

July 2, 2015
Township of Strong Municipal Office

Present: Sundridge – Don Richardson
Strong – Les Blackwell
South River – Sharon Smith
Machar – Lynda Carleton
Joly –
Business Reps – Luke Preston, Jennifer Farquhar
Community Resource Rep –
MNDM – Carole Mantha
FedNor – Ron Begin

Absent: Gary McLaren, Merlyn Snow, Chris Nicholson

Guests:

Staff Present: Kim Dunnett – Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Chair Les Blackwell.

Delegations:

Dave Gray, Burk's Falls Armour Ryerson EDO: Economic Development

Dave Gray presented a power point presentation on the key points on the importance of an Economic Development Officer and the role they play in assisting Municipalities to achieve their goals. Dave spoke about the different types of plans/studies that help give direction for Economic Development and the importance of keeping them updated. Partnerships play a key role in the economic growth for the region. He explained how social media has an impact and can be a powerful force for communication. Dave emphasized that goals need to be planned for long term in order to achieve sustainability for the future. Dave thanked everyone for time and is willing to assist and support a new EDO when hired.

General Discussion:

MNDM Update: Carole Mantha shared her recent meetings with businesses in the area. Carole updated everyone on the BR&E project stating a task force group of various individuals has been formed.

FedNor Update: Ron Begin updated everyone on the Canada 150 program application process and benefits to the Municipalities. There was a group discussion on ideas for the Canada 150 Program.

Business Rep Report: Jennifer Farquhar asked the group what they thought of the new Almaguin Highlands Community Guide & Directory. Everyone had a chance to view the 2015 guide and was very pleased with the finished product.

Correspondence:

Griffins Events Co.: Collaboration Nation North-Everyone put forward ideas and Don Richardson has agreed to meet with the secretary to submit an idea.

Adoption of Minutes:

Resolution: 2015-33

Moved by: Don Richardson

Seconded by: Lynda Carleton

Be it resolved that this committee does hereby adopt the minutes of regular meeting of June 15, 2015, as circulated.

Carried

Approve CAEDA Expenses:

Resolution: 2015-34

Moved by: Sharon Smith

Seconded by: Don Richardson

Be it resolved that this committee does hereby approve expenses between June 16, 2015 and July 2, 2015 in the amount of \$25,569.54 and authorize the administrator to issue cheques for the same.

Carried

New Business:

Strategic Planning Session date was discussed and everyone agreed to hold it at the next regular meeting date. Secretary will contact Rick Evans to confirm a date for the planning session.

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 6, 2015

Adjournment:

Resolution: 2015-35

Moved by: Don Richardson

Seconded by: Sharon Smith

Be it resolved that this committee does hereby adjourn at 18:30 until the next regular meeting August 6, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. at the Strong Township Municipal Office, or at the call of the Chair.

Carried

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Chair, Les Blackwell

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Recording Secretary, Kim Dunnett