



Minutes

Of a Meeting of the Lake of the Woods Development Commission of the City of Kenora Friday, May 12, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. Operations Building Training Room

~~~~~

**With** Graham Chaze, Acting Chair, Teresa Gallik, Richard Kroeker, Colt Manson, Lindsay Wenaas, Crystal Kast, Jeff Kurz, Mayor David Canfield, Councillor Mort Goss

**Staff** Karen Brown, CAO, Megan Dokuchie, Economic Development Officer, Josh Nelson, Tourism Development Officer, Kelly Galbraith, Administrative Assistant

### Regrets

#### 1. Call to Order

Graham Chaze called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

#### 2. Welcome & Introductions

New Commission members Crystal Kast and Jeff Kurz were welcomed and introduced.

#### 3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

There were none declared.

#### 4. Art Gallery Presentation - With guest Dennis Wallace

The presentation has been postpone until next meeting.

#### 5. Confirmation of Minutes

##### a) Moved by Councillor Goss, Seconded by Colt Manson and Carried -

That the Minutes of the Commission meeting held on March 23, 2017 be confirmed as written and filed.

##### b) Follow-Up on Previous LOWDC Meetings

Megan created a Strategic Plan Priority Chart to track the progress of the 2017 work plan. It will allow for a brief synopsis to outline achievements.

Graham, Richard and Lindsay attended Cultural Awareness Training along with City staff in April.

### **c) Tourism Committee Minutes**

#### **Recommendation:**

There are no Minutes of the Tourism Committee to be confirmed at this time.

### **6. New Business:**

#### **a) Ron Sabourin – Resignation**

**Moved by Teresa Gallik, Seconded by Councillor Goss and Carried**

#### **Recommendation:**

That the Lake of the Woods Development Commission accepts the resignation of Ron Sabourin as Director/Chair from the Lake of the Woods Development Commission effective May 5, 2017

#### **b) Vacant position for LOWDC Treasurer & Chair – Election Discussion**

The vacant Treasurer and Chair positions were discussed. Graham expressed interest in becoming Chair. Megan and Josh informed the group if anyone is interested in these positions to email them prior to the next meeting. If there is more than one person interested in the open positions an election would be required.

#### **Recommendation:**

That the Board hereby requests Council to appoint a minimum of two new Members to the LOWDC Board, with at least one of those Members representing the Indigenous community.

#### **Discussion:**

It was identified the LOWDC can have up to 11 members and further that there are currently 3 vacant spots. During these discussions the need for an Indigenous member was identified. The group felt it would be beneficial to occupy these spots and requested a recommendation be brought forward to Council.

Mayor Canfield left the meeting at 9:19 a.m.

### **Financials**

#### **a) Budget Update**

The proposed 2017 budget was presented to council on April 18<sup>th</sup>. An increase of just over \$40,000 was requested. Council is in the process of finalizing the budget. The finalized budget is scheduled to be released in the fourth week of May.

### **7. Other Commission Business**

#### **a) Economic Development**

##### **i) EDO Update**

There are two upcoming New Business Welcomes, one for the new Ne-Chee Friendship Centre and one for Sunset Country Physical Therapy.

A meeting was held in Winnipeg the first week of May to meet with Winnipeg area developers. The meeting was well received and there is hope the businesses will connect with local businesses for future projects.

Megan and Josh are working with Harbourtown Biz to collaborate on a Super Summer Sunday campaign to promote businesses opening on Sundays for dining and shopping.

## **b) Tourism**

### **i) Tourism Officer Report**

Josh and other City staff attended the Lake of the Woods District Property Owners Association Cottage Show and AGM. The show was said to be a large success and seen an increase in attendance and exhibits.

This year there will be a farmer's market held on May Long Weekend.

CIBC will be presenting a show by the Dreamcatchers band, scheduled for Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup> – location to be determined.

The Raise the Stage Project received a NOHFC grant for \$21,300. The construction supplies are onsite and there is hopes the stage will be completed by June 1, 2017.

Canada Summer Games hosted a luncheon and announced 20 torchbearers for the Kenora leg of the torch relay. Upgrades to Garrow Park are underway and will include tiered seating, replacement of the docks in the beach section of Garrow Park and landscaping.

Canada Border Services Agency will have a check-in dock located at the harbourfront and will have a phone for 24 hour border check in.

The Lake of the Woods Museum has been contacted by Ron and Anne Baker of Railway Museum to discuss the future of the Railway Museum.

### **ii) Tourism Special Events Update**

The deadline for tourism grant applications past and 14 applications were received. The applications were reviewed by a sub-committee and an internal ranking system was used to allocate/not allocate funds.

### **Discussion:**

The criteria of the grants is outlined however concerns were brought forward by the Tourism Committee that the criteria needs to be better outlined and they are seeking direction from the Commission. There was an in-depth discussion on the need for off season events and the need for new events in the community.

## **6. Communications and/or Announcements Roundtable**

Teresa provided an update on the summer bookings for hotels and noted they are seeing it will be a busy summer. Hotel staffing shortages are a concern. Concerns regarding open alcohol on City streets were discussed.

Councillor Goss invited the group to the premier showing of Lake of the Woods: The Eastern Shores – A History of Water –Episode 2 is set for Friday May 19<sup>th</sup> in Sioux Narrows.

Graham spoke on a commercial property in the City that could have great potential for residential development. Re-zoning and Business Park Development ideas were shared.

The Q2 report to Council was discussed. It was asked if the LOWDC would like to use the same format that was done for the Q1 report to Council. The group felt it was well received by Council to have in camera session.

## **7. Next Meeting Date**

- Thursday, June 5

## **8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:36 a.m.