

**ALMAGUIN COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
(ACED)**

**MINUTES
September 21, 2020**

A regular meeting of the ACED Board was held at the Township of Strong Municipal Office on September 21, 2020 at 6:00 pm.

Present: Tim Bryson, Township of Joly
Wendy Whitwell, Township of Armour
Kelly Elik, Township of Strong
Dulcie Pascoe, AHCC Representative
Barb Belrose, Village of Sundridge
Margaret Ann MacPhail, Township of Perry
Tim Brunton, Municipality of Magnetawan
Melanie Atkins, MENDM
Delynne Patterson, Township of Ryerson
Brenda Scott, Village of South River
Lewis Hodgson, Village of Burk's Falls
Ron Begin, FedNor
Peter McIsaac, Municipality of Powassan

Regrets: Jennifer Farquhar, AHCC Representative

Staff: Dave Gray, Director of Economic Development
Courtney Metcalf, Economic Development Officer
John Theriault, Township of Armour
Erin Murphy, Municipality of Magnetawan
Judy Kosowan, Township of Ryerson
Nicky Kunkel, Village of Burk's Falls

Delegations: Karen Jones, Karen Jones Consulting
Natasha Penn, Karen Jones Consulting

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm.

Minutes

That the minutes of Monday August 17, 2020 meeting were adopted, as circulated.

Delegations

Karen Jones and Natasha Penn of Karen Jones Consulting (KJCO) made a presentation to the Board on how the Almaguin Highlands Brand Strategy project will be executed. KJCO led a brief focus group session requesting some initial feedback from the members on their vision for branding ACED.

Director of Economic Development (DED) Report

The ACED Board reviewed the September report from the Director of Economic Development, which includes updates on core tracking activities, the work the Communication and Marketing Officer is doing, current files and projects and new business and development.

The Board reviewed the final report for the Almaguin Protective Equipment and the Almaguin Delivers Programs.

The Board was advised that we received a new grant from OBIAA for the Digital Main Street program. The grant is for \$11,775 and will help subsidize the salary of the Communications and Marketing Officer's position.

The Board discussed the proposed hiring process and timelines put forward by the Director of Economic Development for the position of Economic Development Officer. The Board passed a resolution approving the process.

The Director of Economic Development gave an update on the 2020 Almaguin Harvest Spin project. It has been well received and many participated. Pictures of the different rides will be available in the near future.

Updates

FedNor

Ron Begin from FedNor advised the Board that FedNor is still entertaining grant applications and have helped non for profits organizations with grants and for-profit organizations with interest free loans. He is hoping for the region to make great strides in the next few years.

NOHFC

Still working from home and not allowed to travel. Available grants are on their website. Still waiting for some approvals. She will forward information on available grants when it is available. They are looking for applications to be submitted online.

Other Business

Councillor Lewis Hodgson informed the Board that he will be stepping down from the Board due to his out of province relocation. The Chair and Director of Economic Development thanked Councillor Hodgson for his efforts on the ACED Board and past economic development committees.

Resolutions

1. 2020-031 – Moved by Kelly Elik; Seconded by Barb Belrose;
Be it resolved that the Almaguin Community Economic Development Board approve the minutes of August 17, 2020, as circulated. Carried
2. 2020-032 – Moved by Barb Belrose; Seconded by Wendy Whitwell;
Be it resolved that the Almaguin Community Economic development Board accept the Director of Economic Development's recommendation to proceed with the hiring process timeline indicated in the September monthly report.

Adjournment

3. 2020-033 – Moved by Kelly Elik;
Be it resolved that the Almaguin Community Economic Development Board adjourn the September 21, 2020 ACED meeting at 7:11 p.m. Carried

The next meeting will be October 19, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. If this changes, members will be advised.