

Notes of the Economic Development Task Force (EDTF) Meeting Held on Monday, October 17, 2022 at 9:00 AM at the Municipal Council Chambers.

Present: Councillor John Inglis (Chair), Councillor Fred Fowler, Paul Thiel, Cyndy Bonello, Betty Hunter (via phone), Brooke Hawley – Manager of Community Development (MCD), Matt Walker - Economic Development Officer (EDO).

Absent with Regrets: Dan Vaillancourt, Lori Newman (Secretary).

Guests: Paige Cousineau

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 9:00 a.m.

2. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest & General Nature Thereof:

None.

3. Delegations:

None.

4. Economic Development Task Force Notes:

Notes of the September 19, 2022 EDTF Meeting as approved via email and were received for information at the October 14, 2022 Regular Meeting of Council.

5. Business Arising:

a) Council Resolution - Community Improvement Plan (CIP); Dark Sky Preserve Branded Materials; and Community Profile – MCD

The MCD advised that the Observatory Building was not considered by Council as our volunteer Astronomer previously advised that the Observatory was no longer available for donation.

The Dark Sky Preserve (DSP) logo recommended by the EDTF was approved by Council. EDO will work on some minor graphic design improvements. The \$500 to purchase ball caps with this logo will be considered during the 2023 budget deliberations.

Council discussed additional CIP funding and will consider CIP funding during the 2023 budget deliberations.

The new Community Profile was well received by Council. The EDO will post it to the website and circulate.

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

Paul Thiel completed the September Business Profile featuring By the Bay Cottages which was presented to Council at the October 14, 2022 Council Meeting. It was also added to the Township's Website and Social Media accounts. Due to the Municipal Election, there won't be a Business Profile completed, until after the inaugural Council Meeting to determine the EDTF status.

c) Dark Star Preserve

i. General Update – Betty Hunter

It was suggested that in the future there should be consideration around giving Gary Colwell some recognition (ie. honorary title, Frontenac news article etc.). The MCD mentioned that the Township hopes to continue with Volunteer dinners in 2023. Now that restrictions regarding the Pandemic have lessened, this may be a good opportunity to recognize Gary for his efforts.

In the future it would be beneficial to have a plan for events at the Star Gazing Pad. Do they stay Township-led or taken over by the Astronomy Club. Also in the future, the Astronomy club is considering holding events in the winter months. This will be discussed with the EDTF at a future meeting.

ii. Star Gazing Festival - Councillor Inglis (Chair), Betty Hunter, Dan Vaillancourt and Cindy Bonello.

The 2022 festival had a great turnout. It was suggested that potential planning begin early into the new year for the 2023 festival.

A debrief meeting of volunteers involved would be beneficial. The tentative dates for the 2023 event is September 15-17th for Council's consideration (when there's a new moon).

There was a free draw for Sky News Magazine Subscriptions and it was suggested that the names of the winners should be posted on the Dark Sky Facebook Page. Betty Hunter and Cyndy Bonello will look after this.

d) 2022 Business Bus Tour – EDO Update

The EDO advised that the business bus tour of the western part of the Township was well received. Approximately 25 attendees visited 9 local businesses and sampled food from two local providers.

The EDO suggests that two more tours (eastern and central) in the future would be beneficial for the Township. This will be discussed at a future EDTF Meeting and recommendations will be made for Council's consideration.

6. Communications:

7. New Business:

8. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

This was the final meeting of the EDTF under its current mandate.

Recommendations to Council

Be It Resolved That Council receives for information the October 17, 2022 Notes of the Economic Development Task Force (EDTF).

Received by Council on November 21, 2022.

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