

Town of Hampton Economic Development Committee Meeting

Tuesday, September 21, 2021

In attendance: Chris White (*staff*), Josh Adams (*Chair*), Richard Malone (*staff*), Michel Boudreau, Chris Rendell, John Simon

Regrets: Todd Beach

1. **Call to Order:** Josh called the meeting to order at 6:32pm
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Moved by Michel, seconded by John
3. **Declaration of Conflict of interest:** None declared
4. **Approval of Minutes** of July 2021: Moved by Michel, seconded by Chris R.
5. **Business Arising from the Minutes:**
 - a. ENVISION SJ: Richard reported Strategic Planning still underway. Developmental Evaluation Priorities for stakeholders in review with individual communities. Richard and Chris completed questionnaire on what challenges and opportunities we see.
 - b. Federal Grant Lighthouse River Centre: application was submitted to adapt the facility to be more of a community access / arts & cultural space. No response yet
 - c. Dept. of Tourism Social Media Campaign: Chris reported the Department made great use of the images created for this campaign. Posts ran from early July until the first week of September. Chris continuing to discuss with area operators to measure impact.
6. **New Business:**
 - a. EV Chargers – Todd issued update via email prior to meeting. Discussions continue with NB Power. Council have approved in principle \$10,000 (\$5K to purchase, \$5K to install). Chris R. asked what type of machines – Level 2 charger that offers a good charge but requires the driver to spend a bit of time during charging is his recommended model, rather than the costlier Level 3. Chris R. also inquired if the machines are revenue generating for us, NB Power or a split / shared model. Chris R. asked if the Lighthouse River Centre might also be a possible site as the outdoor power supply (streetlights) already exists in the upper parking lot. Chris W and Richard to review with Sara as she investigates the program.
 - b. Powwow – Chris W reported event postponed due to current health situation in the province.
 - c. Regional Facility Announcement: all members pleased at the August announcement re: funding for the new facility. An RFQ for Engineering and Architecture firm will be issued this month. Hoping to break ground by 2022. Infrastructure evaluation already underway with town staff.
7. **Reports:**
 - a. Planning & Development – Richard shared numbers for September which were up again over same period last year (both number of permits and revenues)
 - b. Tourism Sub Committee – Chris reported on planning sessions for next year, focus on events which will drive traffic to town on particular dates – boost all businesses at once.
 - c. Chamber of Commerce Report – John shared the increase in memberships that has occurred over the summer and the efforts to reengage former members. Golf Tournament a huge success raising over \$8000. Small Business Week Mixer and Awards event to take place on October 21st. December event Shop the Town / Decorate the Town in planning.
8. **Correspondence:** None
9. **Next Meeting Date:** October 19th at 6:30pm, Town Hall Council Chambers.
10. **Adjournment:** John so moved at 7:35pm.