

**NWEP Meeting**  
**February 19, 2008**  
**Meeting called to order @ 7:00 pm**

Introductions – 14 people in attendance

Agenda from previous meeting was emailed to group. There were no questions.

**Sub-committee presentations:**

**Transportation**

Queensborough queue jumper lanes

- West End & Queensborough Residents associations have responded and agree
- presentation to council is being prepared

New West Skytrain station

- video of pedestrians crossing 8<sup>th</sup> St made
- Matt Laird gave presentation to council last night

Sapperton

- no action

**Energy**

Only two members -> please email [transport@nwep.ca](mailto:transport@nwep.ca) to join sub-committee

Vancouver's One Day Initiative ([www.onedayvancouver.ca](http://www.onedayvancouver.ca)) has some great info

Provincial budget today -> carbon tax, biowaste energy, biodiesel production

Will talk to Mitchell Egger (through Mark Allison) – economic development for NW

GOALS for group:

1. **Energy self-sufficiency** for the City of New Westminster, implying:

A) the ability to power all residences, businesses and industry on the city-owned and operated electrical grid independent of BC Hydro, through:

- development of micro-hydroelectric power on the Fraser River,
- development of a wood waste-fuelled power plant on existing industrial land,
- promotion of household-scale power generation, including solar and wind power,

B) switching from natural gas-powered heating to renewable-based systems, including:

- passive and active solar heating,
- geothermal heating,
- wood waste heating.

2. Implementation of **energy conservation and efficiency** measures, including:

A) the promotion and/or regulation of low-energy appliances and light bulbs,

B) the retrofit of all buildings for greater energy efficiency.

**Agriculture**

City-subsidized worm bins have been implemented (March 29<sup>th</sup>, call city to buy) – issues with strata bans on composting & how to deal with Metro Van's "no net waste"

Attended the Volunteer Fair – connected with Fraser Community Services & their "Biggest Little Garden" project, could be good collaboration

Working on banning plastic bags with NW Secondary School Green Team

Farmers Market will start in June in NW

Public education on waste reduction and recycling

Working on obtaining list and contact with other groups in Metro area

Attending Green Drinks

Upcoming Goals:

1. community gardens
2. pesticide ban – city doesn't use but no ban in place
3. events
4. waste reduction education

## **General Discussion**

NW Environmental Advisory Committee

-had most applicants

-committee is full but NWEA has been asked to nominate two people to fill organization representative spot

-Marshall Smith and Gavin McLeod officially nominated -> City to decide

Engaging Existing Members:

-how do we engage other 70-80 members?

-website (soon to be updated)

-send general message to membership explaining sub-committees -> looking for people to do specific tasks instead of general volunteering

-send out emails about events & meetings

-Welcome emails are being sent

-personal contact

-use wiki more

NWEA Structure:

-growing membership may mean we need to rethink structure

-if we want to apply for grants we need to be a legal entity

-may need a formal structure

-registered society: protection against suing, set of bylaws required, costs ~\$50 -> Ken to research

-could being more organized attract more members?

Outreach Opportunities:

-presentations -> need to have brainstorming sessions, determine target audience

(residents associations, high school groups, Rotary Club), decide on presenters

-need clear objectives: for education or for gaining members?

-Matt Laird to take on presentation prep -> contact him to get involved (matt@luther.ca)

-Book suggestion: "Made to Stick: Why some Ideas Survive and others Die" by Chip Heath and Dan Heath, published 2007

-Cloth bags with NWEA logo/catchy slogan – a supplier has been found -> email Matt to get involved

Events:

- A) Council of Canadians forum on Security & Prosperity Partnership (SPP) – Feb 21
  - will be a NWEF table, Marshall taking lead with four volunteers
  - engaging people who are attending forum
- B) Earth Day – invited to event in Queensborough
- C) other events? GLOBE, Sustainability Expo – local or global?
  - please propose other events and keep eyes open

Collaboration with NWSS Environmental Club:

- Rosalyn requested our attendance at an event for TechnoTrash that they are sponsoring
- need to join forces with high school -> Brigitte to take on this role
- also another group of elementary school students has presence
- all provincial buildings now need to be LEED platinum -> could be an issue for Energy group (there is a geo-exchange survey for high school location)

Communication Portals:

- use dedicated email lists:
  - Energy = [energy@nwep.ca](mailto:energy@nwep.ca)
  - Transportation = [transport@nwep.ca](mailto:transport@nwep.ca)
  - Agriculture = [agriculture@nwep.ca](mailto:agriculture@nwep.ca)
- need strategy for encouraging people to join groups (email to be sent out)

Website:

- Matt Lorenzi working on design
- Matt Laird will work on revamping soon
- New Feature: Sustainability Map -> please email Matt Laird with more info for map

**Action Items:**

**Ken – research on becoming registered society**

**Energy – work on goals**  
**- contact Mitchell Egger**

**Pamela – Fraser Community Services connection**

**Agriculture – worm bin email to NWEF**

**Brigitte – talk to NWSS Environmental Club**

**Andrew - General email to be sent to NWEF detailing sub-committees**  
**-follow-up on Action Items**

**Matt Laird – working on website with Matt Lorenzi, presentation prep, cloth bags**

Next Meeting – 6-8 weeks from now

-> beginning of April