



Economic Development Advisory Committee
October 10th 2012 @ 6:00 PM

Minutes

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

EDC Members Present: Jeff Girling, Jeff Brown, Todd Bickerton, Troy Donovan, Jan Hayes, David Anderson
Staff –Shelley Hirstwood
Regrets-Erika Beresford-Kroeger

- 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:**

- H) **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**
 - Motion made by Jan Hayes
 - Seconded by Jeff Girling
 - Carried

I) CONTINUING BUSINESS:

- Economic Development Update
 - Via Rail update – Clean up date Oct 13th 9-4, contact Pam
 - Downtown Revitalization Seminar – October 29th, Keynote speaker is from Picton BIA
 - Small Business Seminars – Marketing October 12th, Facebook November 12th, Twitter November 26th

J) NEW BUSINESS:

- Marketing – “Welcome to the Thousand Islands” Gateway Sign
 - Jeff Brown raised a concern regarding the Welcome to the Thousand Islands Gateway Sign
 - Discussed the importance of this sign in relation to marketing and branding
 - Councillors determined they would bring this up at Council
 - Staff advised that it will be completed, unknown completion date
- 175 St. Lawrence Street
 - The two 175 St. Lawrence Street proposals, in addition to the supporting documentation were provided in advance and reviewed

Discussion included the following topics:

- The importance of parking
- The importance of the commercial component
 - Discussion regarding Heritage Village
- The value of the land
 - Original purchase price
 - Value of the land decreases while the brownfield regulations increase
- The negotiations terms for purchase of the property
 - Contingencies, some of which we have no control over
 - Design adjustments
- Brownfield remediation
 - Capping vs Remediation by isolating the site
 - Costs associated with remediation
 - Measuring the success of remediation
- The importance of moving forward with the project
 - Potential to lose credibility with developers if we do nothing
 - Success builds success
 - Building a community
 - Fear of a white elephant scenario
- Concept Designs
 - View from the water
 - What fits with the community
 - Public comment regarding the design
 - Some would like to see the whole area developed
 - Concerns regarding private property as part of the proposal
- The economic impact of tax assessment

MOTION

Motion by: Jeff Brown
Seconded by: Jeff Girling

The Economic Development Advisory Committee recommends that Council proceed with negotiations with RMP Construction under the condition that the developer provides 70 public parking spaces in addition to the mandatory parking requirements, that commercial remains part of the concept and that there is a value associated with the property purchase.

CARRIED

K) PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

Questions were raised from members of the public regarding 175 St. Lawrence Street.

L) ADJOURN

Next meeting – November 14th 6pm – Town Hall

Chairperson, Todd Bickerton