

Economic Sustainability Committee

DRAFT Minutes

Thursday, July 27, 2017

Ante Room at 4:30pm

Attendance:

Councillor Mike Britton, Chair

Mayor Walter Sendzik

Dan Romanko (Chair, Downtown Development Revitalization Advisory Committee - DDRAC)

Mike Sullivan (Chair, Parking Advisory Committee)

Jim Riddell (Director, Planning and Building Services)

Kristine Douglas (Director of Financial Management Services)

Guests:

Brian York, Director of Economic Development and Government Relations

Regrets:

Councillor Mat Siscoe

Judy Pihach – (staff liaison) DDRAC

Steve Bittner – (staff liaison) Parking Advisory

Staff Liaisons:

Leanne Kurek – Recording Secretary, ESC

1. **The Chair, Councillor Britton called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.**

2. **Motion to approve the agenda**

That the Economic Sustainability Committee adopt the agenda as presented

Moved by: Mike Sullivan

Carried

3. **Motion to approve the ESC minutes from: April 25, 2017 and July 6, 2017.**

Moved by: Mayor Sendzik

Carried

4. Motion to approve presentations

n/a

5. Business arising from the ESC minutes, Apr 25 & June 6

n/a

6. Business

6.1 Parking Advisory update ~ Mike Sullivan

- The committee has not met since March
- June meeting was postponed due to the Downtown Parking Study report not being ready for committee.

6.2 DDRAC update ~ Dan Romanko

- Update on St. Paul Street reconstruction:
 - Committee noted that in the future communication could be improved to the general public
 - The new messaging and signage created by Economic Development and TES – very positive feedback
 - Extension of patio season – staff report forthcoming on implications.
- Downtown Performance Metrics:
 - Delay in receiving information from the Niagara Region (downtown vacancy rates).
 - Committee's goal is to have a baseline achieved in 2017.
- Oakhill Park:
 - Wall in need to repair (restoration – park dedication fees).
 - Partnership with Willowbank for the restoration.
 - Slope stability – needs to be examined to see if there was any damage during the Burgoyne Bridge construction.
 - Landscaping – partnering with the Green Committee (Oakhill Park, Merritt Trail and Burgoyne Bridge). Date to be determined.
- Geneva/St. Paul Intersection:
 - Niagara Region project
 - No timeline on project – city staff coordination with the public realm and will seek committee input.
 - Urban streetscape design – need to develop a plan (tree coverage).
- Draft Economic Development Strategy:
 - Civic Square and Creative Cluster Master Plan
 - Visioning study approved.
 - Places to Grow Implementation Fund – Economic Development

- Civic Square – no capital funding (Places to Grow – visioning for location).
- Creative Cluster Master Plan - continue the vision for Downtown.
 - Most points from the Plan have been addressed
- Brock University:
 - Need to improve coordination, collaboration and dissemination of information with the committee.
- Open Streets:
 - August 13th 12 – 7 p.m.
 - Rain date: August 27th
 - Promote active transportation and local businesses

Action:

Mayor Sendzik: Note to committees to consider 2018 projects they would like to bring forward to the Budget Committee. Staff will vet the projects and bring to the Budget committee.

Add 2018 Budget Considerations as an agenda item for the next meeting.

Motion to receive the presentation from the DDRAC

Moved by: Mike Sullivan
Carried

7. Other Business:

7.1 Signage for Road Reconstruction

- Signage for Queenston Street Reconstruction and St. Paul Street Reconstruction: Brian York
 - Economic Development and TES partnered on the signs.
 - There is room for improvement in the future – work with businesses to make sure all signs are uniform.
 - TES has built this initiative into their departmental budget – including working with a media agency (Queenston reconstruction).

7.2 Economic Development representative to be a voting member on Pillar Committee

- Chair, Mike Britton recommended that a representative from Economic Development Department be added to the Economic Sustainability Committee as a formal voting member.
 - Terms of Reference would need to be updated
 - It is at the discretion of the CAO which Directors sit on what committees.
 - Brian York, Director of Economic Development & Government Relations will be sitting on a separate committee.

Action:

Recommendation that following the election in 2018 it be recommended that the Director of Economic Development & Government Relations be a voting member of the Economic Sustainability Committee.

A representative from Economic Development will continue to attend meetings as a guest to serve as a resource.

7.3 Special Meeting

- Special meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 19th to review the City's Strategic Plan.
 - Committee will receive an information package specific to the pillar prior to the meeting.

8. Date of next meeting: Tuesday, September 19, 2017. ~ Special meeting
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Burgoyne Woods Room

10. Motion to adjourn

That the Economic Sustainability Committee be adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Moved by: Walter Sendzik

Carried