

TOWN OF FORT FRANCES - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

November 7, 2016

The meeting of Economic Development Advisory Committee of the Town of Fort Frances was held in the Committee Room, Civic Centre on November 7, 2016 from 11:43 a.m. to 12:55 p.m.

PRESENT: G. Rogozinski, Chair; R. Avis; D. Fortes, C. Mallory; J. McTaggart; J. Gillon; M. Caron; K. Perry (12:00 p.m. to 12:55 p.m.).

ALSO PRESENT: G. Gillon (RRFDC); L. Mose, MNDM; J. Cumming; D. Brown; K. Lawson

REGRETS: E. Fagerdahl, T. Drysdale

1. Call to Order

2. Non-agenda Committee items which because of urgency cannot be deferred to a subsequent meeting, identified to be considered later in the meeting.

- none

3. Disclosure of pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof

- none were identified.

4. Approval of Previous Advisory Committee Minutes

4.1 October 3rd, 2016 Meeting Minutes.

Mallory-Caron: THAT the minutes from the October 3rd, 2016 meeting be approved as distributed.

CARRIED

5. Items Referred from Council - No items referred.

6. New Business

6.1 Presentation from Dave Kircher re: Property Matter. (11:43 a.m. to 12:35 p.m.).

- Committee received a verbal presentation from Fort Frances resident David Kircher respecting a potential use for the currently vacant mill facility. He spoke about the shortage of unskilled workers in Canada, and that for the last several decades, the political focus has been on academics and not trade skills. He noted that it is increasingly difficult to find companies who are willing and able to take on the mentoring of students in a co-op scenario. He further believes that there is merit in Fort Frances acquiring the Mill from Resolute and looking at funding opportunities in order to complete a feasibility study to determine if it makes sense for the Town to pursue the Mill property from Resolute. This matter will be discussed at the next regular meeting.

7. Standing Items

7.1 Community Foundation.

- nothing new.

7.2 Rainy Lake Market Square.

- Dale Fortes requested information about the Rainy Lake Market Square Strategy. Concerns were expressed respecting power stands and proposed outdoor patio structures. Doug Brown advised members that the consultants for the project are currently working on a finalized design to take back to the Rainy Lake Market Square Committee. John McTaggart is Chair for this committee, and advised that there has been no meeting since October. This matter remains a standing item on the agenda.

7.3 Strategic Planning Initiatives (ongoing discussion).

7.4 Board Vacancy.

- the Board was advised that the vacancy has been advertised once and no one has come forward. The Clerk's office is currently look to re-advertise. Any one interested can pick up a application at the Civic Centre front desk or through the Clerk's office.

8. Non-agenda Items - None

9. Adjourn 12:55 p.m. / Next Meeting Date - December 5, 2016