



**Brockton Economic Development Committee
Minutes
Monday, April 15, 2019
Pizza Delight, Walkerton
12:00 p.m.**

Voting Members

Dan Gieruszak – Chairman	Present	.
Mayor Chris Peabody – Ex Officio	Absent	.
Dean Leifso – Councillor	Present	
Kym Hutcheson – Councillor	Present	
Randy Saunders – Business Improvement Area	Present	.
Alex Baran – Public Member	Present	.
Carl Kuhnke – Public Member	Present	.
Mike Dupuis – Public Member	Present	.

Non-Voting Members

Sonya Watson – CAO/Clerk	Present	
Paulette Peirol – Community Development Coordinator/Sec.	Present	.

Advisory Members

Rose Austin – Saugeen Economic Development Corporation	Absent	.
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Others Present

1. Call to Order/Attendance

D. Gieruszak called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

2. Acceptance of the Agenda

Moved by C. Kuhnke, Seconded by M. Dupuis

That the agenda for the April 15, 2019 meeting be accepted.

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, March 18, 2019

Moved by D. Kuhnke, Seconded by K. Hutcheson

That the Brockton Economic Development Committee Minutes of March 18, 2019 be approved.

CARRIED.

6. Business arising from the minutes

None

7. Business Items

7.1 Economic Development Committee Terms of Reference

Members discussed the draft terms of reference for the EDC, recommending the following changes:

- Add support for agribusiness development under “Mandate”
- Add outreach to other organizations, municipalities and Bruce County
- Reference economic development strategic plan
- Define procedure when there is no quorum
- Delegations: CDC may approve
- Committee members:
 - o Alex Baran to be designated Industry representative
 - o Mike Dupuis to be designated Agriculture representative
 - o Carl Kuhnke to be designated Institutional representative

Moved by C Kuhnke, Seconded by K Hutcheson

That the Economic Development Committee accepts the Terms of Reference as amended for approval by Council.

CARRIED

7.2 Saugeen Municipal Airport

D. Gieruszak updated the committee about the airport, including its new manager, new restaurant operator, and the involvement of the EDOs of Brockton, Hanover and West Grey in the new strategic plan and marketing.

He said he had met with the CAOs and Mayors of the municipalities to review the draft strategic plan, airport operations and budget.

More details will be presented at the “Community Economic Development 101” forum at the airport on April 25, 2019 from 4-8 pm. All members of the committee are invited to attend.

May 11, 2019 the airport will host “COPA for Councillors.”

The airport is looking into offering business flights to Toronto, as Wiarton is currently doing. Several committee members supported the idea, saying demand exists in the business community (eg: Walkerton Clean Water Centre, weekly trips to Toronto, and R. Saunders goes three to four times a month), and also among recreational hunters and anglers.

7.3 East Ridge Business Park

S. Watson updated the committee about the ERBP. There are two deals set to close soon, on 3.9 acres and 2.4 acres. She is receiving many inquiries and is working with about five interested parties.

Council should be receiving a final environmental regarding ERBP lands assessment soon, which will help determine where roadways can be constructed. A public meeting will follow.

D. Gieruszak said he's received an inquiry about the former Bogden and Gross furniture factory, currently a brownfield site. He also noted that Council has approved a 216-unit housing development.

The committee discussed the need for more affordable housing, including secondary suites in existing homes. The market is tight and average rents are about \$1000 a month. There was also discussion on why the high market prices do not encourage developers to build affordable housing. Committee members are invited to attend a May 1st session on Labour Force Diversification, which may reference the issue of attainable housing for newcomers to the area.

8. Reports

8.1 BIA Report – Randy Saunders

The BIA has hired a new manager, Alishia Oberle, and plans to hire an assistant. They are looking at roles and responsibilities, and the Municipality of Brockton has taken over the accounting aspects. The BIA attended the recent OBIA conference.

The BIA's spring promotion was successful, although more tailored to a female demographic. The committee discussed the Brockton Visitor Centre, run by the BIA, and whether it could be open on Saturdays. S. Watson said the CDC could be a resource regarding tourism.

K. Hutcheson left the meeting at 1:16 pm. D. Leifso left at 1:18 p.m.

8.2 Saugeen Economic Development Corporation Report

R. Austin absent.

8.3 Community Development Coordinator Report

P. Peirol updated the committee about the following matters:

- Attended the Regional Advisory Committee of the Saugeen Economic Development Corp. earlier in April, where a wide variety of topics were covered. D. Geiruszak said it would be good to host a gathering of our college and university students (18 to 25 year olds) while they are home for the summer, through an informal event. He said the "After 5" events hosted in Saugeen Shores might be a good example to follow, and that EDC members might consider attending one.

- Saugeen Student Start-up Program: We are on track to raising \$1500 to support local students. The Rotary Club of Walkerton has donated \$900 and McIntee Brokerage \$300.

- Succession Matching program re-launched through Saugeen Connects. For the Health of It in Walkerton cited as a great example of succession planning.

- Brockton will be hosting the next Bruce County regional economic development meeting, at the Walkerton Clean Water Centre

- We have applied for numerous Spruce the Bruce grants and should be hearing back soon about the results.

- Brockton Council voted to provide assistance to Cargill's Greenock Swamp projects and Visitor Centre for 2019. We have also applied for a Spruce the Bruce grant to launch "Margaret's Mercantile," a pop-up store featuring local artisans in Cargill.

9. Business Recognitions

- 9.1 EDC members congratulated Pizza Delight on its 40 years of business in Walkerton, and presented its owner with a recognition plaque.
- 9.2 Auditory Health is celebrating 20 years in business on Friday, May 31st and has invited us to attend.

10. Finance/Budget

S. Watson said the Municipality is working on 5 current and past subdivision projects. The budget is on track.

11. New Business

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned after the business recognition presentation at 2:00 p.m.

Next meeting Monday, May 13, 2019