

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee,
held via Zoom teleconference on April 22, 2021 at 7:12 pm

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillor Gordy Robson	Council Liaison
Bill Hardy, Chair	Member at Large
Carla Schiller, Vice Chair	Member at Large
Pascale Shaw	Member at Large
Lorraine Bates	Agricultural Fair Board Representative

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Adam Rieu	Staff Liaison, Planner 1
Sabina Chand	Committee Clerk, Legal and Legislative Services

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Melissa Maltais	Fraser North Farmers Market Society Representative
Andrew Pozsar	Member at Large
Angela Boss	B.C. Ministry of Agriculture (Non-voting member)
Shannon Lambie	Agriculture Land Commission (Non-voting member)

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

R/2021-006

It was moved and seconded

That the agenda for the April 22, 2021 Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

R/2021-007

It was moved and seconded

That the minutes of the February 25, 2021 Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

4. DELEGATIONS - NIL

5. QUESTION PERIOD – NIL

6. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1 Anti-Discrimination Policy

The Anti-Discrimination HR policy applies to all employees and volunteers working for the City of Maple Ridge and is to be reviewed and acknowledged by the Committee.

6.2 Respectful Workplace Policy

The Respectful Workplace HR policy applies to all employees and volunteers working for the City of Maple Ridge and is to be reviewed and acknowledged by the Committee.

6.3 AAC Educational Opportunities

The Chair summarized potential education opportunities that were discussed in 2020 and postponed due COVID-19 and leave of a member at large. Discussion followed on interest to provide education for the general public on the following items: food security, self-sufficiency, supporting local businesses and farming.

6.4 Earth Day Canada at Home Challenge

Staff Liaison recognized today is Earth Day and asked the Committee to share personal environmental topics and how they celebrated Earth Day from home.

7. LIAISON UPDATES

7.1 Staff Liaison

The Staff Liaison provided a brief update on the following items:

- Introduced Parks Manager for connection with community gardens;
- Update on AAC's carryover budget;
- Update on City Hall COVID-19 restrictions;
- AAC related email inquiries received through Clerks;
- Provided information on lot coverage for Agricultural buildings through a comparison of Maple Ridge and neighbouring communities. Staff liaison to email the summarized findings.

7.2 Council Liaison

Councillor Robson provided update on a local organic gardener that is currently working with the City to establish a business on a farm.

8. TASK FORCE UPDATES

8.1 2021 Food and Garden Contest

The Staff Liaison provided an update on the Contest and advised that there have been approximately 40 participants so far. Members discussed advertising the Contest poster on social media and spreading the word through other community partner channels.

R/2021-008

It was moved and seconded

That the Agricultural Advisory Committee allocate a budget of \$250 for the Contest prizes.

CARRIED

8.2 Promotion of Agriculture – Booth in a Box Project

No further update.

9. ROUNDTABLE

Members provided verbal reports on local agricultural topics and activities and discussed the importance of road safety awareness of farm vehicles.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee will be held on Wednesday, May 27, 2021 at 7:00 pm.



Bill Hardy, Chair

/sc