

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, May 26, 2016 at 7:00 pm.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Al Kozak	Agricultural Sector
Jennifer Zickerman	Agricultural Sector
Margaret Daskis, Chair	Member at Large
Bill Hardy	Member at Large
Candace Gordon	Haney Farmers Market Society
Ian Brooks	Member at Large
Stephanie James, Vice-Chair	Equestrian Agricultural Sector
Councillor Speirs	City of Maple Ridge
Chris Zabek	Regional Agrologist, Ministry of Agriculture & Lands

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

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

REGRETS/ABSENTS

Lorraine Bates	Agricultural Fair Board
Tony Pellet	Agricultural Land Commission

1. CALL TO ORDER

There being a quorum present the Chair called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

2. AGENDA ADOPTION

R16-013

It was moved and seconded

That the Agenda be amended to add Item 4.2 – Update on Meeting with select members of Council and the Executive regarding the Agricultural Plan and be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

3. MINUTE ADOPTION

R16-014

It was moved and seconded

That the Minutes of April 28, 2016 be adopted.

CARRIED

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Calendar of Events

New item for the calendar: Metro Vancouver Water Symposium – Mid-November 2016.

4.2 Update on Meeting with select members of Council and the Executive regarding the Agricultural Plan

The Chair reported on a meeting with Mayor Read, Councillor Speirs, the Director of Planning, the Chief Administrative Officer, the General Manager: Public Works and Development Services, and the AAC Staff Liaison to discuss the Agricultural Plan. A facilitator has been contacted to lead a plan review session with Council.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.1 Backyard Chickens

The Staff Liaison will send a report regarding backyard chickens to an upcoming Council meeting.

5.2 Metro Vancouver AAC Update

No update.

5.3 Municipal Water Pricing

The Chair will request information on water pricing and availability from the Metro Vancouver AAC and from other participating municipalities.

5.4 Food Garden Contest

The Staff Liaison reported the 2016 Food Garden contest is being publicized, with nominations open to the end of June.

5.5 MR and PM AAC Joint meeting

The Staff Liaison has contacted Pitt Meadows staff to extend an invitation to the Pitt Meadows Agricultural Advisory Committee for a joint meeting during the summer.

5.6 True North Fraser Analysis & Recommendations

Jennifer Zickerman reported on the recent analysis of the True North Fraser brand.

R/2016-015

It was moved and seconded

That the True North Fraser subcommittee be authorized to meet with Lino Siracusa, Manager of Economic Development to discuss the True North Fraser brand analysis and recommendations and provide an update back to the next AAC meeting.

CARRIED

6. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 Golden Harvest 2016 Subcommittee

Candace Gordon thanked the Staff Liaison for publicizing the Golden Harvest Coordinator job description. Logistical details for the event were discussed.

6.2 Education Subcommittee

Al Kozak reported on preparations for the June 9th educational event.

7. CORRESPONDENCE - Nil

8. ROUNDTABLE

Ian Brooks – reported being grateful for the recent rainfall.

Al Kozak – reported his crops and bees are doing well this year. Mr. Kozak suggested using DropBox to share AAC documents.

Candace Gordon – is working on the food asset inventory.

Margaret Daskis – shared that provincial funding is available to hire consultants to assist in achieving food safety certification.

Jennifer Zickerman - reported the paper work to incorporate the Lower Mainland Herb Growers Cooperative is complete.

Councillor Speirs – discussed uses of Agricultural Land Reserve land.

Stephanie James – reported on her crops.

Bill Hardy – reported on business at his garden centre. Nurseries and landscapers will be making a presentation to Metro Water in regards to water needs.

9. QUESTION PERIOD

10. ADJOURNMENT – 9:01 pm

Chair

/ss