



Burlington Agricultural & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes

Date: June 19, 2024
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Hybrid meeting- Virtual and Room 247 City Hall

1. Members Present:

Vincent Sowa (Chair), Maura Romanelli, Erin Fleming, Larry Campbell, Michiel Barnard, Mariam Abu-El-Magd and Chuck Nyland

2. Regrets:

Glenn Portch, Sarah Pralet and Peter Starcevic

3. Others Present:

Councillor Kelvin Galbraith, 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 May 15, 2024

On motion, the minutes from the meeting held May 15, 2024 were approved as presented.

7. Delegation(s):

None

8. Regular Items:

8.1 Planner update

a. Update on Bill 185

- Kelly advised that Bill 185 received Royal Assent and the City will officially receive land use planning responsibilities (including the Regional Official Plan) from the Region on July 1, 2024. Kelly noted that the workplan for bringing the Burlington Official Plan into conformity with Regional and Provincial changes is in development, though a large portion of it is contingent on the release of the final version of the new Provincial Policy Statement and its associated guidance documents. Staff will report to Council with more information as it becomes available.

b. Topics for 2025 ROMA Conference

- Kelly asked committee members about topics for the 2025 ROMA Conference and it was suggested that rural internet be included.

8.2 Agricultural Action Plan - Work Plan

- Kelly advised that she will use the summer to put together the workplan for the Agricultural Action Plan and bring a report to Council in September 2024.
- Kelly noted that she would like to begin engagement the beginning of November which would include round table sessions with farmers and rural property owners. It was suggested that she could also attend a future HFRA meeting.

8.3 Food for Feedback event - September 14, 2024

- Members discussed participation and agreed that it was a great opportunity to engage the public on the rural area. Various ideas were discussed and it was agreed that a working group will meet on July 22 at 2 p.m. at Backed by Bees to discuss activities and resources. Maura, Kelly, Vince and Erin agreed to be on the working group.
- Jo-Anne indicated that the event begins at 12 noon and ends at 4 p.m. Set-up is between 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. Erin, Larry, Mariam, and Sarah volunteered to represent the committee at this event.
- **Motion** - Approve an expenditure of \$250 for BARAAC to participate in the Food for Feedback event on September 14.

CARRIED

- **Action** - Jo-Anne to look after supplies for the event (tablecloth, nametags, etc.) and application with the Region to allow sampling of farm-fresh produce.

9. Other Business:

- Councillor Galbraith stated that he met with By-law staff and was advised that the City does not have a Dumping Bylaw. He suggested that perhaps signage and/or an education campaign could help. Councillor Galbraith said that he will assist where he can and suggested that complaints and photos be sent to him. It was noted that regular documentation of incidents is important to demonstrate areas of need, so that the City can plan and respond accordingly. **Action** - Vince to send some photos.
- Maura advised that she had seen some correspondence from other municipalities stating that private well testing will no longer be free to property owners and asked the Councillor for any insight he might have.
- Vince advised of the chaos on Appleby Line resulting from a bike race on June 15 that left no access to properties north of the Appleby Line roundabout. He noted that there was no signage or notice about this closure and it created extreme frustration to area property/business owners. Vince advised that a complaint has been filed.
- Vince advised of the 6th annual Ward 6 Rural Committee Meet and Greet event on Sunday, June 23 from 3 to 5 p.m. at 5071 No. 1 Side Road. All are invited to attend.

10. Adjournment:

Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.