

South Dundas Economic Development Advisory Committee
MINUTES

Date: Monday, March 29, 2021

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Held via Microsoft Teams

1. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to Order at 6:01 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 items 8a) Tourism Update and 8b) Website, made by Deputy Mayor Kirsten Gardner, seconded by Jeff Poapst. **CARRIED**

5. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on November 17, 2020 made by Ralph Rick, seconded by Jim Annable. **CARRIED**

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

- a) 2020 Awards of Excellence Program: Rob Hunter discussed the virtual awards program that was held in November 2020. The Committee Members were happy with how the virtual event went and heard lots of positive feedback regarding the awards program.

- b) **Economic Development Update:** Rob Hunter discussed progress in the Economic Development Department. Including an update on the following:
- Morrisburg Streetscape Project: Rob Hunter advised that the initial tender for the Streetscape that was issued came back higher than expected and that South Dundas and County Representatives have re-worked the Streetscape Program and hope it will go to tender in April.
 - Economic Development Update: Rob Hunter updated the committee on a number of new developments that have opened or should be opening in the next couple of months. Still have a number of active investment files that are in process and hope that further announcements will be made in the future. Jeff Poapst provided an update on the Ross Video 55,000sq ft expansion happening to the facility in Iroquois later this year.
- c) **2021 Economic Development Budget:** Rob Hunter updated the committee that all items contained in the 2021 Economic Development Budget were approved by South Dundas Council with no cuts.

7. New Business

- a) **Relocation Guide:** Rob Hunter reviewed the rough draft of the South Dundas Relocation Guide and also provided feedback commentary from a few Real Estate Agents about possible items for inclusion. The Committee felt that the document overall was good and provided some suggestions like: to include information on Pumpkenferno and Alight at Night, the Dutch Meadows Sub-Division, Possibly indicated the population for each village and hamlet, More up to date photo's, breaking up some of the text with white space where needed.
- b) **Investment Guide:** Rob Hunter reviewed the rough draft of the South Dundas Investment Guide and the Committee felt that the document was good overall and provided the following feedback; Possibly include the local schools and colleges (distance), on 10 Reasons page change point #5 regarding internet.

8. Other Business

- a) **Tourism Update:** Deputy Mayor Gardiner provided the Committee with an update on a number of Tourism Initiatives being undertaken this year.

b) Website: The Committee discussed the current version of the South Dundas website and that the feeling was it needs to be greatly improved.

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date of the Economic Development Advisory Committee has been tentatively set for April 27, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams.

10. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m. Moved by Jeff Poapst and seconded by Lance Lepage.