
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, April 20, 2022 | 9:00am
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT	Chair Dave Eccles Bev Morgan Dave Ford Dave Hocking Jason Radstake (arrived at 9:06am) Curtis Schmalz (arrived at 9:25am)
REGRETS	Alicia Mawhinney Mike Schierz (absent with notice) Tammy Louther
OTHERS PRESENT	April Marshall Brenda Goetz Andrew Wilken Emily Morrison
DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST	Nil
DELEGATIONS	Nil

DISCUSSIONS & DECISIONS

1. **Adoption of March 16th, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Moved by BEV MORGAN / Seconded by DAVE HOCKING

THAT the minutes of the March 16th, 2022 Regular Meeting be approved as printed and circulated.

CARRIED

2. **Business Arising from Minutes**

Nil

3. **Hanover Development Update Presentation (Planning & Building)**

A. Wilken shared a PowerPoint presentation relating to proposed development. This presentation was recently shown at the Chamber of Commerce meeting to update the members regarding development approved by Hanover Council, and proposed development. Some highlights include: Revera LTC facility will commence construction in the Fall; 142 unit apartment complex approved for 651 23rd Avenue; 113 unit apartment complex approved for 223 10th Street; 21 unit apartment complex approved for 425 18th Avenue; Popeyes Louisiana Restaurant will be constructed at 936 10th Street; updated site plan for 595 1st Street; Draft Plan approval for Saugeen Cedar Heights West Subdivision; building permits issued for Bren-Lea and Saugeen Cedar Heights East Subdivisions; proposed concept plan for 936 10th Street (former Irv Wand property); proposed concept plan for former JDSS property; and potential growth areas (as presented by Meridian Planning) and future secondary plan as proposed through Grey County OPA#11

4. **Strategic Plan Goals & Action Plan Update**

4.1. **Saugeen Connects – Student Start-up Program**

A. Marshall announced the launch of the 3rd Student Start-up Program including sponsorship opportunities. In 2021, 59 youths participated in the program and started 50 businesses.

WOWSA will be meeting this week to plan the upcoming season.

4.2. **WOWC – Workforce Strategy Assessment, Newcomer and Immigrant Readiness Assessment Checklist Tool Exercise**

A. Marshall reiterated the fact that many manufacturers are struggling to find skilled employees. It is clear that measures must be put in place to attract and retain newcomers to the region. Housing, transportation and being a welcoming community are big components of this. This was evident during discussions at the recent EDCO conference.

The Western Ontario Wardens Caucus have developed a Workforce Strategy and toolkit that includes a Newcomer and Immigrant Readiness Assessment Checklist. This self-assessment tool will assist in determining the capacity to attract and retain new residents, and identify areas of focus for newcomer and immigrant attraction efforts. This is important for us to plan for as Hanover grows. The results of the survey will be incorporated in the strategic planning update.

It was agreed that members complete the survey and return to A. Marshall by April 29th. The results will be summarized and discussed at our next meeting.

4. **Grey County Update**

4.1. **2022 Job Fair**

A. Marshall stated that the first Grey County, in-person job fair was held in Hanover on March 30th with 25 employers registered. There was approximately 80 job seekers whom attended, resulting in some direct hires being made at the Fair.

A. Marshall is working with Grey County in the Investment Ready program. The representatives of the consulting firm were impressed with the HIPP campaign, as it contributes to a community being market ready and promoting a brand that investment can see themselves fitting into.

5. **Launch Pad Update**

E. Morrison updated the Committee members. Programs are full and doing very well. Field trips are booked over the next two weeks. The Centre is pleased to be offering a hair stylist program and all-female welding & automotive programs.

Neptune Scoops is well underway for its June 2nd opening date. Also looking into a mobile bicycle cart to supply patrons with their frozen treats.

Launch Pad has received a letter of intent for consideration by Board members to share resources and create similar centres in other regional communities. The Board has been exploring developing a franchise type model that helps other areas set-up and use the established resources, brand and programming framework, which will also act as a source of revenue for Launch Pad.

6. **Hanover Chamber of Commerce Update**

C. Schmalz advised that the Chamber held its first luncheon meeting on April 11th, 2022. As stated under Item #3, Don Tedford made a presentation. 72 businesses are participating in the Spring Shop 'n Win Event during the month of April.

7. **Saugeen Municipal Airport Update**

Nil

8. **Correspondence**

8.1. **Hanover Building Stats – 1st Quarter Report 2022**

A. Wilken highlighted the above report identifying the early stages of another robust building year for construction. The beginning of the 2nd quarter yielded an additional 4 single family dwellings and 18 multiple residential units. As well, the permit has been issued for a new Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen restaurant and other commercial units.

9. **New Business**

A. Marshall updated the Committee members regarding staffing announcements.

9. **Adjournment**

Moved by DAVE FORD

THAT this meeting now be adjourned at 10:06 am

Chair, Dave Eccles

Committee Secretary, April Marshall