



**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GEORGINA**  
**AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

Thursday, July 16, 2015  
8:00 p.m.  
Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

Time: 8:05

2. ROLL CALL

The following Committee members were present:

Pete Bunnik  
Glenda Hamilton  
Councilor Dave Harding  
Brenda Rae  
Brad Smockum

The following Committee members were absent with regrets:

Bart Johnson  
James (Jim) Lockie

The following staff members were in attendance:

Sarah Brislin, Committee Services Coordinator  
Adrian Cammaert, Senior Planner – Policy  
Kelan Jylha, Economic Development Officer

3. INTRODUCTION OF ADDENDUM ITEMS

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Brad Smockum Seconded by Glenda Hamilton

**RESOLUTION NO. GAgAC-2015-0008**

That the Georgina Agricultural Advisory Committee approve the agenda as presented

**Carried**

5. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE  
THEREOF

## 6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Meeting minutes from June 18<sup>th</sup> 2015

Moved by Glenda Hamilton, Seconded by Brenda Rae

### **RESOLUTION NO. GAgAC-2015-0009**

That the Georgina Agricultural Advisory Committee adopt the minutes for the June 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **Carried**

## 7. PRESENTATIONS

- (1) Farmers Market - Discussion with Kelan Jylha, Economic Development Officer.

Kelan Jylha, presented to the committee regarding recent efforts of the Economic Development and community in reviving a Georgina Farmer's Market.

- Haven't had one for 2 years now
- Economic Development Brainstormed with residents in the spring
- Hope is to start for 2016
- Exploring across Georgina to do surveys. Form steering committee
- Farmers market tour of Georgina – to gauge what community wants
  - Greenspace
  - Stage
  - Travelling market
  - Water
  - What vendors
  - Demonstrations
  - Farmers
  - Music
- Farm fresh handout indicates what farms are in Georgina and where.
- Will be surveying farmers for potential vendors
- Goal to restrict vendors to those who make bake or grow goods
- Will be hosting a meeting in August – will send invite to committee members
- Committee members are invited to share information if they are aware of any farmers not listed on the farm fresh flue

At this time members were invited to participate in a discussion regarding the farmers market. The discussion indicated:

- The survey might indicate where community would like location to be.
- The LINK is under consideration as the location
- Committee suggested the fair ground as a location for consideration
- Committee were informed there are 4 farmers interested at this time.

- Committee members were informed it is not restricted to farmers but the intention is make bake or grow. Potential to apply a ratio like Newmarket (3:1). May need to expand boundaries to attract vendors
- Committee was informed there will be checks in place to ensure that these items are grown by vendors? Such checks might include an application and site scheduled visits to verify criteria is met.
- There is potential for other types of items to be sold if the survey indicates a desire from community.
- With new laws wine is a possible item that might be sold.
- Would like local as possible.
- Rules and Regulations from Ontario Farmer's Market Association will be followed. There are, for insurance purposes, ration requirements the market must reach to have a certain amount of produce, pickled/preserved foods don't count.
- Committee members are invited to consider being vendors, recruiting vendors or apply to be on steering committee.
- The Towns role is intended to be supportive, the market will be run by steering committee
- Farm gate program. If it is not worth it for these farmers to come – wouldn't come? An option might be to include a cooperative group at the market that can have a booth to point people in the direction of farmers or have other farmers vend on behalf of those who cannot make it.
- The intent is to make the farm fresh handout a bigger piece.
- Looking to do more agri-tourism as well. More stuff around harvest time.
- Regions and tourism partners have identified agri-tourism as a big attraction.
- Also looking to connect local restaurants with local farmers.
- Also idea to create harvest magnets.
- Harvest dinner proceeds – go to food pantry. Harvest dinner Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Invites for first market date will be sent.

(2) MDS – review presented by Adrian Cammaert, Senior Planner – Policy

## Background

- Objective of MDS is for purpose of odour separation.
- MDS1 – Minimum separation distance between proposed new development and existing livestock facilities and/or permanent manure storage.
- MDS2 - Minimum separation distance between proposed new or enlarged livestock facilities and/or permanent manure storages and existing or approved development.
- MDS is a mathematical formula – dealing with various scenarios
- Numbers have changed but the more significant change is when MDS is to be applied.
- OMAFRA updating policies to ensure complies with planning policies
- Review resulted in 43 guidelines.

### Summary - Ways this has changed

- Updated terminology to align with planning policy
- Inclusion of a requirement for municipalities to apply MDS to development on existing lots of record unless they adopt policies to exempt this requirement.
- MDS applies to surplus farm dwellings, this is now clarified
- Update to the formula – greater flexibility, with new technologies (arobolic digester is an example)
- Does not apply to aggregate applications
- Who and how MDS data is collected
- MDS does not apply following catastrophes (ie. Fire, flood, tornado) when the same building/structures are being rebuilt
- Clarifying that MDS setbacks for agriculture-related uses and on-farm diversified uses are applied at the discretion of a municipality, through appropriate zoning by-law provisions.

### How it affects the Official Plan

- Draft Official Plan already contains a new policy exempting MDS I from applying to vacant lots of record that were created for residential purposes in specific situations.
- Potentially additional changes needed regarding the application of MDS for various types of lot creation, and to provide direction on if MDS setbacks should be applied for agriculture-related uses and on-farm diversified uses.

## 8. COMMUNICATIONS

### (1) General Information Items

- (a) Ontario Government Investing \$3 million in PepsiCo Foods Canada Plant
- (b) Ontario Kicks Off Wine Week
- (c) Designation of Agricultural Products Eligible for Production Insurance  
<http://www.ontariocanada.com/registry/view.do?postingId=19027&language=en>
- (d) OFA members weigh in on rural internet issues
- (e) New online resource addresses security issues on Ontario farms (2015)
- (f) Ontario releases first annual local food report.
- (g) Canadian Outdoor Farm Show

(h) Royal Agriculture Winter Fair

(i) Family Farming Agriculture More Than Ever

Moved by Brad Smockum, Seconded by Brenda Rae

**RESOLUTION NO. GAgAC-2015-0010**

That the Georgina Agricultural Advisory Committee receive items 8.(1) (a) – (i) as information.

**Carried**

(2) Disposition Items

(a) Budget - \$1500.00

Honorariums	Publications & Subscriptions	Misc.
1700	200	1500

The Committee Services Coordinator, Sarah Brislin Advised the Committee of the amounts approved for the budget.

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(b) 2016 Work Plan

(c) Agriculture Week, October 5<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>.

<http://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/98o10>

The Committee discussed the handout prepared by Brenda with suggestions, for a tour of farms for Council members for Agricultural week. The week beginning on the Monday immediately before Thanksgiving Day.

Moved by Glenda Hamilton, Seconded by Brad Smockum

**RESOLUTION NO. GAgAC-2015-0011**

That the Georgina Agricultural Advisory Committee tentatively set the tour date for October 5<sup>th</sup> 2015. That Committee members reach out to farmers in the area to see who would be interested in participating. That the Committee services Coordinator send formal invites to Council members and other parties once farmers for tour are confirmed. That the Committee Service Coordinator book the bus and organize a lunch from the Committee budget based on confirmed numbers. And that the Committee Service Coordinator report back to the Committee at the next meeting with an update.

**Carried**

9. OTHER BUSINESS

10. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Moved by Brad Smockum, Seconded by Glenda Hamilton

**RESOLUTION NO. GAgAC-2015-0012**

That the Georgina Agricultural Advisory Committee be adjourned at 9:36 pm Thursday  
July 16<sup>th</sup> 1015

**Carried**

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Pete Bunnik  
Chair

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C. Sarah A. Brislin  
Committee Services  
Coordinator