

TOWN OF FORT FRANCES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

January 8, 2018

The meeting of Economic Development Advisory Committee of the Town of Fort Frances was held in the Committee Room, Civic Centre on January 8, 2018 from 11:45 a.m. to 1:07 p.m.

PRESENT: G. Rogozinski, Chair; R. Avis, K. Perry, M. Caron, J. Cumming, K. McCaig, J. McTaggart

ALSO PRESENT: D. Brown, CAO, G. Gillon, RRFDC, T. Drysdale, Economic Development Consultant, RRFDC and K. Lawson, Secretary

REGRETS: L. Mose, MNDM, J. Gillon

1. Call to Order - 11:45 a.m.

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

2.1 J. McTaggart re: Lack of Christmas lights at the Market Square over the holiday season.

2.2 T. Drysdale - Update re: Grand Opening - Market Square.

3. Disclosure of pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof

4. Approval of Previous Advisory Committee Minutes

4.1 December 4th, 2017 Meeting Minutes.

McTaggart-Cumming: THAT the minutes from the December 4, 2017 regular meeting be approved as distributed.

CARRIED

5. Deputation/Delegations

5.1 Todd Hamilton, Physician Recruiter, Riverside Health Care Facilities re: Physician Recruitment in Rainy River District.
- Mr. Hamilton was in attendance (11:45 a.m. to 1:07 p.m.) to provide information and answer questions respecting Physician Recruitment and Retention. He provided a general overview of the status of recruitment efforts of surgeons, Family Physicians and GP Anesthetists. He identified a need for GP Anesthetists, currently being filled by locums and Riverside's recruiting efforts. When asked what the biggest deterrent for locums or full time physicians was in coming to Fort Frances, he stated that travel times and distances were the biggest obstacles, including the absence of weekend flights in or out of Fort Frances. The issue of a full days travel to get in and out from Southern Ontario was discussed. He gave an overview of how Health Force Ontario (HFO) pays travel stipends and how the recruitment committee has to match the stipends individually. He identified that funding requests have been sent to all local municipalities and larger local corporations in the district.

6. New Business

6.1 Activity Report - Tannis provided an overview on the Rainy River Future Development Activity Report for the period June to December 2017.

7. Non-agenda Items

- 7.1 Christmas Lights at the Rainy Lake Square. Mr. McTaggart expressed concerns that not having the Market Square decorated over the holiday season was a missed opportunity. It was identified that because the completion date went so late into the year, that no planning was able to be done and that Tannis would be meeting with the BIA to discuss their ideas for usage of the facility and other matters.
- 7.2 Grand Opening - Rainy Lake Square. - Tannis advised that the date for the Grand Opening has been set for May 17th with opening ceremonies at Noon. More details will be provided as they are confirmed and Tannis is hoping that all members will be in attendance.

8. Adjourn / Next Meeting Date - February 5th, 2018