MAYOR'S ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FOURTH QUARTER REPORT 2010

The Mayors' Environmental Advisory Committee is pleased to submit a summary of its activities for the fourth quarter (October 1st to December 31st) of 2010:

GOVERNANCE AND MEETINGS

MEAC held two regular meetings during the fourth quarter of 2010: November 15 and December 13.

Following the Municipal General Election held on October 27th, Mayor Katz continued the appointment of Councillor Wyatt as Committee Chair; and Jeffrey Hartry continues as the Citizen Co-Chair.

DELEGATIONS HEARD

No presentations by delegations were heard during the fourth quarter.

MEAC'S ACTIVITIES

1 Strategic Planning Session

MEAC continues to work on the creation of action plans to move forward the four remaining key priorities identified at their Strategic Planning sessions on September 22 and October 17, 2009:

- An educational program around the environment and sustainability
- A passive solar demonstration project
- A regional approach to transit
- A policy for active transportation amenities in all City infrastructure projects

Through quarterly reports, research and recommendations on committee priorities and other timely issues have been provided to the Mayor. Executive Policy Committee then considers the advice, and, in 2010, has directed the Public Service to provide reports on a number of MEAC recommendations. These include: a "Green Club" recognition/rewards program for sustainable activities by citizens and businesses; a carpool program for Winnipeg; the development of economic instruments for water conservation/greywater and an initiative to stencil storm drains with messages promote the protection of water systems.

2 Waste Minimization Strategy Recommendations

On March 22, 2010 Mayor Katz Mayor invited MEAC members to put together options or ideas on the creation of a comprehensive waste minimization strategy for the City and share them with his office for his consideration. A finalized list of recommendations was provided to Mayor Katz during the third quarter of 2010. At the suggestion of Mayor Katz, additional discussion and prioritization of recommendations was completed during the fourth quarter, and a revised list will be provided early in 2011.

3 Advice Provided to Strategic Activities

The Committee co-chair advised that he was invited to participate as part of a stakeholder advisory committee for City of Winnipeg planning relating to Water and Sewer Rates and also for Solid Waste Management. Updates on both projects were discussed with the Committee at the November meeting.

RECOMMENDATIONS MADE TO THE MAYOR

1 Earth Day

The Committee recommends: That an Earth Day Poster Program be endorsed by the Mayor, and organized by the Winnipeg Public Service (on or about April 22, 2010) that will encourage students of an appropriate grade level to submit sustainably themed posters reflecting what the City of Winnipeg would look like in the year 2035 (to align with the next review of OurWinnipeg), which posters could be displayed in an appropriate venue that may mirror a public consultation of OurWinnipeg.

PLANS FOR 2011 AND BEYOND

1 Continuing Work on Strategic Priorities

During the first quarter of 2011, MEAC will continue development of recommendations to the Mayor regarding identified strategic priorities noted in “MEAC’s Activities” above.

As well, new projects endorsed by Council as part of OurWinnipeg and A Sustainable Winnipeg (the City’s draft development plan and approved sustainability plan, respectively) will be brought to the Committee for discussion and advice.

HISTORY

Section 4.1 of the Terms of Reference for the Mayor’s Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) states that “MEAC shall provide advice and informal reports to the Mayor as requested and shall report formally to the Mayor with recommendations on a quarterly basis. Recommendations provided by MEAC will flow through the Mayor to City Council and / or the City’s Public Service, as required.”

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY

Jeffrey Hartry

Councillor Russ Wyatt

MEAC Co-chairs on behalf of MEAC members:

Miriam Cohen-Krajden
Amanda Dunnigan
Anders Swanson
Stephanie White-Willitts
Neil Cunningham (ex-officio – Province of Manitoba)

William Dowie
Robert Spewak
George Toth
Kelsey McCuspey