



## Community Development Committee

### MINUTES

Wednesday, May 27, 2020 at 3:00 pm  
ZOOM Teleconference

**PRESENT:** Carma Williams, Chair  
Jeff Manley, Councillor  
Brenda Noble, Councillor  
Gina Dragone, Community Representative  
David Fillion, Community Representative  
Dean MacGillivray, Community Representative  
Rory Levert, Community Representative  
Michael Madden, Community Representative  
Anne Leduc, Director – Community Services / Recording Secretary

**REGRETS:** Sarah Huskinson, CAO

#### 1) CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by Carma Williams.

#### 2) DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest by the members present.

#### 3) ADDITIONS, DELETIONS OR AMENDMENTS

None

#### 4) ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

**Moved by: Jeff Manley**

**Seconded by: David Fillion**

THAT the agenda for the Community Development Committee for May 27, 2020 be adopted as presented.

**Carried.**

#### 5) ADOPTION OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

**Moved by: Dean MacDonald**

**Seconded by: Rory Levert**

THAT the minutes of the April 29, 2020 Community Development Committee meeting be accepted as presented.

**Carried.**

**6) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There was no new business arising from the minutes.

**7) DELEGATIONS**

None

**8) AGENDA ITEMS**

**a. Agricultural issues impacting local farmers and farmers Markets**

Ms. Brenda Noble spoke to the opportunity that COVID-19 represents to promote changes to agricultural issues for our farmers and farmers markets.

- Increasing access to products and encouraging the use of local products especially now that items are difficult to get in regular stores
- Home-based slaughtering
- Encouraging the use of local products especially now that items are difficult to get in regular stores
- Agri-tourism
- Producers disposing of excess food
- Disruption in the agricultural supply chain

Ms. Carma Williams mentioned that the Eastern Ontario Health Unit had a board meeting scheduled for May 28<sup>th</sup> and the reopening of Farmers Markets was on the agenda.

Ms. Gina Dragone indicated that due to COVID-19, there were changes in the way home-based producers are operating and a lifting of certain restrictions. An example is the Eastern Ontario Agri-Food Network's Virtual Vendors portal that was launched recently and will be active as of June 11<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Dragone suggests identifying one or two issues in order to pursue them successfully. She also notes that it is important that the different ministries are aware that producers are throwing away food.

Mr. Jeff Manley noted that COVID-19 has had an impact on response times from government agencies busy dealing with this crisis.

A meeting/call will be organized by Ms. Noble with a few stakeholders to identify an issue that can be resolved with a plan to use that as a template to resolve others on the list in the future.

**b. Educational Reform / School Boundary Working Group**

i. Draft letter on school boundaries for consideration

The Committee members reviewed and approved of the letter. This information will be distributed as soon possible to advise the residents in that boundary area that they have options when it comes to which high school a youth can attend. It was decided to present this letter through a staff report to Council for their approval and signature by the Mayor. Staff will prepare the report for the June 8<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting.

**Moved by: Jeff Manley**

**Seconded by: David Fillion**

THAT the Community Development Committee accepts the letter and that it be presented to the Council for the Township of North Glengarry at their next Council meeting for their approval, signature and distribution.

**Carried.**

**c. Alexandria Lagoon Project**

The initial Green Fund had a cap of \$3,000,000 for infrastructure projects and the Alexandria Lagoon Project greatly surpasses this amount. Ms. Carma Williams had a discussion with MP Francis Drouin regarding possible lobbying efforts by the Township but was advised that presently there is no funding available for infrastructure projects. Ms. Williams will be speaking with MPP Amanda Simard about this project given that the province is often the lead partner on infrastructure projects.

There are hopes that the Green Fund II version will be redesigned for larger projects and will have a higher funding cap.

Mr. David Fillion indicated that he was pleased that the Alexandria Lagoon Project is shovel-ready and that it is a critical component to be able to attract new residential growth to Alexandria. Mr. Fillion spoke to the importance of having the ability to garner grassroots momentum the minute funding announcements are made.

Mr. Michael Madden underlined the fact that the lagoon project would be the biggest opportunity to create a positive environmentally-significant impact for the community, especially with the pending IHA plans for the Seniors' Village.

An Alexandria Lagoon Working Group composed of Ms. Carma Williams, Mr. David Fillion, Mr. Rory Levert, Ms. Brenda Noble, Mr. Dean MacGillivray and Mr. Michael Madden will meet on June 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss next steps.

**d. Development and Marketing Plan Update**

MDB Insight has sent a Project Charter that the members have been asked to review, especially the development piece. The consultants will be conducting a workshop with the Community Development Committee members at the next June 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**9) PENDING BUSINESS**

None

**10) CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION ITEMS**

**a. Key Information Report – Economic Development Update**

Staff updated the Committee on activities that are on-going during COVID-19 such as the Community Improvement Plan, the Regional Incentives Plan from which the Priests Mill and the Groovy Yurts were both successful applicants, The Shop Local advertising in the May 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the Glengarry News, the SDG Business Survey results, work done with business clients regarding different funding programs to support their activities, the creation of a Communications Plan for the Township that will be presented at the June 8<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting, and the work being done with the Maxville Farmers' Market and the Eastern Ontario Agri-Food Network.

**11) NEXT MEETING**

The next Community Development Committee will take place on June 24, 2020 at 3 pm through ZOOM.

**12) ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:21 pm by Michael Madden.

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**Carma Williams**  
**Chair**