

**Hi everyone!**

**I wanted to update all of ACE on what transpired at the EEPAC meeting at the end of December.**

Just for those who may not be aware, I was:

1. Asking if EEPAC would endorse and submit to council support for ACE's statement about a dark sky policy
2. Ask if any one in EEPAC would be interested in joining with members from ACE to write and flesh out the supplementary materials to be attached along with ACE's recommendation to council.

EEPAC was very interested in supporting a dark sky policy. EEPAC also noted that a 3rd committee (Animal Welfare Committee) had also put dark sky initiatives on their agenda for 2016. EEPAC recommended that ACE reach out to AWC to co-ordinate work.

Concern was raised by EEPAC about asking city council to formulate a plan rather than supplying a plan. For instance: telling city council that they should make this a priority (easily voted in, and then ignored) vs giving them a written guideline for them to vote into action. It was thought by EEPAC that providing council with a complete guideline would be more effective, faster, and would most likely result in the best dark sky initiative in London that we can achieve in a timely manner.

As such EEPAC is unwilling to support anything less than a complete guideline going to Council. To this end, 3 members have come forward stating that they would enjoy working with members of ACE (and potentially AWC) to formulate a complete first draft of a guideline for a dark sky initiative for London. This first draft would then be worked on in conjunction with Staff until all are pleased with it - and then it goes to council. Note that this would be a long and most likely slow process - but it will be infinitely faster than waiting for the City to formulate their own plan.

**To Summarize:**

EEPAC recommended that ACE:

- Contact AWC about this

- and either:

1. Create a full guideline, with EEPAC support and potential AWC support
  - a. Create a small, dedicated group (~ 2? 3?) to work in conjunction with the 2 or 3 EEPAC members and potentially AWC members
  - b. Talk to Staff to obtain a guideline template for creation of the first draft of the guideline
  - c. Write first (ideal) draft
  - d. Talk to Staff to determine appropriate staff members to be involved in editing the 1st draft
  - e. Edit draft and discuss edits to draft with appropriate staff (this step will ensure that the draft guideline is more likely to make it through higher up channels, eg. Civics)
2. Create a recommendation to council (with potential AWC approval) to adopt a dark sky policy
  - a. Write recommendation (Ken's)
  - b. Vote on submission at ACE meeting

Anyways,

Hope you all had a good break! See you soon.

Caitlin