



Agriculture Advisory Committee (AAC) Meeting

Haldimand County Administration Building
November 18th, 2020

Present: Councillor Metcalfe, Henk Lise (Chair), Stuart Heeg (Vice-Chair), Bruce Armstrong, Ron Young, Richard Blyleven, Nick Kinkel (OMAFRA), Stephanie Campbell-Heron Rick Armstrong, Louise Heyming (GRCA), Sue Brocklebank (GRCA) and Will Stoneman (OFA)

Staff: Lidy Romanuk, Manager of Economic Development & Tourism, David Scott, Secretary Treasurer of Committee of Adjustments, Alison Earls Senior Economic Development Officer, and Breanna Beauchamp, Division Support.

Regrets: Jordan Fowler

1. Welcome and Introduction

Meeting called to order by Chair Henk Lise at 6:02 p.m. Members and guests introduced themselves.

2. Council Update

Councillor Metcalfe provided an update on Council activities including the comprehensive by-law review, continued highways closures in Haldimand County, and an update on the Forest Conservation By-Law.

The committee illustrated concern about the increased traffic, safety and potential damage to the roads and culverts due to the ongoing closures.

A discussion then ensued.

3. Rural Water Quality Suggested Program Additions and Upcoming Projects

L. Heyming provided a presentation to the committee and brought forward the proposed additions to the Rural Water Quality Program for Council approval including soil testing, crop nutrient plans, and updates to cover crops programming.

Motion to bring forward the proposed amendments to the Rural Water Quality Program for council approval.

Moved by R. Byleven and seconded by S. Heeg to move the recommendation forward at 6:11 pm.

APPROVED

L. Heyming then presented two Rural Water Quality Project for the committee's approval.

File # 108- Tree Planting project was presented.

Moved By R. Byleven, and seconded by R. Young that the project be approved totaling \$3630.00 at 6:19 pm.

APPROVED

File #111 Tree Planting project was presented.

Moved by R. Byleven and seconded by R. Armstrong that the project be approved totaling \$3823.00 at 6:22 pm

APPROVED

4. Emily Project Update

David Scott, Secretary Treasurer of Committee of Adjustment presented an update on the Emily Project which included an overview of the civic address allocation process, and agricultural land severance conditions.

The committee expressed concern at the added cost for property owners to obtain additional civic address signs for their farm and began a conversation on how the committee could leverage greater awareness throughout the agricultural community of the importance of the Emily Project. Staff were asked if new civic address costs could be tied to severances and/or building permits. Staff to investigate.

A discussion then ensued.

5. Communication Strategies for Farmers

Due to the current landscape with COVID-19, Haldimand County Staff have increased their online communications significantly. A. Earls began a discussion on current staff communications strategies to ensure important information and updates are being effectively distributed.

The committee provided feedback that the most effective way to communicate with the members was through email, ads in local newspapers, and connecting with partners like the OFA to ensure all information is widely distributed across all of their networks and memberships.

A discussion then ensued.

6. Approval of Minutes and Business Arising

Moved by. R. Byleven and seconded by S. Heeg that minutes of Agriculture Advisory Committee Meeting dated November 19, 2020 be approved as presented at 7:40 pm.

APPROVED

7. EDT Update

A. Earls provided an EDT Update, key highlights included:

- Haldimand County Face Covering By Law Update
- Official Plan Update
- Agricultural Road Safety
- Digital Service Squad Update
- 2021 Meeting Logistics

A discussion then ensued.

8. Adjourned at 7:50 pm

9. Next Meeting

March 17, 2021 from 6pm to 8pm

Location to be determined.