



**Brockton Economic Development Committee  
Minutes  
Monday, November 19, 2018  
Brockton Municipal Office - Boardroom  
12:00 p.m.**

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**Voting Members**

Dan Gieruszak – Chairman	Present.
Mayor Inglis – Ex Officio	Absent
Dean Leifso – Councilor	Present.
Susan Wright – Business Owner	Present
President or Manager – Business Improvement Area	Present
Dwayne Kaster – Business Owner	Absent.
Barry Ohms – Business Owner	Absent
Alex Baran – Public Member	Present
Rick Schuler – Business Owner	Absent
Carl Kuhnke – Public Member	Present
Mike Dupuis – Public Member	Present

**Non-voting Members**

Sonya Watson – Chief Administrative Officer	Absent
Paulette Peirol – Community Development Coordinator/Sec.	Present.

**Advisory Members**

Rose Austin – Saugeen Economic Development Corporation	Present
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**Others Present**

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1. Call to Order/Attendance  
Meeting called to order at 12:01 pm.
  
2. Acceptance of the Agenda  
  
Moved by A. Baran, Seconded by M. Dupuis.  
That the Brockton Economic Development Committee accept the November 19, 2018 agenda as presented.  
Carried
  
3. Disclosure of pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof.  
None
  
4. Delegations  
None

5. Passing of Minutes

5.1 Brockton Economic Development Committee Minutes, October 29, 2018

Moved D. Leifso, Seconded by C. Kuhnke

That the minutes of the October 29, 2018 Brockton Economic Development Committee be accepted.

Carried.

6. Business arising from the minutes  
None

7. Business Items

7.1 Information on Cannabis Retail Sales

The committee discussed the pros and cons of opting in to allow cannabis retail sales. D. Gieruszak noted zoning in the business park already permits cannabis production.

Moved by A. Baran, Seconded by M. Dupuis

That the Brockton Economic Development Committee recommends that Brockton Council “opt in” to allow the retail sale of cannabis.

Carried.

2. Walkerton Christmas Light Update

P. Peirol reported that the Christmas Lights for downtown Walkerton have been delayed due to transport issues beyond our control and are being held by Customs in Vancouver. The supplier is paying the additional cost of expediting delivery. The Community Improvement Committee has asked the Brockton EDC to cover cost of installing the lights, approximately \$1,200, when they arrive.

Moved by C. Kuhnke, Seconded by S. Wright:

Providing the Christmas lights can be installed by the weekend of Dec. 8, 2018, the Brockton Economic Development Committee will cover the cost.

Carried.

3. Agri-food BR&E Results – Public Meeting

All committee members are invited to attend a meeting at Klages Mill and Garden in Chesley on Thursday, Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. to hear the results of the three-county agri-food BR&E.

D. Gieruszak said there was good representation from Brockton’s agriculture sector at Bruce County’s GPS strategic planning meeting, and hoped this would be reflected in their final report.

4. Saugeen Connects Investor Bus Tour

P. Peirol noted that information about several farm properties for sale were forwarded to prospective investors that expressed an interest from the tour. She shared some preliminary survey results from the tour and said the Saugeen Connects group is discussing the possibility of a second tour in the spring, matching skilled workers and employers.

R. Austin said there is a lack of services for immigrants once they arrive here, such as English as a second language, newcomer orientation, affordable housing, and transportation, which she feels should be offered by the County.

C. Kuhnke said investor class immigrants, like the ones on the bus tour, already speak English and have minimum of \$500,000 to invest. As entrepreneurs, they would recruit others to work for them, and even possibly house them

Some local employers such as Hi Berry Farms are bringing in immigrant workers on a temporary basis.

D. Gieruszak asked staff to report back about foreign worker programs so Council could make recommendations to the County about putting services in place for newcomers.

C. Kuhnke noted 600 people will be laid off at Tenneco in Owen Sound when the plant closes and asked if there was a way we could reach out to them and encourage them to work in Brockton. A. Baran said we should put together list of jobs available locally.

#### 5. Bruce County Regional Economic Development Meeting

Brockton's GIS staff presented our Development Opportunities map to the group. We are the only municipality besides Saugeen Shores to offer this on our web site. Attendees also learned about current grants and programs available for start-up and existing businesses through federal and provincial governments.

#### 6. Bruce Power Economic Summit

Brockton's CAO, Economic Development Committee chairman and CDC attended the summit, as well as Mayor-elect Chris Peabody. Bruce Power announced a new student bursary program and introduced about 40 of its suppliers. It also offered tours of the facility.

D. Gieruszak had a discussion with VP James Scongack about establishing Bruce Power's innovation centre in Walkerton, noting we have the land and expertise. He advised that they are still intending to find another location in Saugeen Shores but will keep us on the radar.

C Kuhnke said the WCWC would be supportive and able to accommodate Bruce Power's needs.

#### 7. Film Projects

The Community Development Coordinator accompanied a videographer for the Brockton promotional video, taking footage of the Walkerton Clean Water Centre, a local dairy farm, Lobies Park, the Rotary Club Hill, several local stores and cafes, a hockey practice at the arena and fishing.

Another video shoot is planned for the Business to Bruce videos, profiling four local businesses – Kisses, the Old Garage, The Guest House, and LE Studio.

#### 8. Newcomer training/Mentor program

P. Peirol attended a newcomer training session for service providers at the WCWC last week, very informative. Realized need for community mentors and perhaps translation services locally. Making Grey Bruce Home says it is planning to establish a mentorship program soon.

The session was attended by members of VPI, Bruce community services, EDOs and the public school board. The CDC will be attending a newcomer integration workshop at Blue Mountain later this month.

#### 9. Committee Appointments

Appointments will be considered at the December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 Council Meeting and Committee Members will be notified following the meeting.

## 8. Reports

### 8.1 BIA Report – Paul Crylser

Two positions will be open for directors at the coming AGM. The BIA is in support of cannabis legislation and opting in.

### 8.2 CIC Committee Report – Susan Wright

### 8.3 Saugeen Economic Development Corporation – Rose Austin

The advisory committee of 10 municipalities has published its first economic newsletter, which it plans to issue every 6 months. R. Austin noted requests for loans from the SEDC are up this year, particularly in Hanover, West Grey and Brockton. She said that Wellington County has partnered with the SEDC to offer loans for improving businesses in their industrial park, at 5% interest. They cover start-ups, expansions and some maintenance.

## 9. Business Recognitions

### 9.1 Cuneo's, The Guest House, Lee & Lynn's, Rustworthy Home Décor, Bombshell

Cuneo's is celebrating 70 years in business. The other four are new businesses in our downtown. Two more business recognitions to be completed: Foodland (new ownership) and Nature's Millworks. Committee members to be notified of dates.

## 10. Finance/Budget

### 10.1 Monthly statements

There was a question about budgeting for electronic signs for smaller communities like Elmwood, Cargill and Chepstow, similar to the sign in Mildmay. Staff was asked to investigate.

D. Leifso also suggested budgeting for a new business award program and finding out whether this fits in with our BR&E strategy.

## 11. New Business

Thank you to Committee Members – D. Gieruszak

## 12. Adjournment

Moved by S. Wright, Seconded by D. Gieruszak.

That the Economic Development Committee hereby adjourn the November 19, 2018 meeting at 2 pm. Carried.

**Next meeting Monday, December 17, 2018**