

South Dundas Economic Development Advisory Committee
MINUTES

Date: Monday, April 27, 2021

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Held via Microsoft Teams

1. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to Order at 6:03 p.m. by Chair, Jeff Poapst

2. Welcome

Chair, Jeff Poapst welcomed the Committee members to the first Committee Meeting of the year.

3. Attendance

Attendees: Jeff Poapst, Jim Annable, Lance Lepage, Ralph Rick, Deputy Mayor Kirsten Gardner and Rob Hunter.

Regrets: Lesley Bland and Debbie Butzer

4. Confirmation of Agenda

Motion to approve the amended Agenda including item 8a) Ec Dev Communications made by Deputy Mayor Kirsten Gardner, seconded by Jim Annable. **CARRIED**

5. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on March 29, 2021 made by Ralph Rick, seconded by Jim Annable. **CARRIED**

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

- a) Morrisburg Streetscape Project: Rob Hunter provided the Committee with an update on the Streetscape project and that the final re-design will go to Council on May 10, 2021.

b) New Businesses: Rob Hunter provided the Committee with an update on new businesses locating in the Municipality; Alaboard, Tim Horton's in Iroquois, Cardinal Flowers in the East Mall in Morrisburg, Rijke's Produce Farm on County Rd #2. Rob also indicated that he continues to work on numerous other investment files.

c) South Dundas Tourism App: Deputy Mayor Gardner gave the Committee an update on the new South Dundas Tourism App under development for June launch. The Committee was impressed with this initiative.

7. New Business

a) Doug Griffiths (13 Ways): Rob Hunter updated the Committee on a pending Book Club initiative to review the book 13 Ways to Kill Your Community. Rob got costing to have Doug make a presentation on the book. The Committee would like to hold the event featuring Doug in the Fall.

b) OBIAA Survey Results: Rob Hunter can the Committee an update on a survey done by the Ontario BIA Association regarding outward migration of people from urban areas to rural areas. The survey confirmed folks are looking for a friendly community, broadband internet, decent housing options and amenities.

8. Other Business

a) Ec Dev Communications: Rob discussed the Economic Development Office Communications with businesses and that currently we make use of phone calls, Ec Dev newsletters and social media posts to help spread the word on initiatives. The consensus was that phone calls and the Ec Dev newsletters are important vehicles and that we should look at adding sector specific roundtables and networking events (when safe to do so) to further educate the business community.

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date of the Economic Development Advisory Committee has been tentatively set for May 19, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams.

10. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m. Moved by Deputy Mayor Gardner and seconded by Lance Lepage.