
TOWN OF SIDNEY
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
Monday, May 6, 2019
Council Chambers
6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair: Councillor C. Rintoul
Mayor C. McNeil-Smith & Councillors: S. Duncan, B. Fallot S. Garnett, T. O’Keeffe
and P. Wainwright

Staff: R. Humble, Chief Administrative Officer
A. Hicik, Director of Corporate Services
A. Verhagen, Senior Manager of Current Planning
C. Newcomb, Senior Manager of Long Range Planning
S. Nelson, Corporate Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Acting Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Councillor B. Fallot, seconded by Councillor S. Garnett, that the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. PRESENTATIONS

a. 2018 ArtSea Annual Report

Diane Thorpe, President, ArtSea Community Arts Council, thanked Council for funding approval this year and was pleased to present ArtSea’s Annual Report for 2018.

Members of the Committee had questions and the following comments were made:

- impressed with wide range of programs that benefit both artists and the general public
- impressed with youth engagement, i.e. Parkland School exhibit
- encourage continued outreach to the First Nations community
- appreciate some programs are not generating revenue, but are important to the artists and the public
- impressed with diversity in grant funding (\$7,000)
- support additional scholarship opportunities

4. ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

a. Select Committee to Review the EDC

Mayor C. McNeil-Smith clarified the proposal would include an initial workshop with Council and staff and then follow up with an engagement opportunity with the various stakeholders.

Committee members had discussion and the following comments were made:

- need to determine what economic vibrancy is for Sidney and what the Town’s role is, including types of resources and funding
- consultant to meet with former members of EDC and stakeholders prior to workshop to obtain necessary background information
- important to develop Terms of Reference and reconvene EDC as soon as possible
- need to establish priorities and initiatives for the remainder of the year
- not need Terms of Reference to be too prescriptive

- funding already established through Town's economic development fund
- EDC to report regularly to Council and provide recommendations
- not in favour of hiring consultant, as too costly
- Council needs to make a decision, as stakeholders have been waiting too long

Moved by Mayor C. McNeil-Smith, seconded by Councillor P. Wainwright, that the Committee recommend to Council that monies be allocated from the 2019 Economic Development Fund for the purpose of engaging a consultant to conduct a workshop initially with Council and Senior Staff to clarify economic vibrancy and the Town's role and resources for economic vibrancy in Sidney, and do so prior to the overall Strategic Plan review in the fall of 2019.

OPPOSED: Councillors: S. Duncan, B. Fallot, S. Garnett & T. O'Keeffe
MOTION DEFEATED 4:3

Moved by Councillor P. Wainwright, seconded by Councillor B. Fallot, that the Committee recommend to Council that Council schedule an afternoon meeting to continue discussion regarding terms of reference for an Economic Development Committee.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. PARKS & INFRASTRUCTURE
6. PROTECTIVE SERVICES

7. DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING

a. Displacement of Tenants

It was noted that the Town does have some discretionary authority through Rezoning and OCP amendment application to compel property owners to assist with the displacement of tenants, and that some municipalities have established tenant assistance policies.

It was also noted that local governments are limited to providing tax relief to property owners, however opportunities are available to through a revitalization bylaw, and that assistance for tenants could be provided through use of the Town's housing amenity fund.

Moved by Councillor S. Garnett, seconded by Councillor B. Fallot, that the Committee recommend to Council:

1. *That staff bring forward a Tenant Assistance Policy for Council consideration;*
2. *That when purpose-built rental buildings are redeveloped in the future, staff continue to raise the issue of tenant displacement with the property owner/developer and advocate on the tenants' behalf; and*
3. *That the issue of tenant displacement be included in the discussion of housing policy as part of the development of the new Official Community Plan.*

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. OTHER BUSINESS

9. NEW BUSINESS

10. MOTION TO GO "IN-CAMERA" (closed meeting) - Not required.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor S. Garnett, seconded by Councillor B. Fallot, that the meeting be adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY