



**Brockton Economic Development Committee
Minutes
Monday, October 21, 2019
Brockton Municipal Office, Walkerton
12 pm**

Voting Members

Dan Gieruszak – Chairman	Present.
Mayor Chris Peabody – Ex Officio	Absent.
Dean Leifso – Councillor	Present
Kym Hutcheon – Councillor	Present
Randy Saunders/Alishia Oberle – Business Improvement Area	Present
Alex Baran – Industry Representative	Present
Carl Kuhnke – Institutional Representative	Present
Mike Dupuis – Agriculture Representative	Present

Non-Voting Members

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

Advisory Members

Rose Austin – Saugeen Economic Development Corporation	Present
Tina Cassidy – VPI Working Solutions	Absent

Others Present

1. Call to Order/Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 12 noon.

2. Acceptance of the Agenda

Moved by D. Leifso, Seconded by A. Baran

That the Brockton Economic Development Committee meeting agenda for October 21, 2019 be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

3. Disclosure of pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof.

C. Kuhnke is now a member of the South Bruce-Grey hospital board of directors.

4. Delegations

None

5. Passing of Minutes

5.1 Brockton Economic Development Committee Minutes, Sept. 16, 2019

Moved by C. Kuhnke, Seconded by R. Saunders

That the Brockton Economic Development Committee Minutes of Sept. 16, 2019 be accepted as amended.

CARRIED

6. Business arising from the minutes

Brockton Council approved entering into a non-disclosure agreement with a private company interested in developing land in the East Ridge Business Park.

7. Business Items

7.1 EDC Meetings & Lunch

Committee members were in favour of keeping the 12 noon EDC meeting time to accommodate members, and agreed to raise their contribution for lunch to \$15 per person to cover costs.

7.2 Mayor's Breakfast

The third Mayor's Breakfast of the year will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 19 at the Best Western Walkerton, starting at 8 a.m. Tickets are \$20 and available at the Brockton Municipal Office.

EDC members said they would be interested in the following topics being addressed at the forum:

- Housing developments
- An update on the municipal roads study
- Regulations pertaining to the creation of apartment units above stores and granny suites and whether Brockton can offer incentives or grants. S. Watson noted an updated CIP could address this. R. Austin said SEDC has partnered with CMHC and Minto, Grey Highlands and Southgate to assist in this. D. Gieruszak said we should investigate support for building upgrades and apartment renovations by councils in Clifford and Harriston.
- Hanover's new private school and implications for Brockton
- Year-end review
- Oversight of the hospice in Walkerton

All EDC members are invited to attend the breakfast.

7.3 Walkerton 2020 Update

P. Peirol will report to Council regarding the creation of a communications strategy and Walkerton 2020 subcommittee to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the e-coli water crisis in Walkerton. C.

7.4 Assisted Housing Update

EDC members discussed the need for attainable housing in the area, as identified by local employers, including Bruce Power. Bruce County is completing its long-term housing strategy.

R. Austin said there is a need for homes under \$300,000 new.

Community land trusts may be one option, where the municipality retains ownership of the land to be developed. SEDC is pursuing this with a consultant in Arthur. R. Austin offered to bring a land trust lawyer and potential investor and consultant to meet with us in the new year.

Action: Make arrangements with R. Austin to schedule a land trust presentation for the committee in early 2020.

7.5 Cargill/Greenock Swamp Update

Brockton Council has approved a grant application to the Ontario Trillium Fund for a co-ordinator to oversee the Cargill tourism operations, growing them in such a way that they become self-sustaining. This person will report to the Municipality. If successful, the funding will cover 100% of the costs of the program, with the Municipality paying only the consulting fee to the grant writer, Fairtax.

D. Gieruszak said the timing is important as continued funding and staffing for this program through the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority is uncertain. K. Hutcheon said an educational component regarding agricultural life in rural Brockton could be added.

There was a brief discussion regarding the Agri-Tourism Workshop that got moved from Walkerton to Owen Sound due to low registration here. M. Dupuis said the timing of the workshop was poor, the same day as the start of our agricultural fair. A better time might be during Grey-Bruce Farmer's Week.

Action: P. Peirol will ask the organizers of the Agri-tourism workshop if a similar event could be held here during Farmer's Week, or early spring.

8. Reports

8.1 BIA Report –Alishia Oberle

- Thanksgiving and Halloween events went very well. Over 40 businesses participated in “trick or treat Walkerton.”
- Remembrance Day campaign under way.
- AGM scheduled for December 4, 2019
- Santa Claus Parade Nov. 30
- Digital Main Street launched. R. Saunders noted the program is free and open to all businesses. He asked if the Digital Main St. Coordinator, Laura Girdler, could give a brief presentation at the Mayor's Breakfast to help spread the word.

8.2 Community Development Coordinator Report – Paulette Peirol

- Saugeen Connects Award: R. Austin will present an update to Council on Oct. 29th.
- New video project launched with S.C. members to attract new Canadians to live and work in the region. Price Schonstrum Inc. to be featured.
- Working with a local manufacturer to attract an employment prospect from Mexico. Providing tour of Walkerton, housing options, information package, local assistance. EDC Chair D. Gieruszak also involved.
- P. Peirol presented to the Walkerton Rotary Club regarding the Saugeen Student Start-up Program, bringing a participant with her.
- Events and Workshops:

- Ag 4.0 event in Hanover Nov. 1
- Bruce Power supplier day Oct. 25 in Kincardine
- Workforce development conference in Stratford
- Business Retention & Development:
 - Met with manager of Applus, which specializes in non-destructive testing in the power industry, including wind and nuclear. Municipality supporting their grand opening.
 - Met with Best Western Walkerton's new owner and GM, Andrew McIntoch. Arranging tour and meeting for EDC in January.
 - Met with new editor of Walkerton Herald-Times, Mike Wilson

8.3 Saugeen Economic Development Corporation Report – Rose Austin

- SEDC, along with six other Community Futures offices, received an innovation award from CF Ontario for the community paramedic remote patient monitoring program.
- Open invitation to attend the SEDC AGM. Free breakfast!
- Hawks Nest has started again, and municipalities are being asked to come on board as partners. Brockton has been a sponsor since its inception. Trish Walton, the coordinator, will be in touch with us regarding partnership opportunities. The program costs about \$40,000 to run.
- Working with Warden's caucus to bring funding to rural areas for economic development. Much will depend on the federal election results.

9. Business Recognitions

- Hometown Tire & Service – New Business
- D&D Farm Supply & Filter – New Business
- Samava Yoga – New Business (recognized by EDC Oct. 16, 2019)
- Walkerton Water & Wellness -10th anniversary (set date)
- Sunnyside Grill – Tentative opening date Oct. 28th (subject to change)
- Serendipity Eatery – Opened today!

10. Finance/Budget

10.1 2020 Budget & Economic Development Priorities

S. Watson said the Municipality would like to develop an action plan for economic development, possibly using provincial funds earmarked for creating efficiencies.

Moved by M. Dupuis, Seconded by A. Baran

That the Brockton Economic Development Committee supports the creation of an economic development action plan in 2020 with a four to five year focus.

CARRIED

11. New Business

M. Dupuis updated the group on the Little Royal Fair, which was a success with great weather, good attendance at the Field to Fork event, and enjoyment of the midway. Parking, however, was a challenge with the new playground structure. In future, bussing from Lobies Park might be considered.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:47 pm

Next meeting: Monday, November 18, 2019 at Maple Court Villa at 12:15 pm
We will tour the facility prior to meeting and lunch