The Corporation of the City of Kawartha Lakes Minutes

Agricultural Development Advisory Committee Meeting

ADAC 2024-03 Thursday, August 8, 2024 9:00 A.M. Economic Development Boardroom Economic Development 180 Kent Street West, Lindsay, Ontario

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1. Call to Order

Chair R. Parker called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Councillor Ashmore and Members L. deVos, W. MacArthur, G. Masters, M. Murphy-Ward, R. Parker, A. Van Vught and S. Westland were in attendance.

Absent: R. Bonis, A. Shea, D. Skrabek

Guest: R. Carlson, Solicitor

2. Administrative Business

2.1 Adoption of Agenda

Moved By M. Murphy-Ward Seconded By G. Masters

That the agenda be adopted as circulated.

Carried

2.2 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest disclosed.

2.3 Adoption of Minutes

Moved By A. VanVught Seconded By S. Westland

That the minutes of the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee meeting held on Thursday, April 11, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

3. Deputations/Presentations

3.1 Proposed Tree Preservation By-law Update

R. Carlson will attend and provide an update to ADAC on the current progress and plans for the Proposed Tree Preservation By-laws.

Moved By A. VanVught Seconded By G. Masters

That the presentation by R. Carlson, regarding the Proposed Tree Preservation By-law Update, be received.

Carried

Moved By A. VanVught Seconded By G. Masters

That the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee supports the revised draft proposed Tree Preservation By-Law as presented by Solicitor Carlson within her April memo to the Committee as it provides better protections for agricultural activities by rural non-farm property owners.

Carried

4. Correspondence

4.1 From Kawartha Conservation regarding Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy

Kawartha Conservation will be developing a Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy that will help to define their business priorities into the future. A key step in developing this strategy is undertaking a review of our existing programs and services and seeking input from key watershed stakeholders including farmers and the agricultural community.

To answer questions submitted by KRCA, the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee had the following comments:

Some of the biggest challenges to agricultural businesses are knowledge and the financial ability to enter and continue in the industry. Difficult to access grants and lack of access to funding make it very challenging for new producers to enter the industry.

The main data the group relies on is rainfall and weather data, which is readily available through multiple sites and companies. There is almost more data available than what individual producers need to know.

For emerging trends, the group sees an increase in precision farming, as it allows farmers to make their farms as sustainable as possible using limited resources. This technology will be used to increase production, while other resources may remain fixed, like money, land, and time. Regarding how Kawartha Conservation could assist Agricultural Land users, the Committee felt it would be beneficial for KRCA to become more of a teammate. The Committee stated that it would benefit both parties if KRCA was able to support Agricultural land users more, as opposed to mainly interacting as a regulatory body issuing restrictions.

Moved By G. Masters Seconded By L. deVos

That the April 11, 2024 correspondence from Kawartha Region Conservation Authority, regarding seeking input to the Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy, be received.

Carried

Moved By G. Masters Seconded By L. deVos

That the comments provided by ADAC be forwarded to KRCA.

Carried

5. New or Other Business

5.1 Modern Farm Equipment Needs on Roadways - Working Group Update

The members of the Working Group provided a general update on their first meeting with Engineering staff which mainly focused on communications plans for current redevelopment projects and the addition of useful information in future press releases and 911 system postings. A second meeting will be held to continue discussions, with focus on general technical standard to consider for redevelopment projects.

6. Update from Economic Development Division

6.1 Kawartha Local Food Wholesale Project - Verbal Update

Work continues with the Kawartha Local Food Wholesale project, and is on schedule. A Steering Committee was formed in the Spring. Growers are busy during this season, but working to create relationships with buyers. A Meet and Greet event is being planned for producers and buyers to meet and learn about availability and type of products available and in demand. Peterborough and the Kawarthas Economic Development is dissolving. This will put the project on hold slightly until changes are finalized and the Officers are able to restart work on it to support participants.

6.2 2024 International Plowing Match - Showcase Kawartha Lakes Update

K. Maloney is currently working on 2 roles, both as Economic Development Officer, Agriculture, and liason between the City of Kawartha Lakes, the International Plowing Match, and Ontario. She is tracking activities between the liaison roles about what is being done and what information is being distributed between sectors. She is also coordinating the municipal display called Showcasing Kawartha Lakes. This display will include a number of community partners and groups in the building given, to showcase the area.

The IPM is still looking for volunteers in many different capacities, including setup, during event, and after. More committee chairs, volunteers, and sponsors are needed to make events/categories part of the IPM. They are still looking for tractors and bale thrower wagons for transporting people from parking areas into IPM. Reach out to Deputy Mayor MacDonald. A Chair for Antique Tractor division is still needed, in order to be included at the IPM. On October 1 there will be a VIP lunch with dignitaries and elected officials. Beautification exhibits throughout area are still needed, and there is no Chair yet for this committee.

6.3 VIP Tour - Invitation to attend the IPM

The VIP Tour has been postponed for this year. Participants who would usually be invited to the VIP tour will be invited to order tickets to the IPM. These ticket holders will be given information about Agricultural education locations

6.4 Farm 911 Update

The 911 Sign program will likely go to the September Council meeting to bring forward the program. It will be called Kawartha Farm 911, and allow individuals to apply for yellow 911 address signs for secondary field entrances. The numbering will fit into Google systems and addressing systems. Individuals can order their own signs for self-installation, or can have a contracted company install the signs. MPAC will be told they are secondary entrances, not new house addresses, so the new signs don't impact property taxes.

7. News and Updates from Members

• Bylaw asked grower to destroy crops located close to unassumed road. This grower was farming on municipal land. The bylaw system is a complaint-based system, so issues only arise if someone complains about encroachment or other issues. • Members commented that the website for City of Kawartha Lakes needs work, as it is hard to find information on it.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Thursday, October 10 at 9:00 am in the Economic Development Boardroom.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 am by the Chair.