

Agricultural Advisory Committee of Clarington Meeting

Thursday, June 11, 2020

Members Present: Eric Bowman John Cartwright Don Rickard

Ted Watson Tom Barrie Henry Zekveld Brenda Metcalf Les Caswell Councillor Zwart

Regrets: Jennifer Knox Ben Eastman Richard Rekker

Staff: Amy Burke and Faye Langmaid - Planning Services

Guests: Stacey Jibb and Allison Brown, Region of Durham Planning and

Economic Development; Carolyn Puterbough, OMAFRA

Due to COVID 19 restrictions and to ensure social distancing, participation in the meeting was electronic (using Microsoft Teams) and by conference call.

Eric welcomed all to the meeting, with introductions.

Declarations of pecuniary interest

None.

Adoption of Agenda

Moved by John Cartwright, seconded by Les Caswell *That the Agenda for June 11, 2020 be adopted.*

Carried

Approval of Minutes

020-14 Moved by John Cartwright, seconded by Councillor Zwart *That the minutes of the May 14, 2020 meeting be approved.*

Carried

development of the by-law. To learn more about the proposed rules, visit
https://www.clarington.net/en/town-hall/proposed-on-farm-special-events-by-law.asp, email bylawenforcement@clarington.net, or contact Duncan Anderson at 905-623-3379
ext. 2110.
Greenbelt Foundation: In follow-up to the May meeting presentation by Kathy Macpherson of the Greenbelt Foundation, an overview of Greenbelt Fund Grants (2017 – 2019 period) was provided and circulated to Committee members.
Correspondence, Council Items and Referrals
None.
<u>Liaison Reports</u>
Durham Agriculture Advisory Committee: Meetings have resumed in a virtual format. DAAC introduced to the Region's review and updating the Long Term Waste Management Plan. Annual farm tour cancelled. Investigating options for a video farm tour.
Durham Region Federation of Agriculture: No updates available.
Durham Farm Connections: Program and event cancellations continue. Celebrate Agriculture Gala deferred to 2021. Celebrate Agriculture 2020 Awards sponsors continue to provide support. Nominations now being accepted. Format for awards ceremony to be determined.
Clarington Board of Trade: Virtual Annual General Meeting scheduled for June 25 at 2:00 pm.

Agricultural Emergency Contacts Sheet: Developed with input from the Committee, this contact sheet is managed and used by Clarington Emergency & Fire Services (EFS) to support response to emergencies that involve livestock. The Committee considered a request to add blacksmiths and livestock truckers but did not think that would be necessary for EFS. There are several haulers in the area. Listed handlers,

On-Farm Special Events By-law: Clerks to reach out soon directly to the individuals

New Business

Presentation

Delegations

Business Arising from Minutes

None.

None.

herders and trappers could provide contacts, if needed. Blacksmiths would not typically be needed as an emergency service. Other identified updates will be provided to Clarington EFS.

Supporting Local Agriculture – Online Campaign: Clarington Staff are discussing the development of a new webpage and social media messaging in support of local farmers as frontline workers during the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff sought feedback from the Committee on key components that could support the local agricultural sector from a communications perspective, including helping to link local farmers to the numerous resources and programs that emerged in response to COVID-19, and helping to connect the community to locally available food, agri-tourism venues and agri-food jobs. The Committee commented that promotion of the online resource is of key importance to ensure value.

Clarington Tourism Businesses and Attractions Online Directory: Clarington Tourism has developed a Tourism Businesses and Attractions online directory to support local tourism businesses operating during COVID-19. The Directory is an upto-date resource outlining the current status of businesses and attractions. To be listed for free, visit the Clarington Tourism Businesses and Attractions Directory website and complete the directory listing form.

CBOT Food at Your Fingertips Initiative: Clarington Board of Trade has launched a new webpage to provide information and a connection to local restaurants, eateries and farm gates currently open for business across the Municipality. The Food at Your Fingertips webpage is found at www.cbot.ca/eat. To list your farm gate sales for free, email info@cbot.ca, providing your business name, address, website address, and current operating format (i.e. curbside, delivery, open).

Financial Impacts of COVID-19: Committee members inquired about the financial implications of COVID-19 on both Municipal and Regional finances. Committee members were provided with recent Municipality of Clarington COVID-19 financial reports, FND-010-20 COVID-19 Cash Flow Analysis and FND-018-20 COVID-19 Financial Support Update and Region of Durham report #2020-F-11 Update on Financial Implications of Regional Programs and Services Impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Durham Region Abattoir: Committee members noted that at the June 8th agriculture sector-focused virtual townhall hosted by MPP David Piccini, a lack of livestock processing capacity emerged as a primary challenge being faced by farmers in Northumberland – Peterborough South. Stacey Jibb, Durham Region Economic Development and Tourism – Agriculture and Rural, informed the Committee of an abattoir opportunity for Durham Region that is currently being explored with all local economic development offices including the Clarington Board of Trade. Potential sites in Clarington or North Durham are in the process of being identified. Updates will be provided to DAAC and the AACC, as available.

Condition of Regional Roads: A concern was expressed respecting the general condition of Regional roads within the Municipality, citing the crumbling and washing out of road shoulders including shoulders that are intended for use as bicycle lanes. Unstable road shoulders and washed out areas present a hazard and damage risk for

farm equipment. Region of Durham Works representatives are scheduled to attend a Committee meeting this fall (meeting date not yet confirmed). The general concern raised will be relayed to Regional staff to be addressed as part of future discussions with the AACC.

Next Meeting

Thursday, July 9, 2020 @ 7:30 pm – Virtual Farmers Markets Michael Longarini, Bowmanville REKO Network Dave Kranenburg, Green Circle Food Hub

Future Agendas:

Pat Learmonth, Farms at Work Philip Lawrence, MP, Northumberland-Peterborough South Hon. Erin O'Toole, MP, Durham

Region of Durham Works re: 2020 capital projects

Clarington Engineering Services (Building Division) re: National Building Code changes for farm structures anticipated for 2020 (once the changes have been confirmed)
Brianna Ames of Fairlife (Coca-Cola)

Simon Gill, Durham Region Economic Development & Tourism re: an update on the Durham Region Agricultural Strategy and Durham Region Broadband Strategy

