

**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 September 26, 2019 at 7:02 pm.

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**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
Chris Zabek	Ministry of Agriculture
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
Erin Mark	Committee Clerk

**ABSENT**

Candace Gordon	Haney Farmers Market Society
James Zelinski	Economic Development Committee Rep
Lorraine Bates	Agricultural Fair Board
Shannon Lambie	Agriculture Land Commission

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1. ***CALL TO ORDER***

2. ***APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA***

R/2019-029

It was moved and seconded

**That the September 26, 2019 Agricultural Advisory Committee agenda be approved as circulated.**

CARRIED

3. ***ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES***

R/2019-030

It was moved and seconded

**That the minutes of the Maple Ridge Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting dated June 27, 2019 be amended as follows:**

- the last sentence under item 7.3 should be moved to item 7.2 and adopted as amended.

CARRIED

4. **DELEGATIONS** - Nil
5. **QUESTION PERIOD** - Nil
6. **NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
- 6.1. **2020 Business Plan**

The staff liaison presented the AAC Business Planning 2020-2024 document for discussion.

Pascale Shaw inquired about the Backyard Hens program. The staff liaison confirmed this item was presented to Council on June 18, 2019 and the Council resolution was that no further exploration of keeping backyard hens in Maple Ridge take place at this time.

R/2019-031

**That the Agricultural Advisory Committee direct the staff liaison to amend the 2020 Business Plan to include the following new deliverables:**

1. **Improve awareness and preparedness of Maple Ridge Agriculture with regard to climate change**
2. **Develop recommendations for reductions in taxation to make Maple Ridge more hospitable for farmers**
3. **Develop recommendations for reductions in water metering rates to make Maple Ridge more hospitable for farmers**
4. **Develop recommendations regarding land use and site coverage for agricultural zoned properties**

CARRIED

7. **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

7.1. **Food Garden Contest**

Carla Schiller shared some highlights about the judging of the nominations. Ms. Schiller was pleased with the entries and suggested additional promotions next year to get more people involved. A presentation by the subcommittee will be made to Council in the near future.

7.2 **Education**

Al Kozak provided an update on the Education subcommittee, the subcommittee will be meeting with City Communications & IT staff this fall.

7.3 **Promotion of Agriculture**

The staff liaison confirmed that the Metro Vancouver Agriculture Awareness Grant for the Booth in the Box has been received and they intend to have the Booth ready to use at an upcoming community event.

8. **CORRESPONDENCE** - Nil

9. **ROUNDTABLE**

Members provided verbal reports on local agricultural topics and activities.

10. **ADJOURNMENT** – 8:35 pm.

“original signed by B. Hardy”

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Bill Hardy, Chair

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