

City of Maple Ridge
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Committee, held in the Bridges Boardroom, at Maple Ridge Municipal Hall on Thursday, November 7, 2019 at 5:00 pm.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Dominic Kotarski, Chair	Community at Large
Camilla Brown	Community at Large
Chrislana Gregory	Community at Large
Al Hogarth	Community at Large
Councillor Yousef	City of Maple Ridge

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Darrell Denton Development	Staff Liaison / Acting Director Economic & Civic Property
Bruce Livingstone	Business Retention and Expansion Officer Economic Development & Civic Property
Karen Hansen	Administrative Assistant Economic Development & Civic Property

REGRETS/ABSENTS

Josef Hans-Lara	Community at Large
Tom Meier	Community at Large
Oliver Perez	Community at Large
James Zelinski	Community at Large

1. CALL TO ORDER

There being a quorum present the Chair called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm

2. AGENDA ADOPTION

R19-018

It was moved and seconded

That the Agenda of November 7, 2019 be adopted

CARRIED

3. MINUTE ADOPTION

R19-019

It was moved and seconded

That the Minutes of September 5, 2019 be adopted.

CARRIED

4. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 UPDATE FROM BUSINESS RETENTION AND EXPANSION (BRE) OFFICER

The BRE officer reported that he had attended the Fraser Valley Tech show in Chilliwack and the show had good attendance and was run well. He also reported that, along with the Staff Liaison and Counsellor Yousef, he had attended the BCEDA Minister's dinner.

4.2 Electric Boats for commuting on the Fraser River

Counsellor Yousef described the idea of using electric boats to carry foot passengers from Maple Ridge to New Westminster.

R19-020

It was moved and seconded

That the EDC request that Council direct Economic Development staff to explore the feasibility of using the river as a transportation corridor for commuters, tourists and goods.

CARRIED

5. STAFF LIAISON UPDATE

5.1 Status of Economic Development Committee Membership and council report

The staff liaison explained that the final report to Council with regard to the Advisory Committee review will be sometime in the next few weeks. It is expected that the new policy will be in effect before the end of the year.

5.2 Setting date for holiday dinner

The meeting date of December 5 is confirmed.

6. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 Growth - Justice Institute tour

a) Report on follow-up with Justice Institute

Counsellor Yousef stated that the Justice Institute is ready for the introduction of new classes at their site. The Staff Liaison stated that there is a new sign for the Justice Institute in the works.

b) Staff report on Canadian regulations for specialized technical schools for subjects such as synthetic biology.

The BRE officer explained the process that the universities take to have programs approved.

6.2 Bylaws and how they affect business

a) Locations/zoning reporting on effects on business

- b) Supports for business, fast tracking start ups, from permits, to licenses, to TI work, etc. Our take away - define for end goal

R19-021

It was moved and seconded

That the EDC create a task force to look into possible changes to current policies that will encourage new businesses to start in Maple Ridge .

CARRIED

7. ROUNDTABLE

Nothing to report.

8. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded

That the meeting be adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Chair, Dominic Kotarski

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