

City of Maple Ridge
AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee, held in the Blaney Room,
at Maple Ridge Municipal Hall on Thursday, April 28, 2016 at 7:00 pm.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Margaret Daskis, Chair	Community at Large
Jennifer Zickerman	Agricultural Sector
Bill Hardy	Member at Large
Al Kozak	Agricultural Sector
Candace Gordon	Haney Farmers Market Society
Ian Brooks	Member at Large
Stephanie James, Vice-Chair	Equestrian Agricultural Sector
Lorraine Bates	Agricultural Fair Board
Councillor Speirs	City of Maple Ridge

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Siobhan Murphy	Staff Liaison / Planner 2
Sunny Schiller	Committee Clerk
Lisa Grant	Planning

REGRETS/ABSENTS

Kimberley Lauzon	Member at Large
Tony Pellet	Agricultural Land Commission
Chris Zabek	Regional Agrologist, Ministry of Agriculture & Lands

1. CALL TO ORDER

There being a quorum present the Chair called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Ms. Daskis introduced Lisa Grant, who recently joined the Planning Department and will be transitioning into the Staff Liaison role over the next few months.

2. AGENDA ADOPTION

R16-009

It was moved and seconded

That the Agenda be amended to add Item 4.6 Agriculture Award for Local Governments and be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

3. MINUTE ADOPTION

R16-010

It was moved and seconded

That the Minutes of March 24, 2016 be adopted.

CARRIED

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1 True North Fraser website

The Staff Liaison reported she had contacted the design firm that originally created the True North Fraser website. Copies of the logo and other materials have been obtained and filed.

R16-011

It was moved and seconded

That the AAC administer the True North Fraser program on an interim basis until the branding process is complete.

DEFEATED

Margaret Daskis, Jennifer Zickerman, Bill Hardy, Al Kozak, Lorraine Bates, Ian Brooks, Stephanie James, Candace Gordon - OPPOSED

R16-012

It was moved and seconded

That a subcommittee be struck to review the work of the True North Fraser brand and program and move it forward.

CARRIED

Bill Hardy, Jennifer Zickerman, Stephanie James, and Margaret Daskis volunteered to serve on the True North Fraser subcommittee. It was suggested the subcommittee liaise with Lino Siracusa, Economic Development Manager.

4.2 Draft Funding Requests Application Form

A draft application was provided by the Staff Liaison and was reviewed by the Committee.

4.3 Invitation to Pitt Meadows AAC – Joint Meeting

It was decided to setup a joint PM MR AAC meeting in late June. Bill Hardy offered to host a barbeque. The Staff Liaison will contact the PM AAC to schedule.

4.4 Potential Fall Speakers

The Chair suggested inviting Mike Manion as a delegation to a fall meeting. Mr. Manion is involved in agriculture technology. Suggestions for future speakers were discussed.

4.5 Exploring using Municipal Lots for Community Gardens

The Staff Liaison provided information on the setup of community gardens on municipal property. It was suggested that Dave Speers, Recreation Coordinator, be invited to speak at a future meeting to provide information on the setup of the existing the Intergenerational Garden and to communicate the support of AAC for the establishment of more gardens.

4.6 Agriculture Award for Local Governments

Information was provided on a newly announced provincial award for local governments that support growing local. The Staff Liaison will investigate the criteria required for the award and report to a future meeting.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.1 Report to Council – Wonky Produce Advocacy Request

Stephanie James provided information on her recent discussion with a local farmer regarding getting less than perfect, “wonky” produce accepted for sale by major grocery stores. After discussion it was decided AAC will focus on educating the public about using wonky produce.

5.2 Metro Vancouver AAC Update

The Chair reported on the latest Metro Vancouver AAC. A Water Forum is planned for November. Ms. Daskis will bring back a report from Metro Vancouver AAC in regards to municipal water pricing to the next meeting.

5.3 Food Garden Contest

Plans for the 2016 Food Garden Contest were discussed, including the suggestion of finding an outside judge. Judging is done in August. The Staff Liaison will request an updated poster from Communications.

5.4 Kwantlen Project Update

The Staff Liaison reported Kwantlen will have update available in September.

6. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 Golden Harvest 2016 Subcommittee Update

October 16th has been set as the date for Golden Harvest 2016. The coordinator job description is ready to be advertised. Subcommittee membership was confirmed as Candace Gordon, Lorraine Bates and the Staff Liaison.

6.2 Education Subcommittee

Al Kozak provided an update on the upcoming agriculture education event planned for June 9th. Confirmed speakers for the event include Chris Zabek, Ministry of Agriculture and Lands and Al Kozak.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

8. ROUNDTABLE

Committee members introduced themselves to Ms. Grant and provided roundtable updates.

The Staff Liaison reported the Albion Flats Area Plan is being updated for Council's review.

9. QUESTION PERIOD

10. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded

That the meeting be adjourned at 9:31 pm.

Chair

/ss