



Economic Development and Planning Committee Minutes
Thursday, May 17, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.
Council Chambers

Attendance: Mayor George Bridge, Councillor Mary Lou Colwell, Councillor Jean Anderson, Councillor Ron Elliott, Jonathan Zettler, Hope Reidt, Glen Hall and Nichole Burrus (on behalf of Kelly Shaeffer)

Staff Present: Treasurer Gordon Duff, Economic Development Manager Belinda Wick-Graham, Economic Development Assistant Taylor Keunen and Business Coordinator Somer Antonopoulos.

Regrets: Carol Simpson, Gerry Horst, Alison Armstrong, Jamie Doherty, Kirk Brownell and CAO Clerk Bill White

Guest: Dan Keane, Bang the Table

1. Call to Order by Belinda Wick-Graham at 3:03 pm

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

a. Minutes of April 19, 2018

MOTION:

Moved By: Mary Lou Colwell; Seconded By: Jean Anderson

THAT the Economic Development Planning Committee Minutes of April 19, 2018 be approved.

Carried

3. Committee Minutes for Approval

a. Palmerston Downtown Revitalization Committee Minutes of May 2, 2018

MOTION:

Moved By: George Bridge; Seconded By: Ron Elliott

THAT the Palmerston Downtown Revitalization Committee Minutes of May 2, 2018 be approved.

Carried

b. Harriston Downtown Revitalization Committee Minutes of May 7, 2018

MOTION:

Moved By: George Bridge; Seconded By: Ron Elliott

THAT the Harriston Downtown Revitalization Committee Minutes of May 7, 2018 be approved.

Carried

4. Roundtable Discussion

a. Bang the Table - Dan Keane

Wick-Graham introduced Dan Keane from Bang the Table, an online community engagement software company. Bang the Table provides an opportunity for residents to provide feedback on projects and initiatives when and where they are able to, thus increasing engagement. Mr. Keane demonstrated how the software is being used in other communities. The Committee felt that there may be many ways that this software could be utilized in the community and Wick-Graham will explore this software further.

b. General Roundtable

Glen Hall reported that OSIM is partnering with Google to deliver training on local marketing for small businesses and will soon be launching a new, affordable website platform for small businesses.

Taylor Keunen highlighted that she would be attending a Youth Mental Health/Suicide Planning meeting and that this would be followed up with a Community. Keunen also reported that the Minto Youth Action Council was applying to present at the PRO MBA Symposium and the Palmerston Farmers' Market would be opening June 2nd with 15 vendors.

Gordon Duff reported that the changes to the Vacancy Rebate Program in Minto are seeing some positive changes and more information will hopefully be shared shortly.

Nichole Burrus highlighted that the Youth Employment Fair would be taking place on May 24th in Guelph and Wick-Graham would be attending to promote Minto and the jobs available in the community.

Mayor Bridge shared that the County of Wellington was successful in receiving a grant of \$500,000 for a ride share program across the County. This program would hopefully be implemented in early 2019.

Hope Reidt reported that Wightman Telecom is full swing into fibre construction in Stratford and Elora, just launched a new mobility campaign and recently received the Innovation Award at the Stratford Business Achievement Awards.

Somer Antonopoulos reminded the Committee of the grand openings taking place May 25, 2018 at Beyond the Rock and Holloway Auto. The Minto Chamber Summer BBQ will be taking place on July 12th at the Heritage Park pavilion in Palmerston.

Antonopoulos reported that LaunchIt Minto will be heavily promoting the services of 2nd Chance Employment offered through LaunchIt, as many employers could utilize these services but just might not be aware of what they can offer. First Aid & CPR Training will be held June 1st and Introduction to Co-Ops will be held June 25th.

Ron Elliott highlighted the numerous events taking place in June including Touch a Truck and Splash Bash on June 16th, Handcar Races, 91Run and Party in the Park on June 23rd. Elliott also noted that meetings are still being held on the LED community event sign in Palmerston.

Jean Anderson highlighted the events taking place on June 2nd including the Garden Festival, Firemen's Breakfast, Cool Cones unveiling and the opening of the trails.

Wick-Graham reminded the Committee that 2 of 7 of the Hawk's Nest finalists are from Minto. Tickets are now available if anyone is interested in attending on June 13, 2018. The Rhyze Awards which support women in business are being held on June 14, 2018 at Innovation Guelph and out of the 10 finalists Minto is proud to have Caitlin Hall from Reroot Organic pitching. Wick-Graham also highlighted that the Graduating Class Luncheon will take place on May 29th at Norwell. Construction is getting started in Teviotdale and Clifford after the May 24 weekend and the Town is now working with the retail/restaurants in Teviotdale on a small campaign.

6. Adjournment by Mayor Bridge at 4:32 pm