

Minutes

LOCATION: **Town of Gananoque, 2nd Floor - 30 King Street East, Gananoque**

EDC Members Present: Todd Bickerton, David Anderson, Jeff Brown, Jan Hayes, Jeff Girling, Troy Donavan

Staff: Shelley Hirstwood, Rebecca Noonan

Regrets:

A) HEALTH, SAFETY, & WELLNESS: none

B) DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS: none

C) DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS: none

D) REPORTS: none

E) CORRESPONDENCE: none

F) MATTERS PENDING: none

G) NOTICE OF MOTIONS: none

H) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Motion made by Todd Bickerton

Seconded by Jeff Brown

Carried

J) CONTINUING BUSINESS: none

J) NEW BUSINESS:

- Strategic Planning Session for 2014-2016 Economic Development Strategy
 - Reviewed the 10 suggestions brought forward by the committee members for the 2014-2016 Economic Development Strategy
- Connection Between Downtown & Waterfront
 - Discussion regarding the covered bridge project; suggested that a business case & new estimate be brought forward to council to be considered for the 2014 budget
 - Discussion regarding the use of rickshaws or shuttles to move tourists from waterfront to other areas of town, was noted that this strategy has been unsuccessful in prior attempts
 - Jeff G. To speak with Peter Montgomery
 - 2014

-
- Improve Boat Launching Facilities
 - Discussion regarding the need to improve the current boat launching facilities by replacing signage and hiring summer students to direct traffic
 - Discussion regarding the need to alleviate pressure from current boat launching facilities by adding another location with possible cooperation from the township
 - 2014
 - Parking Plan
 - Discussion regarding the lack of parking during peak season, areas of contention (including Main St.)
 - Discussion regarding possible solutions: time limits on parking, more by-law enforcement, additional meters, parking passes
 - Discussion regarding current Parking Study being performed by other department, since this is already happening it will automatically be added to the plan
 - Business Attraction
 - Discussion regarding niche tourist business (candle-makers, glassblowers, antique stores) and the need to attract more
 - Discussion regarding a joint effort of the commercial property owners downtown throwing an openhouse to target business; offering incentives through the CIP
 - Business Retention & Expansion
 - Discussion regarding interviewing local businesses to gain greater knowledge of the current market so that the ec dev department can address the actual needs of the business community.
 - Discussion of working with the local businesses to help address their needs to create a more stable market
 - Discussion regarding the importance of the town's perception in order to track investors; showcase new developments and projects to demonstrate growth
 - Business Incubator
 - Discussion regarding creating a business incubator to assist entrepreneurs and build more stable businesses, viewed as not an immediate priority
 - 2015-2016
 - Lack of Marine & Water fuel supply
 - Discussion regarding the need to enhance the marine economy
 - Discussion regarding finding a new location for water fuel supply to fill the void left by the closing of Gordon's Marine
 - Discussion regarding expanding on our title as "Ontario's fishing town"
 - 2014
 - Tourism Plan
 - Discussion regarding making tourism a higher priority
 - Discussion regarding the creation of tourism plan and establishing a connection between the town's partners to create unified marketing and to efficiently use resources
 - 2015-2016

-
- Beautification
 - Discussion regarding beautification options for the downtown and other areas
 - Discussion regarding previous projects, the role of the BIA and how to engage businesses in the project
 - 2014-2016

 - Downtown Revitalization
 - Discussion regarding a partnership with the BIA to create and enact a legitimate plan as previous attempt was never followed through
 - Discussion regarding the incorporation of Beautification and Downtown Revitalization into “Improved Communication & Cooperation”
 - 2014-2016

K) PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

K) ADJOURN

Motion made by Jan Hayes
Seconded by Troy Bickerton
Carried

Next meeting – Wednesday November 13th, 6pm – Town Hall

Chairperson, Todd Bickerton