



Minutes

City of Kenora

Lake of the Woods Development Commission

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

4:00 p.m.

Lake of the Woods Discovery Centre

Present:

Dennis Wallace, Chair
Randy Nickle
Geordie McEwen
Mort Goss
Don Denver
Fred Wright
Karen Brown, CAO

Staff

Jennifer Findlay, Economic Development Officer
Heather Kasprick, Deputy Clerk
Heather Lajeunesse, Administrative Assistant
Heather Paterson, Tourism Development Officer

Regrets

Mayor David Canfield, Ex-Officio
Councillor Sharon Smith
Ryan Reynard, LOWBIC
Pam Bryson, Fednor
Thelma Wilkins-Page
Darlene Literovich
Andy Scribilo
Gloria Mejia
Lisa Moncrief
Theresa Stevens, MNDM
Deb Weedon, MNR

Dennis Wallace called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

A. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof:

- a) On today's agenda
- b) From a meeting at which a Member was not in attendance

None Declared.

B. Additions to the Agenda:

Moved by D. Denver, Seconded by G. McEwen & Carried:-

That Street Food Vendors be added to the agenda under Tourism as item #7 (a)

C. Confirmation of Minutes:

Moved by M. Goss & Seconded by R. Nickle & Carried:-

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Regular Commission held May 30, 2012 be confirmed as written and filed.

D. Commission Deputations or Presentations:

None

E. New Business - Reports:

Executive Committee

1. Committee Minutes

Moved by G. McEwen, Seconded by R. Nickle & Carried:-

That the Minutes of the meetings of the Executive Committee held June 6, 2012 be confirmed as written and filed.

2. Experimental Lakes Area Closure

Moved by D. Denver, Seconded by M. Goss & Carried:-

Whereas the Experimental Lakes Area is a world renowned freshwater and fisheries research facility that is vital to Canadians and the world with an international reputation; and

Whereas the Experimental Lakes Area has been operating for over four decades with the longest continuous monitoring record for freshwater lakes in Canada and provides key information unattainable anywhere else for objective, evidence-based decision making pertaining to our environment; and

Whereas water is essential for life and clean water is crucial for the health of all Canadians and the lakes that surround us are part of our economic, social and spiritual well-being;

Therefore the Lake of the Woods Development Commission calls upon the Federal Government to reverse its May 17, 2012 decision to close the Experimental Lakes Area; and further

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Mr. Greg Rickford, M.P. requesting his support in the appeal to reverse this decision.

Discussion: It was suggested that the Commission ask for a one or two year extension of the closure date rather than asking that the decision be reversed. It was also mentioned that the Commission could assist in seeking partnerships to support the ELA. Don suggested to keep the motion as it is and convey this info in the letter, indicating that the Commission and other bodies can work together to find a solution. There are current discussions with Kelli Saunders to extend LOW Project and from there we can work on pulling parties together for a transitional plan and for the creation of a corporate structure and funding plan. It was

decided that the Commission will provide a cover letter that captures these ideas and let the resolution stand as is. In the letter we will also ask for a meeting with the MP to discuss these ideas further.

3. Chair Appointment

Moved by G. McEwen, Seconded by M. Goss & Carried:-

That Don Denver be hereby appointed as interim Chair of the Lake of the Woods Development Commission effective June 28, 2012 for the term ending November 30, 2012.

Business Development Committee

4. Committee Minutes

Moved by F. Wright, Seconded by M. Goss & Carried:-

That the Minutes of the meetings of the Business Development Committee held June 13, 2012 be confirmed as written and filed.

5. Homelessness Report

Moved by R. Nickle, Seconded by D. Denver & Carried:-

That the Lake of the Woods Development Commission recommend the establishment of a Task Force on Homelessness led by Mayor and Council, similar to the City of Calgary's 10 year plan.

Discussion: It was suggested that we include in the mandate the issue of substance abuse and that Council be asked to take a leadership role on these issues and continue to address on an ongoing basis. There were some concerns with this suggestion as the issue may not just be the one of homelessness and if we start adding to it there will be too many variables. Resources are already in place to address the elements of the issues. No one has the full mandate to address these issues entirely so perhaps a community strategy could be put in place to tackle this together as a community. It was mentioned that other municipalities have addressed their own issues of homelessness and we will continue to look into those that have been successful.

Tourism

6. Discovery Centre Landscaping

Moved by R. Nickle, Seconded by D. Denver & Carried:-

That the Lake of the Woods Development Commission hereby recommends to Council of the City of Kenora that the \$85,000 allocation in the Capital Budget currently allocated (2012) for projects at the Discovery Centre be prioritized as follows:

- 1) The development of a pathway from the water to the Discovery Centre parking lot.
- 2) Docks
- 3) Landscaping area around the pathway as well as the flagpole with no additional allocation of budget dollars
- 4) The installation of the large flag pole donated by Rotary.

Discussion: Karen Brown cautioned that it should be made clear that the landscaping was an addition to the capital budget and these are new elements of that project. The funds have already been allocated but this is a new project. Randy Nickle indicated that the decision to add the landscaping and flagpole is because all these items go together and should be included in the overall plan. We are looking at making the entire area more appealing and this idea is a better fit to that vision. Landscaping area is the only costs that have been determined so far and the cost of the flagpole has not been determined to date. Karen suggested the Commission make Council aware of the change in the project scope so that they can determine if the funds are available.

7. Mooring Ball Plan

Moved by R. Nickle, Seconded by D. Denver & Carried:-

That the Lake of the Woods Development Commission assumes the responsibility for reservations, fee collections and monitoring the Mooring Balls on the Harbourfront effective July 17, 2012 and that all fees collected be allocated as Tourism Revenue for the Development Commission.

7 (a) Street Food Vendors

Moved by R. Nickle, Seconded by D. Denver & Carried:-

That the Lake of the Woods Development Commission enters into a contract with On Deck Fries for food vending services at the Lake of the Woods Discovery Centre on a trial basis in the amount of \$300 plus \$150 for optional electricity per month; and further

That the Lake of the Woods Development Commission enters into a contract with Gropp's Country Catering, Ye Old Chip Truck and Green Machine for food vending services at the Harbourfront on a trial basis in the amount of \$400 plus \$150 optional electricity each; and further

Discussion: Chair Dennis Wallace stated that the decision to go ahead with this was very open, fair and honest. The decision to have the street food vendors is a trial basis for this the 2012 season. Other tourist locations similar to ours have such vendors and have had no issues with these vendors.

F. Financial Report

8. Report from Treasurer, Don Denver

Don advised the Board that the financial statements will be shared at next Board meeting.

G. Communications and or Announcements

The Harbourfront Tent naming will be announced tomorrow evening, June 28, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. Naming will take place under the tent and everyone is welcome to attend.

H. Other Commission Business:

There may be individual team meetings during the summer but next LOWDC Meeting will be in September. Separate Committees will still meet throughout summer, meeting dates to be determined. There is a vacancy of the Treasurer position with the transfer of Don Denver to Chair of the Commission. Notice is to be given for appointment and next Commission meeting is in September.

I. Next meeting Date:

- September 26, 2012

18. Motion to Adjourn Meeting:

Moved by R. Nickle, Seconded by M. Goss & Carried:-

That this meeting be now declared closed at 4:52 p.m