



Economic Development Task Force Minutes

9:30 AM - Monday, March 18, 2024
Council Chambers

Notes of the Economic Development Task Force held on Monday, March 18, 2024 at 9:30 AM at the Council Chambers.

Present: Deputy Mayor John Inglis (Chair), Councillor Roy Huetl, Councillor Stephanie Regent, Betty Hunter, Cyndy Bonello, Paul Thiel, Derrick Lancaster and Dan Vaillancourt

Absent with Regret: Danielle Kesco

Also Present: Brooke Ross, Manager of Community Development, Dipl.M.A. and Lori Newman, Office Support - All Departments

1. Call to Order

a) *Introduction of new Chair of the EDTF*

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 9:38 a.m. It was announced that Councillor Stephanie Regent will be taking over the position of EDTF Chair and Deputy Mayor John Inglis will remain on the EDTF as a member.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

None.

3. Economic Development Task Force Notes

a) *Notes of the February 20, 2024 EDTF Meeting as approved via email and were received for information at the March 15, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council.*

4. Business Arising

a) *Business Profiles (Huetl, Thiel)*

Councillor Roy Huetl completed the February Business Profile and Paul Thiel will be completing the March Business Profile. Derrick Lancaster volunteered to assist with the Business Profiles with Paul Thiel; therefore, Roy Huetl will no longer be working on this project.

b) *Summer Event – updates (Inglis, Hunter, Bonello)*

The Summer Event sub-committee reported that they are continuing to confirm and

collect the Agreement Forms for 2024 Summer Fest. The sub-committee will continue to report back to the EDTF with updates.

c) *Economic Development Budget*

The MCD reviewed the Economic Development budget highlights with the EDTF members to ensure that the 2024 EDTF Work Plan is created taking these numbers into consideration.

It was discussed by some members of the EDTF regarding their disappointment in the Economic Development Officer (EDO) position not continuing and the reduction in funding for the Community Improvement Plan (CIP). It was further discussed that it was a tough budget year and some difficult decisions had to be made. The EDTF will continue to hope for Council's support for future initiatives.

d) *Final - Township Strategic Plan*

The EDTF discussed the Township Strategic Plan now that it has been finalized. It's important to align the EDTF Work Plan in a way that is in line with the Township's Strategic Priorities.

e) *Terms of Reference*

The EDTF reviewed the Economic Development Task Force Terms of Reference before discussing the EDTF Work Plan.

f) *2023 EDTF Work Plan*

The EDTF reviewed the previous 2023 Work Plan.

g) *2024 Proposed Draft EDTF Work Plan*

The EDTF assigned EDTF members to working groups for each initiative, for Council's consideration.

Objectives

1. Increased number of business startups and expansions
2. Increased Tourism
3. Promotion of a range of housing options to provide affordable housing including Public-Private Partnerships (PPEs)

Initiatives

1. **Increased number of business startups and expansions**
 - a. Fall Business Bus Tour – Vaillancourt, Hunter
 - b. Welcome Package – Bonello

- c. Business Breakfast (Oct.) – Hunter, Huetl, Bonello
- d. Business Profiles – Lancaster, Thiel

2. Increased Tourism

- a. SummerFest – Bonello, Hunter, Inglis
- b. WinterFest – Bonello, Hunter, Inglis
- c. Spring/Fall Foodilicious Event - Thiel, Huetl, Regent, Walker
- d. Mural Project
- e. Information Booth Kiosk – Regent, Kecso, Thiel

3. Promotion of a range of housing options to provide affordable housing including Public-Private Partnerships (PPEs)

- a. Identify barriers to housing development and potential solutions – Inglis, Regent, Lancaster

h) *Initiatives for Consideration*

The EDTF discussed initiatives that will be unable to continue due to the EDO position ending in July 2024 and initiatives that will have to be taken over by the EDTF or MCD (outlined in Work Plan).

5. New Business

- a) ***The EDTF discussed the 2024 Art Mural Project for Round 9 (previously approved by Council). The MCD will have the advertisement posted on the Township Website, Social Media accounts and the Frontenac News***

6. Adjournment

- a) ***Meeting adjourned at 11:34 a.m.***

Be It Resolved That Council receives for information the March 18, 2024 Notes of the Economic Development Task Force (EDTF);

And That Council approves the proposed EDTF Work Plan:

1. Increased number of business startups and expansions

- a. Fall Business Bus Tour – Vaillancourt, Hunter
- b. Welcome Package – Bonello
- c. Business Breakfast (Oct.) – Hunter, Huetl, Bonello
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2. Increased Tourism

- a. SummerFest – Bonello, Hunter, Inglis
- b. WinterFest – Bonello, Hunter, Inglis
- c. Spring/Fall Foodilicious Event - Thiel, Huetl, Regent, Walker
- d. Mural Project
- e. Information Booth Kiosk – Regent, Kecso, Thiel (further information to

follow in the future as the project and funds will require further consideration)

3. **Promotion of a range of housing options to provide affordable housing including Public-Private Partnerships (PPEs)**
 - a. Identify barriers to housing development and potential solutions – Inglis, Regent, Lancaster

Deputy Mayor John Inglis, Chair
Township of North Frontenac
Economic Development