



## Haldimand County Agricultural Advisory Committee Minutes

Wednesday, September 19, 2018 - 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Cayuga Administrative Building,  
45 Munsee Street North, Cayuga, ON

**Attendees:**

Councillor Leroy Bartlett  
Richard Blyleven, Chair  
John Hussack  
Ron Young  
Brent Everets  
Rick Armstrong  
Stuart Heeg  
Ron Young  
Nick Kinkel, OMAFRA  
Lidy Romanuk, Haldimand County  
Zach Gable, Haldimand County  
Alison Earls, Haldimand County

**Guests:**

Sue Brocklebank, GRCA

**Regrets:**

Ron Poth  
Bruce Armstrong

**1.0 Welcome**

Chair R. Blyleven called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.. He welcomed committee members and guests.

**2.0 Future Vision for Haldimand County**

S. Brocklebank provided an overview of the funding that remains in the Rural Water Quality Fund and commented on the amount of funds that have been distributed to date. S. Brocklebank then presented the projects being put forward at this meeting.

**File # 56 – Cover Crop Project**

- Objective to promote the establishment and over-wintering of cover crops, which help provide soil production and reduces erosion to watercourses.
- Adjacent to South Welland River Wetland Complex
- 13 acres maximum incentive 20 dollars per acre, resulting in incentive totalling \$260

**MOTION:** Moved by J. Hussack and seconded by R. Young that the project be approved totaling \$260. **CARRIED**

**File # 98 – Livestock Access Restriction to Watercourse Project**

- Project objective to improve surface water quality by controlling livestock access to watercourse
- Property adjacent to the Grand River
- Total fencing eligibility is 1702 feet
- Total cost for this project is an estimated \$800

**MOTION:** Moved by Councillor Bartlett and seconded by J. Hussack that the project be approved totaling \$800.

**CARRIED**

**File # 99 – Cover Crop Project**

- Field adjacent to Selkirk Creek
- Project totalling 119 acres of cover crop asking for 50 acres to be incentivised
- Total cost of project is 50 acres at \$20 per acre totally \$1,000 in incentives

**MOTION:** Moved by J. Hussack and seconded by R. Armstrong that the project be approved totaling \$1,000. **CARRIED**

**File # 100 – Cover Crop Project**

- Field adjacent to tributary of Stoney Creek
- Project objective to promote the establishment and over-wintering of cover crop to help provide soil protection and reduce erosion.
- Project totalling 38 acres of cover crop
- Total cost of project is 38 acres at \$20 per acre totally \$760 in incentives

**MOTION:** Moved by J. Hussack and seconded by Councillor Bartlett that the project be approved totaling \$760. **CARRIED**

S. Brocklebank also noted that the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority is beginning a new funding programs that aims to improve water quality.

### **3.0 OMAFRA Update**

N. Kinkel then provided a presentation on the agriculture sector in Haldimand County. Some of the projects highlights include the following:

- Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting is the 6<sup>th</sup> largest sector in Haldimand County as it provided 1,315 jobs
- In 2016 Haldimand county generated 295.9 million in gross annual farm receipts

- Farms exported over 209 million dollars in products in 2014
- Haldimand County's most popular farm types include oilseed and grain farming, livestock farms and other crop farms

-It was also noted that OMAFRA has a new Agriculture Economic Development Resource Guide that may be useful to the committee.

#### **4.0 Term Of Committee Accomplishments**

Z. Gable then gave a presentation on the committees accomplishments over the past term.

Some highlights include:

- Completing 57 Rural Water Quality Projects
- Providing direction on farmers market operations, provided assistance in developing an agreement with the Hagersville Chamber of Commerce and provided direction on the MOU with the Dunnville Farmers Market Association
- Input on programs and policies associated with drainage, road width, taxes, Sunday gun hunting, Fit 4.0, certified crop advisors, and forest conservation by laws
- The group also made recommendations to help guide the next committee on potential agriculture priorities

Question: It was asked if in the future staff would consider developing a strategic plan for agriculture?

Response: It was noted that this may be something to consider in the future.

Question: It was asked if in the future the committee could review bylaws to improve agriculture activity in the municipality.

Response: It was noted this could be something considered during the next term of the committee.

#### **5.0 EDT Staff Update**

Z. Gable then provided an update of key projects staff have been working on. Some highlights include:

- Small Business Week's Biz breakfast which will be held October 17<sup>th</sup> in Caledonia at the Caledonia Lions Club. All business owners in Haldimand are invited to attend the complimentary breakfast and keynote speech.
- Haldimand County's Economic Development and Tourism Division is currently developing a branding strategy. Currently they have selected a consultant and will be having public consultations shortly.

- The experiential tourism training that was held last year in Haldimand County, will be offered in Oxford County this year from November 12<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup>.
- Haldimand County's next Tourism Network Meeting will be held October 22 in Jarvis at Concession Road Brewing Company.
- The new Dunnville Farmers Market is now open. The Grand opening celebrations will be held September 29<sup>th</sup> with the ribbon cutting ceremony beginning at 10:00 am.
- The Haldimand County Pilot Patio program received good uptake this year. We hope to see further participation next year.
- It was also noted that the terms of reference suggestions that were made at the previous meeting, would not be put forward to council until after the election in mid December. It was also noted that before these recommendations are put forward support letters would need to be submitted by the Haldimand Federation of Agriculture and the Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario.

-It was noted that the Haldimand Federation of Agriculture were hesitate to provide a support letter as members did not want to decrease their designated membership if committee size was increasing.

-The Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario had no concerns in providing a support letter.

## 6.0 Council Update

- Elections are to be held October 22, 2018.
- An all candidates night will be held for ward 1 candidates on October 2, 2018.

## 7.0 Approval of the Minutes and Business Arising

Chair R. Blyleven asked for a motion to adopt the agenda and minutes as presented.

**MOTION:** Moved by Councilor Bartlett and seconded by R. Young that the agenda and minutes be accepted.

**CARRIED**

## 8.0 Business Arising

No new business arising was brought forward at this time.

## 9.0 Adjournment

**MOTION:** Moved by Councilor Bartlett to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 pm.

**CARRIED**