



Burlington Agricultural & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes

Date: February 21, 2024
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Virtual

1. Members Present:

Vincent Sowa (Chair), Maura Romanelli, Glenn Portch, Sarah Pralet, Michiel Barnard, Peter Starcevic, Erin Fleming and Mariam Abu-El-Magd

2. Regrets:

Councillor Kelvin Galbraith, Chuck Nyland and Larry Campbell

3. Others Present:

Kelly Cook (Planner) and Jo-Anne Rudy (Clerk)

4. Land Acknowledgement:

The Chair read the land acknowledgement.

5. Welcome and Introduction of New Members:

- Vincent welcomed new members and all participated in roundtable introductions.

6. Declarations of Interest:

None

7. Election of Chair and Vice Chair:

On motion, Vincent Sowa and Maura Romanelli were elected as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, for the term ending December 31, 2024.

8. Approval of Minutes:

8.1 Approve minutes from meeting held January 17, 2024

On motion, the minutes from the meeting held January 17, 2024 were approved as presented.

9. Delegation(s):

None

10. Regular Items:

10.1 Planner update

a. Red Tape Red Carpet update

- Kelly advised that Burlington Economic Development provided a Red Tape Red Carpet update to Council in October 2023 and the link was shared with committee for their information.

b. ROMA 2024 advocacy summary

- Kelly noted that the link to the Mayor's newsletter regarding Halton Region advocating for regional priorities at ROMA 2024 was shared for the committee's information.

10.2 2024 Workplan discussion and final approval

- The committee discussed the 2024 workplan and budget. **Motion** - Approve the 2024 BARAAC workplan and budget. **CARRIED**

11. Other Business:

- Kelly shared that a proposed amendment to the Niagara Escarpment Plan has been appealed. The City provided comments in April 2023 and is seeking party status to participate in the hearing process. Kelly noted that she will keep the committee updated on the proceedings.
- Sarah asked whether the City will be installing signage for cyclists in the rural area. It was suggested that perhaps a member of the Cycling Committee or staff liaison could attend the next BARAAC meeting. **Action** - Jo-Anne to reach out to Transportation staff.
- Jo-Anne advised that the Ontario Farmland Trust will be hosting their annual Farmland Forum on March 21, 2024 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at The Grandway Events Centre in Elora.
- Glenn asked about the committee meeting in person, due to several of the members having difficulty with internet connections. Jo-Anne advised that most advisory committees are currently meeting in a hybrid format where

members can participate in-person or virtually. Committee members agreed to meet in person for the March meeting. **Action** - Jo-Anne to book meeting room and send out details to members.

12. Adjournment:

Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m.