

City of Maple Ridge
AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee, held in the Blaney Room,
at Maple Ridge Municipal Hall on May 23, 2019 at 7:05 pm.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillor Gordy Robson	City of Maple Ridge
Councillor Ryan Svendsen	City of Maple Ridge
Bill Hardy, Chair	Member at Large
Al Kozak, Vice Chair	Agricultural Sector
Andrew Pozsar	Member at Large
Carla Schiller	Agricultural Sector
Ian Brooks	Member at Large
Michelle Franklin	Member at Large
Pascale Shaw	Agricultural Sector
Ryan Murphy	Agricultural Sector

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Amanda Grochowich	Staff Liaison / Planning Department
Amanda Allen	Committee Clerk

ABSENT

Candace Gordon	Haney Farmers Market Society
Chris Zabek	Regional Agrologist, Ministry of Agriculture
Lorraine Bates	Agricultural Fair Board

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

R/2019-021

It was moved and seconded

That the May 23, 2019 Agricultural Advisory Committee agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3. **ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

R/2019-022

It was moved and seconded

That the minutes of the Maple Ridge Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting dated April 25, 2019 be adopted.

CARRIED

4. **DELEGATIONS – Nil**

5. **QUESTION PERIOD**

Mary Robson provided information on the Friends In Need Food Bank perishable food recovery program. Ms. Robson advised that operations in the downtown facility should be completed by 2:00pm daily and discussion is underway with Vancouver Farmers Markets Direct for possible afternoon use of the facility. Ms. Robson answered questions from the committee.

Note: Councillor Robson left the meeting at 7:17 pm and did not return.

6. **NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

6.1. **Farm Stand Directional Signage**

There was discussion on advertising farm food sales and how Booth in a Box could help map farm stands. The Chair and Ryan Murphy will meet with staff to further discuss next steps on communicating AAC support for a farm stand directional signage program.

6.2. **Golden Harvest**

The staff liaison advised that Golden Harvest 2019 has been cancelled and the subcommittee is working to reimagine the program for 2020. Members were invited to join the subcommittee discussions on the new Golden Harvest format.

6.3. **Prioritization of Agricultural Plan Action Items**

The Chair reported Booth in the Box work is underway and results of Metro Vancouver Agriculture Awareness grant application should be forthcoming.

The Chair has identified a resource that could easily be adapted to fit a Maple Ridge Community Garden tool kit.

6.4. **Backyard Chickens**

The staff liaison provided a high level overview of the program direction and advised a report will proceed to Council in June. There was discussion on the setbacks, lot size, and programs and models in other municipalities.

R/2019-023

It was moved and seconded

That the Agricultural Advisory Committee support the proposed direction of the backyard hen program for residential areas in Maple Ridge, ideally incorporating a smaller lot size similar to the City of North Vancouver and City of Surrey.

CARRIED

7. **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

7.1. **Food Garden Contest**

The staff liaison reported several applications have been submitted and that the entry deadline is June 30, 2019. Members were encouraged to spread news of the contest and there was discussion to include community gardens as part of the 2020 Food Garden contest.

8. **CORRESPONDENCE** - Nil

9. **ROUNDTABLE**

Members received verbal reports on local agricultural topics and activities and expressed interest in participating in a Farm Tour.

10. **ADJOURNMENT** – 8:31 pm.

“Original signed by B. Hardy”

Bill Hardy, Chair

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