



Town of Sidney - Economic Advisory Committee
MINUTES
Friday, November 22, 2019 – 10:30 am
Arbutus Room, Sidney Town Hall

Present: Councillor Chad Rintoul, David Calveley, Barbara Cina, Alyssa Gerwing, Stasia Hartley, Natalie King, Deanna Mathewson, Jennifer Michell, Denny Warner (arrived at 11:08 am)

Regrets: Annilee Armstrong, Frank Austin, Rob Hunchak, Doug Walker

Staff: Randy Humble (CAO), Paula Kully (Recording Clerk)

Meeting called to order by Chair, Councillor Chad Rintoul at 10:29 am

1. Review and approval of the Agenda

Moved by N. King, seconded by D. Calveley that the Agenda be approved with the following edit: item #2 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair be moved to later in the meeting after Denny Warner arrives.

CARRIED

2. Review and approval of the October 31, 2019 Minutes

Moved by D. Calveley, seconded by B. Cina, that the Minutes of the October 31, 2019 Minutes be approved with the following edit: Shaw Ocean Discovery Centre is changed to Shaw Centre for the Salish Sea.

CARRIED

3. Review of list of recommendations and actions of the former EDC

- D. Calveley passed around documents from the 2017/2018 EDC. Paula will include the documents as an attachment to the minutes.
- Discussion:
 - o The EAC is an advisory committee, which is a different model than the former EDC, which was a working group.
 - o For the next three meetings, it would be advantageous for the EAC to have presentations from the BIA, Chamber and Airport regarding their work. Paula will arrange this.
 - o The Committee should identify exactly what economic vitality is in Sidney, at a later meeting when the group is more familiar with various activities.

4. Round table – Update of sector events & initiatives:

- The Chair suggested that through monthly roundtable discussions, the EAC may find common themes and ideas to bring forward to Council as recommendations and budget considerations.

- The EAC members provided an overview of new initiatives in their sector, events, and challenges. Common themes include:
 - o Transportation challenges: bus service is challenging for employees who work in Sidney but cannot afford to live here. There is a lack of taxi service and ridesharing. Public transit and taxi service to the airport are not adequate.
 - o Affordable housing is an ongoing issue.
 - o Public washroom during major events and the tourism season between May and September.
 - o Parking. The BIA, Chamber and Town will work on promoting the new employee/public parking lot at the Winspear Centre as this is a great asset that provides free all-day parking.
 - o Accessibility was discussed and although there is room for improvement, overall, Sidney is well equipped. For example, parking lots have dedicated spaces for seniors.

5. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

The Chair called for nominations for Chair:

- *D. Calveley nominated Doug Walker (as Doug Walker was not present, his nomination did not stand).*
- *S. Hartley nominated Natalie King.*
- *The Chair called the nomination a second and third time. No further nominations were made.*

Natalie King acclaimed as Chair

The Chair called for nominations for Vice-Chair:

- *S. Harley nominated David Calveley.*
- *The Chair called the nomination a second, third, and final time. No further nominations were made.*

David Calveley acclaimed as Vice Chair

6. Adjournment

Councillor Rintoul requested that members consider possible recommendations to bring forward to Council at the next meeting on January 10, 2020

Meeting adjourned at 11:51 am