

November 5, 2015
Township of Strong Municipal Office

Present: Sundridge –
Strong – Les Blackwell
South River – Sharon Smith
Machar – Lynda Carleton
Joly – Chris Nicholson
Business Reps – Luke Preston, Gary McLaren
Community Resource Rep –
MNMD – Carole Mantha
FedNor – Ron Begin

Absent: Jennifer Farquhar, Don Richardson, Merlyn Snow

Guests: Megan Goulais

Delegates: None

Staff Present: Kim Dunnett – Recording Secretary
John Santarossa – Interim EDO

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chair Les Blackwell.

Resolution 2015-47

Moved by: Sharon Smith

Seconded by: Chris Nicholson

Be it resolved that this committee does hereby amend the November 5, 2015 agenda to include Parry Sound Housing Project as a discussion item.

Carried

General Discussion:

MNMD Update: Carole Mantha spoke about the RED application. Carole suggested combining various items into one application (i.e. Celebrate Almaguin, FAB16, AH Community Guide). There is no limit on funding for the RED Program, it is a 50/50 split funding opportunity. Deadline for the application that would be relevant to the various projects would be January 15, 2016.

FedNor Update: Ron Begin updated the group on the newly elected party and how it effects economic development. Ron is hopeful the CIINO application being approved.

Business Rep Report: Luke Preston reported on behalf of the business reps and let the members know that Jennifer Farquhar and he are now directors on the Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce. Luke spoke about future plans for the chamber and that a strategic plan was forthcoming. All signs and material have now been updated to reflect the name change to Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce. Within the next month the Chamber will elect a new president, secretary and treasurer. Carole Mantha spoke to the business reps about the Chamber taking the lead on the RED application, Luke will take it back to the directors and update the committee. Ron Begin suggested the Chamber arranging for office space and physical address in order to apply for an intern, they would be very useful in managing and organizing the work load. The importance of hiring an intern was discussed and the Chamber will investigate office space that was suggested. Luke reported the FAB15 financial statement is being worked on and will be forthcoming as soon as possible. The secretary did remind everyone that it is required for CAEDA's auditors before December 31, 2015.

EDO Report: John Santarossa gave an update on the BR&E Project. John shared a list of prime businesses and asked for everyone to give input on additions or deletions if required. John spoke about the upcoming BR&E volunteer training dates and times and shared the number of volunteers recruited to date. Carole thanked everyone for attending and supporting the BR&E launches. John gave a breakdown timeline for the future of the BR&E Project.

RED Program: The RED Program discussion was covered earlier in the meeting.

Government-regulated Marijuana Production Facilities: John Santarossa shared with the members about his involvement in facilitating these kind of facilities. There can be a lot of controversy around these facilities being built in certain areas, but some municipalities are welcoming to the idea. The Chair suggested that each CAEDA representative take back this item to their individual Councils and bring back to the next meeting their opinions on allowing these facilities in their municipalities.

Update on Canadore College: Voucher for eBusiness: No update at this time, Chair will give an update at the December meeting.

Voting Rights for Business Reps: A discussion on why business reps would or should have a vote on CAEDA business. Luke Preston expressed he feels it was the right time for this to happen. Concerns were brought forward about membership fees and financial obligations. The secretary was directed to draft a new Terms of Reference with the business reps having one vote, but not on financial items. A draft will be circulated before the next meeting for review.

2016 Budget Sub-committee: A budget sub-committee was struck and the following will sit on the committee to work with CAEDA Administrators;

- Chris Nicholson
- Don Richardson

A date and time for the 2016 budget meeting will be setup and communicated by the secretary at a later time.

Strategic Planning Session Date & Time: The committee felt separate meetings for the strategic planning sessions were best, as time can be devoted strictly to this task. The date of December 1, 2015 at 4:30 pm was set and the secretary will set up this with the facilitators; Rick Evans and Dave Gray.

FAB15 Financial Report/Statement: The secretary reported that Chamber President communicated that the financial statement is forthcoming and will be submitted to CAEDA for the next regular meeting in December.

Parry Sound Housing Project: John Santarossa gave a brief update on the meeting he attended on November 2, 2015 regarding National Housing Day as presented by DSSAB and CMHC. John asked if any municipalities have sites/land available or know private developers interested. If so they should contact Parry Sound DSSAB as they will be managing these projects.

Correspondence:

SOS Media – Social Media Management & Training: Committee members reviewed the correspondence and at this time training is not required, but will be kept on file for future reference.

Adoption of Minutes:

Resolution: 2015-48

Moved by: Sharon Smith

Seconded by: Chris Nicholson

Be it resolved that this committee does hereby adopt the minutes of regular meeting of October 1, 2015, as circulated.

Carried

Approve CAEDA Expenses:

Resolution: 2015-49

Moved by: Sharon Smith

Seconded by: Lynda Carleton

Be it resolved that this committee does hereby approve expenses between October 2, 2015 and November 5, 2015 in the amount of \$1,024.49 and authorize the administrator to issue cheques for the same.

Carried

New Business: None

Next Meeting: Thursday, December 3, 2015

Adjournment:

Resolution: 2015-50

Moved by: Sharon Smith

Seconded by: Chris Nicholson

Be it resolved that this committee does hereby adjourn at 6:32 pm until the next regular meeting December 3, 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