

PRINCE GEORGE AIR IMPROVEMENT ROUNDTABLE SOCIETY (PG AIR)
MEMBERS MEETING Minutes
Tuesday, August 31, 2010
City Hall Annex

Present: Julie Orban (MOE), Dan Adamson (City of PG), Jocelyn White (City of PG), Martin Meyer (Carrier Lumber), Ken Wilkening (UNBC), Terry Robert (Fraser Basin Council), Sherry MacIntyre (Chamber of Commerce), Wayne Rommerdahl (Columbia Bitulithic), Kenna Latimer (Regional District), David Sutherland (CN Rail), Marie Hay (PACHA, Karen Stahl (Pacific Bio-Energy), George Stedeford (Public), Maureen Bilawchuk (MOE), Greg Thibault (proxy, Barb Oke, Northern Health) Glenda Waddell (Canfor Pulp Limited Partnership), ,Nini Long (Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure.)

Regrets: Andrew Snih (Public), Ron Tim Knoop (Pacific Bio-Energy), Dr. Robin Lowry (Northern Medical Society).

Guests: Kathryn Graham (PGAIR Air Quality Management Coordinator), Dave Brogliatto, (CN), Dennis Fudge (MOE)

1. Call meeting to order (G. Stedeford)

Meeting called to order by Chair at 5:32PM

2. Quorum (S. MacIntyre)

Secretary reported that quorum of members (12) was present. Subsequently additional 4 members were present, for a total of 16 members.

3. Review and adopt minutes of July 27, 2010 member meeting

Minutes of the July 29th, 2010 members meeting were adopted by consensus.

4. Member Information Exchange

(K. Graham, PGAIR)

In a conversation with the Aboriginal Cogeneration Cooperation, Kim Sigurdson of the ACC said that they are really in the very beginning stages of researching the feasibility of having a gasification plant in the Prince George area, but it would not be located in the bowl area. They have been looking at places such as Isle Pierre. Gasification of rail ties is not necessarily the most economically viable option; and they are strongly looking at processing woody biomass. They have not applied to the MOE for a permit or done any inquiries. Bottom line is they are now aware of PGAIR and what our Society's mandate is and they want to work with PGAIR by keeping us informed of any development in their plans. They also were interested in presenting to PGAIR once and if they have more solid plans for locating themselves in the area.

(Dennis Fudge, MOE)

In response to questions arising from PGAIR members about the Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) during the recent wildfire smoke episode, PGAIR received a presentation from the Ministry of Environment on the AQHI. This is one tool that is available to the public. This tool should be used in conjunction with Air Quality Advisories and the Air Quality Monitoring Station data. The individual Air Quality Monitoring Site data provides additional information on PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀ and other parameters. Improvements to the AQHI are currently being discussed at the Provincial and Federal levels. A link to the AQHI and Air Quality Monitoring Stations can be found on the main PGAIR website at www.pgairquality.com.

(Maureen Bilawchuck, MOE)The MOE issued permit amendments to each of CPLP's three air management permits.

The amendments were issued primarily for administrative purposes to adjust permit fees. Residential air filter technology was discussed. There are filters that can be used in home furnaces that remove particulate between 0.3 – 1 microns. This also removes some odour. Some people identified that this was helpful during the recent smoke problems within the city. The brand of the filter are 3M Filtrete high performance filters . For more information see www.filtrete.com

5. Current Business

- a. Executive and Working Group reports
See Report
- b. Phase II Work Plan update report
 - i. R01: Odor
See Report
 - ii. R14: Idle Free Education & Eco-Driving Campaign
See Report
 - iii. R23 & R25: Wood Stove Exchange Program
See Report
 - iv. R09: Dispersion Model Study
 1. Stantec update
See Report
- c. Phase III Plan Development (G. Stedeford)
 - v. Sub-Committee Updates

Industrial

Met a number of times approach was to review status of items in Phase II. Identified a number of other issues such as duplication. The sub-committee is not scheduled for any further meetings. .

Commercial

One additional meeting is scheduled for next Friday. The sub-committee worked towards clarifying objectives:

6 different objectives:

- Better information/better science
- Better practices

- Target areas or problem areas
- Education and awareness (recognition of businesses)
- Better land use planning
- Improved technology (filters, drive-thrus, restaurants)

Residential

The Residential Sub-Committee had one meeting and was able to identify different sources. The sub-committee recommends targeting the individual through education and awareness. Measuring impact of education will be difficult so have to have a baseline of information to measure the change in knowledge and if people are implementing changes is a vital part of the program. How do we get change? Through behaviour change and equipment change.

How:

- 1) Re-structure education and awareness committee (telling lung association to come to table)
- 2) Need to tap into people and money (northern health people)

Jobs and strategies to farm out:

- 1) Regulation
- 2) Education and Awareness
- 3) Public Policy (general direction of airshed)

PGAIR should be researching and addressing possible co-benefits to access funding such as GHG's and Climate Change (PCIC).

Transportation

Have had at least 3 meetings. Created a working matrix. Expect to have about one more meeting.

Next Steps

Need to have another 'facilitated' session after September 15th. First meeting needs to be dedicated to revision of matrices.

Action K. Graham: Send out a meeting request for the facilitated session.

vi. Matrix

The next facilitated session will be a review of the sub-committees matrices and how and if the matrix format should be revised to better reflect the outcomes of the brainstorming sessions and sub-committee meetings.

6. New Business

- a. City Council Presentation Re: PGAIR Update and Communications Protocol and Code of Conduct. (G. Stedeford).

PGAIR is scheduled to do an update to City Council for September 13th.

b. Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation (G. Stedeford)

How should PGAIR respond to such intentions papers. Nobody has sent comments so far, so PGAIR will be sending a letter that outlines who PGAIR is, the mandate, reduction targets, and our support for decreasing particulate and improving air quality.

c. PICS Funding Possibility (G. Stedeford)

The Sustainable Communities Subcommittee, which oversees the PICS Sustainable Communities Research theme, invites applications from academics, non-governmental organizations, government and other institutions to undertake applied research related to the Sustainable Communities Research theme.

Action (All Members): brainstorm what projects they think are viable through their respective organizations using PICS funding requirements. There must be a link between local government and universities.

If you are contemplating can talk to Kyle Alben or Ken Wilkening about ideas.

The deadline is **Monday, November 1, 2010, 5:00 PST**; however, proposals submitted outside the regular application deadline may also be considered at the discretion of the PICS Sustainable Communities Subcommittee and pending funding.

d. Orientation Binders Overview (J. White)

Jocelyn provided an overview of the binders to member. Members are encouraged to review the binders and become familiar with its contents. Members can update and add to the binder as they see fit.

e. Changes to Society Bylaws (G. Stedeford)

George provided an overview of the Bylaws and the changes that have been made. If members would like to suggest further changes please send comments to George. Please keep in mind that 30 days before AGM bylaws need to go out to Directors.

This year's AGM will be scheduled shortly.

e. Proposed Provincial Framework. (G. Stedeford/J. White)

Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport has recognized that the Province does not have objectives for other air pollutants. The intentions paper and response form has been sent to all members to review and provide comment by September 10th to Dan Adamson.

(Action: All Members): Review the intentions paper and response form and send any comments or filled out response form to Dan Adamson by September 10th.

Responses are due to the MHLS by September 30, 2010.

7. Adjournment (G. Stedeford)

Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm

Next Regular Meeting Date and Time: September 28, 2010 at 5:30 PM

Notes
