at 3:44 p.m.

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Vice-Chair Paula Hafting

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Recording Secretary Taylor Robinson