

**PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 3, 2017 - 7:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

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**Present:** Councillor Heather Kelly, Chair  
Councillor Susan MacLeod  
Councillor Raymond Fiske  
Don Kimball  
Julie Petrella  
Mary White  
Paul Connolly  
Robert Ross  
Mike MacLeod, Planner

**Regrets:** Anne Conrad

**1. CALL TO ORDER -**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mike MacLeod advised that Melanie Newell has advised that she will no longer be able to represent District 3 on the PAC. Mike noted that he would be seeking a new representative for this District.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA –**

It was **MOVED** by **Julie Petrella** and **SECONDED** by **Mary White** that the Agenda be approved as circulated.

**Motion Carried Unanimously.**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - February 6, 2017**

It was **MOVED** by **Raymond Fiske** and **SECONDED** by **Susan MacLeod** that the Minutes of February 6, 2017 be approved as circulated.

**Motion Carried Unanimously.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM LAST MINUTES**

N/A

## 5. MUNICIPAL PLANNING STRATEGY AND LAND USE BYLAW REVIEW

The Committee continued its review of the Municipal Planning Strategy, starting with Industrial Development. Mike MacLeod noted that there were three designations / zones established around industrial development; Light Industrial, Heavy Industrial and Fishing and Marine. These zones address a variety of industrial uses, from natural resource based operations to large-scale manufacturing / processing operations.

Julie Petrella enquired as to the statistics around the number of farms in Queens County. Mike MacLeod noted that the numbers indicated in the MPS were from 2006 and that the document review would look to incorporate data from the 2016 Census.

Susan MacLeod enquired as to how lands at Port Mersey (former Bowater Mill) were classified. Mike advised that the former Bowater Mill lands were classified as Heavy Industrial (M2) and allowed for a variety of small and large scale operations. Mike noted that the properties were owned by the province and somewhat limits the Municipality's ability to regulate the lands.

Robert Ross commented on the terminology used for section headings in the MPS, noting that perhaps we can look at renaming to more accurately reflect what we are trying to achieve through the planning documents.

Paul Connolly commented on regulations around the forestry industry. He felt that more needs to be done around regulating cutting practices, ie. clear cutting and buffer areas. Mike MacLeod noted that the Municipality has little control over these resource operations. The harvesting of this resource falls under the jurisdiction of the provincial government. Paul felt that more could be done to encourage consultation between industry and the community.

Raymond Fiske advised that Council recently had a very informative presentation from representatives of WestFor Management Inc. respecting forest management on western provincial crown lands. Based on the information presented, Raymond felt that the industry was fairly well regulated, more so than he had originally thought. Heather Kelly also felt that the presentation was informative, giving her a better understanding of the process. Heather suggested sending out a copy of the presentation to Committee. Mike MacLeod noted that he would get a copy and send out.

Robert Ross noted that the section on Natural Environment needs to be revised and expanded. More work needs to be done in identifying environmentally sensitive areas. These areas are valuable to the community and need to be protected. He also suggested incorporation of more stringent policy around development and the impacts of climate change.

Julie Petrella enquired as to the accuracy of the mapping for environmentally sensitive areas. Mike MacLeod advised that the information used in the existing maps was based off provincial data, and we could not guarantee the accuracy. Original intent was to base zoning boundaries on this information, but because we could not guarantee the accuracy, we use as a reference and direct developers to the appropriate provincial department for verification of environmental sensitivity.

Robert Ross felt that it was very important for council to have good policy around environmentally sensitive lands. Foreshore properties, for example, are an extremely important asset to the Municipality and need to be protected.

Robert Ross noted that heritage properties and sites within Queens are extremely important and such a huge asset to the community. Like environmentally sensitive areas, these also need to be protected. Historic properties, identified archaeological sites and other areas of historic significance ought to be mapped and protected from the impacts of development.

Mary White concurred, noting that the natural environment sites of historic significance are such a huge asset to the area that they need to be protected and actually could be promoted as an attraction to our area.

Don Kimball advised that the Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute has done a lot of work on identifying environmentally sensitive areas and would be a good resource to utilize during the review process.

Robert Ross noted that the section on Transportation needs to place more emphasis on "active transportation" and how we can improve this important segment within our communities. He suggested things as simple as mapping trails and sidewalks to preparation of a formal active transportation plan.

**6. OTHER**

N / A

**7. NEXT MEETING -**

The next meeting is scheduled for May 1, 2017.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

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Date