

Notes of the Economic Development Task Force (EDTF) Meeting Held on Monday, July 18, 2022 at 7:00 PM at the Municipal Council Chambers.

Present: Councillor Fred Fowler (Meeting Chaired by Councillor Fred Fowler, as Councillor John Inglis absent), Betty Hunter, Cyndy Bonello, Paul Thiel, Dan Vaillancourt, Brooke Hawley – Manager of Community Development (MCD), Matt Walker - Economic Development Officer (EDO) and Lori Newman (Secretary).

Absent with Regrets: Councillor John Inglis.

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:00 p.m.

2. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest & General Nature Thereof:

None.

3. Delegations:

None.

4. Economic Development Task Force Notes:

Notes of the June 20, 2022 EDTF Meeting as approved via email by members of the Task Force were received for information at the July 15, 2022 Regular Meeting of Council.

5. Business Arising:

a) Welcome Package update – MCD

Lori Newman reported that fifteen Welcome Letters have been sent out to new residents since the last update. Thirty nine letters have been sent out in 2022. The EDO advised that there has been no new requests for a Welcome Package since the last update. Two welcome packages have been sent out in 2022. The EDTF will consider in the future the possibility of mailing downsized packages, instead of new residents having to request packages and make future recommendations to Council.

b) Complete a monthly Business Profile for existing Businesses for the Township's Website, Social Media and Council Meeting Agendas - Councillor Inglis and Paul Thiel.

Paul Theil reported that a Business Profile was not completed for July however he has 5 appointments confirmed in the upcoming weeks and will have a Profile completed for August.

c) Continue with Star Gazing Activities/Star Gazing Group

a. Activities Update – Betty Hunter

Betty Hunter advised that the July 16th Star Gazing Activity was very well attended with approximately 50 guests.

b. Star Gazing – SOP Discussion – MCD

The EDTF members discussed the draft internal procedures/protocols for handling various issues/events at the Star Gazing Pad. Betty Hunter will forward some additional questions to the MCD to look into prior to finalizing and providing to the CAO for approval. There was also discussion of key holders and a sign in/out binder for keys. This will be discussed further at the next EDTF meeting as well.

c. Laser Pointers at Star Gazing Pad – EDO

i. Laser Use Signage installed at DSP – MCD

The MCD reported that signage has been placed at the Star Gazing Pad to state that laser usage is restricted to authorized members of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada (RASC), as they have blanket authorization for the usage of lasers and the Township is still waiting for authorization at this time.

ii. Update about Transport Canada approval - EDO

The EDO reported that he is still awaiting a response from Transport Canada regarding the Application to use Laser Pointers at the Star Gazing Pad. This will allow other people authorized by the MCD to use lasers and not limited to just RASC members. The Application is pending and the EDO will update the EDTF as soon as a response is received.

d. RASC Dark-Sky Site Leaflets - MCD

The MCD distributed leaflets to the EDTF members that were received from the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada (RASC) as a free resource during the 2022 summer for Dark-Sky sites. The EDTF also discussed the current DSP brochure stock and that additional brochures may need to be considered during the 2023 Budget deliberations.

e. Proposed RASC Dark Sky Pad Fence Painting by Artists – MCD

The EDTF discussed the Proposed Dark Sky Pad Fence Painting by artists and agreed that this proposal will be discussed further in the Spring of 2023 as there are other projects already in motion for the summer and fall of 2022.

d) Potential Star Gazing Festival

a. General Update - Councillor Inglis (Chair), Betty Hunter, Dan Vaillancourt and Cindy Bonello.

Betty Hunter advised that she is continuing to put together information regarding security for the Star Gazing Festival. Matt Walker (EDO) will send Betty information on security options that he has contact information for. Gary Colwell, Councillor Inglis, Betty Hunter, Dan Vaillancourt and Cyndy Bonello will plan an in-person meeting on Monday, July 25th to work on this project and bring back additional information to the August EDTF meeting. The EDO will be designing a poster for the Festival.

The EDTF is anticipating this Festival to cost approximately \$1,500.

b. Refreshment Vehicle By-law

i. Requirements

ii. Hours of operation

By-law #33-22 To Licence a Refreshment Vehicle Section 5a) iii) states *“No Person shall permit: A Refreshment Vehicle to operate between the hours of 10:00 pm and 6:00 am”*

The EDTF members discussed the Refreshment Vehicle By-Law, requirements and hours of operation. The EDTF would like to request an exemption from the By-Law for the Star Gazing Festival regarding the hours of operation, as this event runs throughout the night and that is when people are requiring food.

e) 2022 Business Bus Tour – EDO, Councillor Inglis (Chair) and Paul Thiel.

The EDO, Councillor Inglis and Paul Thiel will plan an in-person meeting to discuss ideas for the Bus Tour for Businesses to attend other businesses throughout the Township in 2022 and provide an update at the next EDTF meeting.

f) Ontario By-Bike - Bicycle Friendly Businesses update from Council - MCD

The MCD and EDO informed the EDTF that Council approved the Township joining the “Ontario By Bike Network” which helps cyclists find Businesses on the Ontario By-Bike online map when planning their cycling routes and establishes the Township as a bicycle friendly location. This will be circulated by the EDO to local businesses.

g) 2022 Mural Project

a. Proposed Locations

- Ompah Waste Disposal Site
- Crotch Lake Access Road
- Malcolm Lake Boat Launch
- Kashwakamak Waste Disposal Site
- Clar Mill Fire Hall Entrance

New Proposed Location

- South Road (Old School House)

The EDTF discussed the proposed locations throughout the Township for the for the Round 7 – 2022 Fall Mural Project that are to be installed in the Fall of 2022.

The EDTF agreed that they will remove the proposed Kashwakamak Waste Site location this time and add the new location of the Old School House (South Road).

6. Communications:

None.

7. New Business:

a) Time of EDTF Meetings

The EDTF discussed the current time 7:00 p.m. for the EDTF Meetings. It was decided that the EDTF will meet at 9:00 a.m. for future meetings, every third Monday in the Municipal Office - Council Chambers.

8. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

NOTE : The next meeting of the EDTF will take place on Monday, August 18, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the Municipal Council Chambers located at 6648 Road 506, Plevna.

Recommendations to Council

Be It Resolved That Council receives for information the July 18, 2022 Notes of the Economic Development Task Force (EDTF);

And That Council approves up to \$1,500 being taken from the Economic Development Reserve Fund for the Star Gazing Festival in 2022;

And That Council approves an exemption to By-law #33-22 To Licence a Refreshment Vehicle Section 5a) iii) states *“No Person shall permit: A Refreshment Vehicle to operate between the hours of 10:00 pm and 6:00 am”* to allow the Star Gazing Festival to have Refreshment Vehicles 24 hours a day September 23, 24 and 25.

Received by Council on August 12, 2022.

**Councillor John Inglis, Chair
Township of North Frontenac
Economic Development Task Force**