



MEETING NOTES
Agricultural Advisory Committee
May 28, 2008
7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
L.E.Shore Memorial Library

Committee Members Present: James McKinlay, Sid Dykstra, Grant McMurchy, Jacquie Hendry, Jeff Wilson, Brad Oakley, Ross Arthur, John Ardiel, Ryan Hayhurst, Chris Knott

TOTBM Staff: Cindy Welsh and Peter Tollefsen

1. **Chair and Vice-Chair**

- Discussion on whether or not a Chair / Vice Chair was necessary; agreed it was
- Perhaps rotate the Chair;
- Decision to be made at the end of the meeting.

2. **Business from April 23/08 meeting:**

- Regarding the meeting notes, clarification given to some of the wind turbine statements. It was suggested that the individual initials be struck from the meeting notes.
- i) Is there insurance coverage for the Committee? Yes, under municipal liability coverage
- ii) Growing the Greenbelt – PT gave information as requested pertaining to the Greenbelt Act and how it affects our area. The Greenbelt Plan comes in the form of the existing Niagara Escarpment Plan. The recent sessions held by the Province were related to requests they have received from some municipalities about expanding the Greenbelt and the criteria that the Province would use to evaluate such an application.
- iii) Drinking Water Source Management – PT reported as requested on the Terms of Reference on the Source Water Protection Commission and in particular, the one for Saugeen, Grey Sauble, North Bruce Peninsula which affects our area. Concern from the Committee as to how it will affect them; response was that it could be development setbacks from main wells.
 - concern was expressed regarding areas shown on mapping as having watercourses that barely have water flowing at any time of the year; perhaps this was the case years ago but not any more.

3. **Initiatives Requiring Committee Feedback**

- i) Staff presentation on Minimum Distance building Separation (MDS) requirements. New formula for building location. Existing lots of record are being looked at for inclusion in the required calculations;
 - From the Committee, they didn't feel that we should wait on Grey County;
 - Setbacks from orchards? not part of MDS, only setbacks from proposed new development and existing livestock facilities and/or permanent manure storages.

- ii) Cultural Heritage Landscape Assessment
 - Town has hired a consultant;
 - Invitation to attend a Workshop; JH & RH will try to attend;
 - Questioned why a Study is being done; it is to define where commercial/industrial windfarms could go with the least impact.

- iii) County of Grey Official Plan Review
 - Handout of excerpts of the proposed County Official Plan changes;
 - * Request comments from Committee members;
 - Part of the five year review;
 - PT walked the Committee through some of the sections affecting the rural area and asked for comments.

- iv) Zoning By-law Review – discussion papers
 - The Committee was interested in discussion papers #10 Specialty Croplands, #13 Animal husbandry/Agriculture, #9 Landscape/Buffers and # 8 Outdoor Recreation. * When they are ready staff will forward to the Committee.

4. **Other Business:**

- i) Grey Bruce Beef – a pamphlet was handed out regarding Grey Bruce Beef by All County Feed and Grain Ltd. With a request that they could attend a future Agric.Advis.Comm. meeting to explain the County Feed and Beef Program; the Committee did not feel that this was necessary.
- ii) – information on AG Care, Agricultural Groups concerned about Resources and the Environment, Inc., was handed out for information purposes.

5. **Next Meeting Date:** At the Call of the Chair

6. **Chair and Vice-Chair**

Moved by: John Ardiel Seconded by: Jacquie Hendry

“THAT Ross Arthur be appointed the Chairperson for the Agricultural Advisory Committee; and

THAT James McKinlay be appointed the Vice-Chair for the Agricultural Advisory Committee”.
Carried.

7. **Other Business / Communication:**

- Concern was expressed by the Committee as to what exactly they will be doing; hopefully topics not too broad. PT suggested the topics will come from the first meeting, April 23/08, when staff asked for suggestions from the Committee for future meeting topics;

Nine were given. A number of these are related to the Economic Development Strategy which was outlined by Lisa Kidd as an initiative that will be brought to the Committee at a future meeting.

8. **Adjournment**