

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **Minutes**

**June 7, 2010**

A meeting of the Economic Development Advisory Committee was held in the Committee Room Civic Centre June 7, 2010 at 11:30 a.m.

The following members were present: Gary Rogozinski, Vice Chair, Teresa Hazel, Geoff Gillon, Mark McCaig, Jim Cumming and Councillor Ken Perry.

Regrets: Mayor Roy Avis, Bill Gushulak, John McTaggart

Also Present: Tannis Drysdale, Rainy River Future Development Corporation and Lori Pattison, Secretary.

1. Call to order – 11:45 a.m.
2. Non-agenda items: Some information reports were handed out for committees information.
3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest: None
4. Approval of Minutes – May 3, 2010 and May 27, 2010

**Jim Cumming – Ken Perry** – that the minutes from the May 3 and May 27, 2010 meetings be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED.**

5. Information and Activity Reports:
  - a) Planning Act Presentation – will be deferred to the next meeting due to the Planner being unavailable
  - b) Fun In the Sun follow up – the grant application has been filled out and submitted – waiting for approval ( \$5,000.00). Teresa has had discussions with The Fun in the Sun committee and they are on the same page – would like to focus on Canada Day rather than a week long event – hard to get volunteers to run a week long event. There was some discussion and the committee would like to recognize Paul Bock for all of his contributions over the past years.
  - c) Ex-Pat Packages – no changes to the list were received therefore the packages will go out according to the list handed out at a previous meeting. Photos have been taken of the Mayor – letter to be drafted to go out with package ( Teresa to help Tannis ) – Tannis will put the package together and present it to the committee before they go out.
  - d) Fishing Industry Opportunities Presentation – held a show in Fort Frances – was well attended – to date three companies have expressed interest in partnering with American companies.

Held a information session at the Super 8 Hotel on May 25 which discussed:

- Was well attended
- 3 companies interested in partnering with American companies
- history of fishing tackle
- positioning of Fort Frances as a business location for American tackle manufacturers wanting to export into Canada
- overview of business models and roles in the fishing tackle industry
- opportunities for Canadian entrepreneurs in the fishing tackle industry

- e) Inward Investment Opportunity (verbal) – buyer/seller packages were reviewed – we have had discussion with the Vice President of Verdoc (Toronto) – he is coming to Fort Frances this summer to advise how to best advertise for the most appeal for Fort Frances – aid through NCIRP Investment Attraction (possibly the week of July 3<sup>rd</sup>) – will let committee members know

6. Discussion and Action Request Items:

- i) Terms of Reference Economic Development Advisory Meeting for discussion and approval –

**Jim Cumming – Teresa Hazel** – that the Economic Development Advisory Committee recommends that Council approve the attached list of recommendations to the Economic Development Advisory Committee's terms of reference and further that the Clerk be advised to implement into the By-law.

List of Recommendations: (included for committee's information)

- The Committee shall consider and initiate discussions on matters of significance to economic development in the Town of Fort Frances and make recommendations to Council.

These matters will include, but not be limited, to:

- Business attraction, retention and marketing programs and activities
  - Service, Professional, Commercial, Distribution and Transportation sector attraction
  - Tourism and Community Development
  - Manufacturing and Extraction industry retention and attraction
  - Competitiveness issues, policy and programs
  - Providing leadership on local business partnership initiatives
- That the Committee meet more often if required.
  - That the code of Ethics remains and that the agenda provide an opportunity to declare Conflict of Interest at each meeting.
  - That the clerk be requested to provide the committee with information on how the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act applies to the committee's work.
  - That the Code of Ethics be provided at each meeting on the back of the agenda.

- That the committee be expanded to be a minimum of 5 and up to 9 members of the public appointed by Council and two representatives of Council.
- Ex-officio to the committee to include specifically the Town of Fort Frances CAO, the Provincial Northern Development Officer (MNDMF) and a representative of the RRFDC. Remaining as current, the Mayor is ex-officio to the committee.
- That the committee be permitted to invite expert advisors to provide advice and input to activities on an as needed, as required basis. These advisors will act within the committee in the same manner as the ex-officio members.
- That the RRFDC and the Town of Fort Frances develop a series of protocols that will work toward improving services delivery to clients, establish roles and responsibilities and find synergies. This will include a discussion on land sales.
- That the committee actively solicit opportunities to seek education and understanding of economic development processes, relevant legislation and opportunities.

7. Educational Opportunities:

- a) EDCO: Organic Entrepreneurship: How to Turn Your Town into an Incubator – June 22, 2010 – 11:00 a.m. - Webinar to be held at 11:00 a.m. at RRFDC – Jim, Geoff and Jeannette to attend.
- b) Conference Board Report – for information purposes – if interested in full report contact Tannis.
- c) Northern Networks Trade Conference – September 15 and 16, 2010 in Fort Frances - plans are coming together – speaker line up is almost complete – sponsorship letter to go out to local businesses – ads will go out through the local radio station and newspaper.

8. Non – Agenda Items: Information reports distributed to committee members.

9. Next meeting date: July 5, 2010.