



## **Brock Economic Development Advisory Committee**

**Date:** Tuesday, September 21, 2021

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**Location:** Electronic Meeting via Microsoft Teams

### **Minutes**

**Present:** Chair Colleen Davidson, Jordan Mount, Jane Trollope, Peter Prust, David Rhead, Regional Councillor Ted Smith, Brian McGregor

**Absent:** Carole Roberts

**Staff:** Glen Macfarlane - Rural Economic Development Specialist, Durham Region, Stacey Jibb - Manager, Agriculture & Rural Economic Development, Durham Region, Carolyn Puterbough - OMAFRA, Ingrid Svelnis – C.A.O, Fernando Lamanna – Clerk, Stefanie Stickwood – Clerk's Assistant (recording the minutes)

#### **1. Call to Order**

Vice - Chair David Rhead called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

The new Clerk was introduced, and introductions of Committee members were made.

#### **2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests**

None was disclosed.

#### **3. Confirmation of Minutes**

Moved by Peter Prust that the minutes of the June 15, 2021 meeting be approved.

MOTION CARRIED.

#### **4. Hearing of Deputations**

There were no deputations.

#### **5. Business Arising out of the Minutes**

None.



## **6. General Items**

### **a) Brock Business Survey Program**

The survey was presented to the group for a final review. A report had been received and approved by Council.

The group was advised of the process that would be in place once a survey was completed.

Follow-up interviews, when required, would be conducted by Region Staff.

A communications plan for the promotion of the final survey was being drafted and would be sent out to the group to review.

A soft launch was being conducted within the next few weeks.

A thank you email would be sent out once a survey is completed and would include relevant links of additional information.

A few minor changes were made to the order in which the survey questions were asked.

A test link would be sent out to a few pre-selected individuals before the survey is launched.

Moved by David Rhead that the survey be approved pending changes made at this meeting.

MOTION CARRIED.

## **7. Updates**

### **a) Brock Board of Trade**

The annual Brock Board of Trade Golf Tournament was held on September 19, 2021 and was well received.

In October a networking event would occur during small business week. Invitations will be sent to Brock Township to promote.

### **b) Tourism Advisory Committee**

No new updates were provided at this time.



c) South Lake Community Futures

A new loan officer was to begin the following week.

Southlake would also be planning an event for small business week.

An update was provided with respect to COVID support money for businesses. It was advised that all of the funding had been lent out in August had been utilized and there were no expectations of further funding being received.

d) Township of Brock

No new updates were provided at this time.

e) OMAFRA

The Committee was advised of the teeny tiny summit, which was a webinar series beginning on October 13.

It was communicated that the Rural Economic Development program would continue to accept applications until October. It was noted that the permanent program provided regular intakes.

f) Region of Durham

An update was provided with respect to broadband services throughout Brock. It was communicated that Rogers would be installing broadband in the Gamebridge area extending into Simcoe County.

The Region was currently working on a Municipal Services Program that would have the Region be the owner of the infrastructure that would provide broadband throughout the Region.

The Region was collaborating with Invest Durham to create a webinar about the upcoming vaccination certificate and the requirements for businesses.

The Region is working on a career video series for the agriculture sector. The videos were to be incorporated with the Grade 10 Career course. It was noted that the Sunderland Coop would be featured in one of the videos.

## **8. Other Matters**

a) New Businesses in Brock

The group was advised that this item would be included on each agenda going forward.



Several new businesses were announced with some of them being:

- The Underground Bakery – Beaverton
- The Shortiss Café – Beaverton
- Dollar Bits & Discounts – Beaverton
- Stefano's Bistro – Beaverton
- Flowertown Cannabis – Beaverton
- Pub 12 – Cannington

A complete list of new businesses opened within Brock would be circulated to the Committee.

b) Rural response to COVID-19

The Region's economic division has been working with the University of Guelph on creating a mail out survey for each household within North Durham. The survey was being funded by OMAFRA and would investigate how people have been affected by COVID.

It was expected that data would be compiled and sent to the Region approximately 2-3 months after the survey closed.

c) Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Presentation

The Uxbridge EDAC will be hosting the meeting on October 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. The session will include a presentation from the Region. Uxbridge has extended the invitation to Brock and Scugog. The invite will be sent to Committee members.

d) Future Meetings:

There were no objections to the Mayor being invited to join future meetings.

**9. Next Meeting Date**

October 19, 2021

**10. Adjournment**

Moved by Peter Prust that the meeting adjourn at 7:59 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED.