

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SABLES-SPANISH RIVERS
Economic Development & Community Services Committee Meeting Minutes

REGULAR MEETING

JULY 18, 2023

PRESENT: **CHAIR (S):** Edie FAIRBURN
 MEMBERS: Merri-Ann HOBBS; Robert MARTEL; Harold CRABS
 ABSENT: Cathy HICKEY; John MOONEY; Rodney JUNKALA; Thoma CRABS
 STAFF: Amanda ST. MICHEL; Lori JOHNSTON

**** A quorum was not present at this meeting- therefore these minutes are for information only****

Opening

The regular meeting of the Economic Development and Community Services Committee was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on July 18th, 2023, by Edie Fairburn.

Economic Development

A REGIONAL EDO INITIATIVES

- No update.

B GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- Rural Economic Development (RED) Grant- the agreement for the Veteran's Cultural Heritage Banners project has been issued by Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) and signed by the Clerk-Administrator. Once approved on OMAFRA's end, the grant funding will be received. The Parks & Recreation Coordinator will be taking over this initiative.

C TSSR BUSINESS COMMUNITY UPDATES/OPPORTUNITIES

- No updates.

D DONATIONS/COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIPS

- Massey Fair Sponsorship- in 2022 the committee participated in the Massey Fair as a platinum sponsor. Discussion of sponsoring the fair again was discussed, as well as having a Township booth on one of the fair dates to promote municipal initiatives. The Parks & Recreation Coordinator will contact the Agricultural Society regarding the sponsorship and booth space.

E TSSR STRATEGIC PLAN

- The Deputy Clerk gave an overview of the established timeframe, and that the committee is still on track however will adjust the schedule to allow for additional time to create/finalize the public survey and information session questions.
- The committee finalized the vision and mission statement for the Strategic Plan.
- The committee reviewed the senior staff review of the 2018-2021 Strategic Plan and the Council "Interview": Question responses. Five general themes have been identified and the Deputy Clerk will compile a report, noting what has been accomplished as discussed by senior staff and what the intentions of Council are regarding the Strategic Plan. This report will be made available for the public to review. This report will complete stage 1 and 2 of the strategic planning process.

Community Services

F COMMUNITY AESTHETICS

- 2024 Flower Tender- the committee recommends that the tender be put out ASAP to allow for enough time for the successful tender to order seeds. The tender will include: 2 extra large planters (Township Office), 2 large barrels (Webbwood Library) and 10 barrels that are distributed to local businesses. The Deputy Clerk noted that some of the barrels will need to be replaced and this should be accounted for in the 2024 budget.

- Other Discussion:
 - Banners-Discussion regarding the purchasing of additional banners to support local initiatives/events happening in the community (Fair, Marathon, etc.). The committee also discussed the possibility of a banner program that local businesses could participate in through sponsorships to assist in cost recovery. The Deputy Clerk noted that MTO should be consulted to see what is allowed on a banner along Highway 17 regarding advertising.
 - Christmas Lights- discussion regarding the Christmas lights that are hung on poles along Highway 17. The Deputy Clerk noted that funds have been allocated in the 2023 capital budget to purchase new lights.
 - Webbwood Cenotaph- the committee would like to explore moving the cenotaph to the Webbwood playground to allow for a more peaceful experience. The committee would like to approach the Legion for their opinion/support of the location change. The Deputy Clerk/Parks & Recreation Coordinator will consult the Clerk-Administrator on this matter.

G AGE-FRIENDLY PROGRAMING

- No update.

H MUNICIPAL EVENTS/INITIATIVES

- MyCatch Fishing Tournament-the Deputy Clerk provided an update on the following:
 - Registrations as of July 18th- 6 anglers.
 - The Deputy Clerk and volunteer Alan Schwartz have been distributing donation letters and posters within TSSR and surrounding areas. Prize donations received as of July 18th include Espanola Home Hardware swag, Cortina Restaurant and Jean Country gift cards, Algoma Chrysler has given 2 free oil changes, and the Massey Wholesale provided a \$150 cash donation. Prizes will be uploaded to the tournament site ASAP, and continuously updated as more donations are received.
 - Advertising- the event will be submitted to the Moose FM community page, posters are continuously being put up, social media posting, and a tournament information page has been added to the Township website.
 - The administration of the tournament will remain within the municipal office, advertising will be a joint effort between the Economic Development and Parks & Recreation Departments.

I COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- No update.

Other Business

J BUDGET

- No update.

K Economic Development Corporation Discussion

- Councillor Crabs asked for an update regarding research on a possible Economic Development Corporation, the Deputy Clerk noted that the municipalities she has spoken to all use the committee system now. A meeting with the Elliot Lake & North Shore Corporation for Business Development (ELNOS) is to be set up to further discuss the possibility of an economic development corporation as an extension of the municipality.
- Discussion regarding seniors housing, increasing social supports and volunteer opportunities within the Township. The Deputy Clerk noted that the Massey Medical Clinic is working on various health and wellness initiatives. It was also noted that members on the committee will be

valuable resources in pursuing private developers and funding for potential projects in the future.

Recommendations to Council

- None.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. The next meeting will be held on August 15th, 2023, in Council Chambers, at 6:30pm or at the call of the chair.