

TOWNSHIP OF BILLINGS
Economic Development Committee
MINUTES

March 11, 2020

Kagawong Park Centre, Upper

PRESENT: Councillor Sharon Alkenbrack (Chair), Suzanne Darlaston, Councillor Sharon Jackson, Rick Rusk
Staff: Todd Gordon, Economic Development Officer

REGRETS: Diane Larocque
Members of the Public

1. Opening of Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by the chair.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Sharon Jackson; Second by Rick Rusk

That the agenda for the March 11, 2020 meeting be accepted as amended (Added items: New Business e) Budget; New Business f) Art Market).

Carried

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

4. Adoption of Minutes

Motion by Sharon Jackson; Second by Rick Rusk

That the minutes of the January 8, 2020 meeting be accepted as presented.

Carried

5. Delegation

6. Council Update Report

Chair Alkenbrack provided a brief outline of the previous Council meeting (Special budget meeting, March 09, 2020).

7. Financial Report

8. Old Business

a) **Social Media (Workshop)** - Discussion

The workshop continues to be delayed, because of logistics; However, it may be possible to schedule in April. The Township of Gordon-Barrie Island is now interested in a joint session, and they can make their facility available – which has Wi-Fi – and share the cost of the facilitator. The chair continues to be in discussion with the facilitator, and representative(s) from Gordon-Barrie Island.

b) **Jabbawong Story-Telling Festival** – Discussion

5 to 6 storytellers lined up, depending on final arrangements and budget. The chair is waiting for bios from prospective storytellers. Discussion of logistics. Coordinating with the museum committee regarding providing a lunch. Possibility of a town crier. Many details left to be resolved, including promotion.

c) **Business Map** – Discussion

Still an objective for 2020. The staff member indicated that the committee should be making a recommendation to council regarding this item. (see recommendations below) Motion by Sharon Jackson, second by Rick Rusk. Carried.

That the EDC recommends, to Council, engaging Kendra Edwards Design for business map creation.

9. New Business

a) **Fall Event** - Discussion

Should/could this be a “fibre festival?” Mid to late September?

b) **Parks, Recreation and Wellness Update** – Discussion

Councillor Jackson (PRW Chair) provided a brief update on PRW activities.

c) **Celebrating Women Event** - Discussion

Should/could this be an early spring event? The staff representative cautioned about the need for allowing adequate time to plan events for effective implementation, which would benefit both the committee and staff, allowing for more effective and efficient staff assistance. Discussion of possible dates: April too early. Possibility of May long-weekend. Decision needs to be made, and logistics dealt with.

d) **Budget** – Discussion

The committee reviewed and approved the 2020 EDC budget as presented by the chair, for approval by Council and inclusion in the overall municipal 2020 budget
Motion by Suzanne Darlaston, second by Rick Rusk. Carried.

e) **Art Market** – Discussion

Should this event be combined with the fibre festival event? This would result in more efficient and effective event planning and implementation. Discussion of timing and logistics: mid to late September; a one-day event? The chair and Suzanne Darlaston to discuss further and bring back to committee

10. Correspondence

11. Information

12. Recommendations to Council

a) The Billings EDC recommends that Council engage Kendra Edwards Design to work with the committee and the EDO to create a business map for Kagawong, and direct staff to request a quote for this work from Kendra Edwards Design.
Motion by Sharon Jackson, second by Rick Rusk. Carried.

b) The Billings EDC recommends that Council accept the 2020 EDC budget for inclusion in the overall municipal 2020 budget.

13. Next Meeting: April 8th, 2020, 7:30 pm at the Kagawong Park Centre

14. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m. on a motion by Rick Rusk