

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 15, 2020

A meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, September 15, 2020 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:30 PM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: Z. Cohoon, Federation of Agriculture, Chair
T. Barrie, Clarington
N. Guthrie, Member at Large
B. Howsam, Member at Large
K. Kemp, Scugog
K. Kennedy, Member at Large
P. MacArthur, Oshawa
G. O'Connor, Member at Large
F. Puterbough, Member at Large, Vice-Chair
D. Risebrough, Member at Large
H. Schillings, Whitby
B. Smith, Uxbridge
G. Taylor, Pickering
T. Watpool, Brock, Vice-Chair
***members of the Committee participated electronically**

Also

Present: G. Highet, Regional Councillor

Absent: D. Bath-Hadden, Regional Councillor
B. Winter, Ajax

Staff

Present: K. Allore-Engel, Senior Planner, Department of Planning and Economic Development
A. Brown, Agriculture Economic Development Program Coordinator
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
S. Jibb, Manager, Agriculture and Rural, Department of Planning and Economic Development
N. Prasad, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by G. O'Connor, Seconded by H. Schillings,
That the minutes of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee
meeting held on August 18, 2020 be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Discussion Items

A) Rural and Agricultural Economic Development Update – S. Jibb

S. Jibb advised of the following:

- The Local Food Hub and Agri-Food Innovation Centre is currently in the conceptual stage and staff is exploring the idea of establishing the Centre in Durham Region.
- The Local Food Business Retention and Expansion Project was approved in May 2019 and the actions are underway. An Information Report will be going to the October Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting.
- Durham Farm Fresh will be hosting an upcoming webinar on Ontario by Bike.

A. Brown advised of the following:

- With regards to the abattoir investment opportunity, A. Brown advised that she has met with regional works staff to understand the servicing requirements and will be following up with the investor in mid-September.
- Staff has developed agriculture and local food focused messages for use with a social media calendar for the Township of Scugog.
- With regards to the Oshawa Port Grain Terminal, a discussion was had with Michael Pearce of Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority, who expressed an interest in providing another delegation in early 2021 once they have more grain vessels go through the port and have a large sample size to get feedback from. One current challenge is the lack of on-site storage for grain.
- The Emily Project will be rolling out across the Region over the coming months and will be fully funded by the Region to assist local area municipalities with purchasing and installing green number signs. Staff is working with the development of a communications plan.

B) DAAC Farm Tour – D. Risebrough

Discussion ensued with regards to the final product of the Virtual DAAC Farm Tour.

K. Allore-Engel provided the following comments:

- Approximately 170 registrants have registered to view the Virtual Farm Tour;
- Registrants will be provided with an email link and password on the morning of the Tour;
- After the Tour, there will be a prompt to complete a survey; and
- The number of views will be tracked.

Further discussion ensued with regards to the possibility of sharing the video for educational purposes and the best way for committee members to respond to questions asked about the Virtual Farm Tour.

5. Other Business

There was no other business.

6. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 starting at 7:30 PM.

7. Adjournment

Moved by G. O'Connor, Seconded by F. Puterbough,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 PM.

Z. Cohoon, Chair, Durham
Agricultural Advisory Committee

N. Prasad, Committee Clerk