

**District of Maple Ridge
ECONOMIC ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Economic Advisory Commission, held in the Blaney Room at Maple Ridge Municipal Hall, 11995 Haney Place, Maple Ridge, British Columbia, on **Thursday, May 27, 2007** at 7:30 a.m.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Commissioner Guy Flavelle | Community at Large, Chair |
| Commissioner Al Hogarth | Councillor, District of Maple Ridge |
| Commissioner Ken Galpin | Community at Large |
| Commissioner Racine Barbour | Chamber of Commerce |
| Commissioner Peter Janis | Community at Large, Vice Chair |
| Commissioner Steve Pelton | Community at Large |
| Commissioner Terry Wilding | Tourism Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows |
| Jim Rule | Chief Administrative Officer, District of Maple Ridge |

STAFF PRESENT

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Rick Laferriere | Business Retention & Expansion Officer |
| Pat Shiratti | Administrative Assistant |

REGRETS

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Commissioner Gordon Robson | Mayor, District of Maple Ridge |
| Commissioner Shane James | Home-based Business Representative |
| Commissioner Ernie Daykin | Councillor, District of Maple Ridge |

DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Andrew Wood | Municipal Engineer, District of Maple Ridge |
|-------------|---|

1. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

There being a quorum present, Chair Guy F. called the meeting to order at 7:35 am.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Motion to adopt the April 19, 2007 meeting minutes

MOVED BY Racine B.

SECONDED BY Ken G.

CARRIED

3. AGENDA APPROVAL

Guy F. welcomed the Commissioners and reviewed the Agenda for the meeting.

Motion to approve revised May 17, 2007 Agenda.

MOVED BY: Steve P.

SECONDED BY: Peter J.

CARRIED

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1 BIA Update

Racine B. reported on the activities of the BIA. BIA initiatives include marketing, downtown revitalization, safety and security and beautification.

4.2 *Projects Update*

a) Agricultural Advisory Commission

Steve P. agreed to join the Agricultural Advisory Committee scheduled to begin meeting in September 2007.

b) NAIOP

Al H. recently attended a meeting with the National Association of Industry and Office Property (NAIOP). Al discussed a report published in 2004 regarding downtown office space in the Lower Mainland and the anticipated market, including information on various DCC's, tax incentives, and rent/lease prices within the GVRD.

5. **CURRENT PROJECTS**

5.1 *Website*

Rick L. mentioned that the Economic Development website is about 90% finished and almost ready for testing. An email will go out to EAC members to log on to the site for their input.

5.2 *Communications*

Peter J. discussed a list of items that will serve as topics on economic issues to be reported to through correspondence to Mayor and Council. This activity was identified in the Economic Development Strategy as important to increase public understanding of economic related issues. This initiative will begin in the Fall.

5.3 *Technology Sector Business Case*

Rick L. reviewed components of the draft RFP with respect to developing a technology business case.

6. **DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

6.1 *Transportation and Engineering*

Rick L. welcomed Andrew Wood, Municipal Engineer from the District of Maple Ridge. Andrew did a brief presentation on the District's #1 concern, transportation. Andrew provided an overview of the capital program for local transportation improvements. Major projects mentioned were the Golden Ears Bridge and Pitt River Bridge, the twinning and further expansion of Abernathy, twinning of Highway 7 and various local improvements. Discussion followed regarding timeframes, funding and decision making processes in determining priorities. Andrew was invited to attend future meetings when interested.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE** - n/a

8. **NEXT MEETING** - June 27, 2007 at 7:30 am

9. **ADJOURNMENT** - Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am.

Chairperson