



Burlington Agricultural & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes

Date: April 17, 2024
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Hybrid Meeting - Virtual and Room 305

1. Members Present:

Vincent Sowa (Chair), Maura Romanelli, Glenn Portch, Erin Fleming, Larry Campbell, Mariam Abu-El-Magd, and Peter Starcevic

2. Regrets:

Sarah Pralet, Michiel Barnard and Chuck Nyland

3. Others Present:

Councillor Kelvin Galbraith (left at 8:15 p.m.), Kelly Cook (Planner) and Jo-Anne Rudy (Clerk)

4. Land Acknowledgement:

The Chair read the land acknowledgement.

5. Declarations of Interest:

None

6. Approval of Minutes:

6.1 Approve minutes from meeting held March 20, 2024

On motion, the minutes from the March 20, 2024, meeting were approved as presented.

7. Delegation(s):

None

8. Regular Items:

8.1 Planner update

- a. Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes
 - Kelly advised the [link](#) for the above was shared for the committee's information.
- b. Review of proposed policies for a new provincial planning policy instrument
 - Kelly advised that the City will officially receive land use planning responsibilities (including the Regional Official Plan) from the Region on July 1, 2024.
 - Kelly stated that the Province released a revised draft of the Proposed Provincial Planning Statement on April 10 and added that the City has 30 days to comment. Kelly noted that the review process is underway and suggested members take a look at it and provide their comments directly as private citizens, but can also share any priority comments with her for consideration as part of the City's submission to the Province. **Action** - Kelly to send link to members.

8.2 Agricultural Action Plan

- Kelly led the committee through a working session to continue the work on the Agricultural Action Plan.
- The committee continued to review the actions in the Halton Region Rural Agricultural Strategy to determine which ones are applicable/of interest to Burlington.
- Kelly noted the next steps will be to identify the applicable pillars, core actions and supporting tasks in a document and then start to adapt it to the City's needs. **Action** - Kelly to send out a summary.
- Anna DeMarchi Meyers, Agricultural Liaison Officer for Halton Region, as well as staff from Burlington Economic Development, will attend the May BARAAC meeting to identify possible synergies with their own initiatives and to comment on which actions would be most impactful for the City to pursue.

9. Other Business:

- Maura asked about the changes that Conservation Halton (CH) made on April 1 regarding mapping and suggested that someone from CH attend a future meeting. Kelly noted that CH staff will be coming to the May

meeting and asked members to forward any questions to her so they can be addressed at the next meeting. **Action** - Kelly to send links to the updated mapping and a summary of changes to members.

- Vincent advised that he had a conversation with Councillor Bentivegna regarding the dumping issue in the rural area and it was suggested by the Councillor that a motion memo be brought forward by the rural councillors at a future Committee of the Whole meeting directing staff to look into the existing bylaws and report back. Jo-Anne clarified that motion memos can only be brought forward by members of council. It was suggested that the three rural ward councillors consult and engage with appropriate staff to determine what by-laws are in effect and next steps. Members supported this approach.
- Maura advised that Halton Region is sponsoring a breakfast on June 24 where Halton Economic Development and Halton Region Federation of Agriculture are promoting Business to Business to bring awareness of the benefits and challenges of local agriculture.

10. Adjournment:

Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:01 p.m.