

The Corporation of the Township of Brock Economic Development Advisory Committee Minutes

March 10, 2022

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Davidson called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m. and confirmed the following committee members and staff were present.

Chair Colleen Davidson
David Rhead
Peter Prust
Brian McGregor
Regional Councillor Ted Smith

Debbie Vandenakker, Planner
Carolyn Puterbough, OMAFRA
Glen McFarlane, Region of Durham
Stacey Jibb, Region of Durham
Fernando Lamanna, Clerk/Deputy CAO
Stefanie Stickwood, Clerk's Assistant (Recording the Minutes)

2. Confirmation of Minutes

2.1 February 10, 2022 - Minutes

Moved by <u>David Rhead</u>, that the minutes from February 10, 2022 be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and Nature Thereof

There were none disclosed.

4. Delegations

There were no delegations.

5. General Items

5.1 Brock Business Survey - Round Two

A brief update of the survey was provided. It was suggested that further promotion occur to increase the number of businesses participating in the survey. An updated graphic with a QR code had been created and was to be printed on to postcards with the intent of Committee members from the Brock Economic Development Committee, Brock Board of Trade, Brock Tourism Advisory Committee and members of Council distribute the postcards in person to business owners.

The Committee was in full support of this method and postcards would be mailed to Committee members to begin distribution.

5.2 Update on Brock Economic Indicators

Debbie Vandenakker

Planner

The Committee was advised that moving forward the staff liaison would be resumed by the Planner and the Clerks Assistant who would record the minutes and provide administrative support. The Clerk thanked the Committee for their dedication and hard work.

An update of Brock economic indicators was provided. It was noted that the Township was currently working on the Official Plan, titled building our Best Brock through the Township's engagement platform, Let's Talk Brock. It was noted that the information gathered through the platform and public information sessions would help guide how the Township will grow during the next 10 years. The process will take approximately two and half years to complete.

It was asked where the agricultural sector would be included within the Official Plan. It was communicated that although the sector will be found in all modules it was to have a large role within the heritage module.

It was communicated that developments within the communities of Sunderland and Cannington would not occur until the septic and water systems have been expanded. Beaverton had a number of preconsultations currently in progress.

Concerns were expressed with the school being able to accommodate the new builds coming to Beaverton.

It was advised that currently the zoning bylaw has a 9-metre limit with no buildings exceeding four stories.

Next steps following the Official Plan update was to be a comprehensive zoning bylaw update which would take 2-3 years to complete.

5.3 Updates

- Brock Board of Trade
- Southlake Community Futures
- Tourism
- Brock Township
- OMAFRA
- Region of Durham

Brock Board of Trade:

A partnership had been developed between the Brock Board of Trade and Durham College that would provide information to students through information seminars. The hope is to provide students with an insight to rural business opportunities.

South Lake Futures:

The board was currently seeking the services of an additional loan officer.

Tourism:

Council has approved a one-year contract for a Communications and Tourism Officer.

Brock Township:

It was advised that several new positions would be posted following the approved budget.

OMAFRA:

It was noted that trade shows were returning to in-person for businesses to participate in. There was also to be two joint events with Durham Region.

Region:

The Region was working on the Vibrant North Durham Plan with a focus on rural economic development. The intent was to have a draft copy prepared for the April meeting to discuss with the Committee.

An update was provided with respect to the Rural Response COVID Survey that was conducted through the Region in partnership of the University of Guelph. The survey's were mailed out to households throughout Brock and the data was collected by the University. 1700 responses were received from North Durham. The results would be shared once all the data has been collected and inputted.

Within the agricultural sector the region had recently launched the ag career project videos that encourage youth of the different opportunities within the agricultural sector. These videos are being shared within the grade 10 curriculum through Durham Region Secondary Schools.

5.4 Final Presentation to Council

The Committee was advised of the upcoming end of year presentation to Council including the items that would be incorporated within the presentation and how it would be delivered to Council.

6. Other Items & Inquiries

6.1 Committee and Board Members Survey

Committee members were reminded to complete the survey that was circulated.

6.2 New Business

It was asked when the committee could resume to meeting in person. Staff from the Township advised as of now meetings were to continue virtually.

6.3 Next Meeting

April 14, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.

7. Adjournment

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting of Council adjourn at 9:39 a.m. Moved by Brian McGregor.

MOTION CARRIED