Township of Centre Wellington
Economic Development Task Force Minutes
Thursday, May 2, 2019
Elora Library, 144 Geddes Street, Elora
8:30 AM

PRESENT:
Don Vallery, Chair
Bob Cameron
Ted Ecclestone
Colin Harding
Peter Mohr
Tony Morris
Kate Murdoch
Paul Walker
James Gibbons
Janet Harrop, Chamber of Commerce
Gerry Horst, OMAFRA
Kim Jefferson, Fergus BIA
Mayor Kelly Linton
Councillor Neil Dunsmore
Councillor Steve VanLeeuwan

REGRETS:
Jonathon Laurencic, Elora BIA
Kristel Manes, Guelph Wellington Business Centre

STAFF:
Patricia Rutter, Economic Development Officer
Brett Salmon, Managing Director of Planning and Development
Devlin Schellenberger, Cemetery and Licensing Coordinator

1. Call to Order
   1.1 D. Vallery, Chair called the meeting to order at 8:35am.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest Under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act
   2.1 None declared.

3. Approval of Minutes
   3.1 The Economic Development Task Force agreed to amend the minutes for the meeting held April 4, 2019 to include James Gibbons as present.
4. Approval of Agenda
4.1 The Economic Development Task Force approved the agenda for May 2, 2019 as amended to add the Mayor’s County Economic Development Update by consensus.

5. Action Items / New Business
5.1 Priority Sites Under the Community Improvement Plan (CIP)
Moved by D. Vallery, Seconded by J. Harrop

THAT the Economic Development Task Force recommend to Council the list of priority sites as designated under the Community Improvement Plan Eligible for Tax Increment Equivalent Grants as attached to the Economic Development Task Force agenda for May 2, 2019;

AND THAT the following sites be added to the list of priority sites
- 599 Hill St. W, Fergus – known as AO Smith property
- 350 St. Andrew ST. W, Fergus – known as the Old Medical Building
- 19/19A East Mill Street, Elora – known as Elora Concrete Burial Vaults

AND THAT the following sites be removed from the list of priority sites:
- 105 Queen St. W, Fergus – known as the Fergus Marketplace (façade improvement only)
- 115 St. George St. Fergus – former Suncor property
- 390 St. David St. N, Fergus – former Suncor property
- 101 St. Andrew St. W, Fergus – formerly known as the Rafferty Insurance Bldg (façade improvement only)
- 675 St. David St. N – underutilized property
- 43 West Mill St., Elora – heritage building – rear is the Gorge Cinema
- 7460 Wellington Rd. 21 – currently Nieuwland Feeds
- Lands associated with the Pearle Hospitality Development - North side of Grand River
  o 77 Mill St. W – former Elora Mill property
  o 70 Mill St. W – former Mill cottage
  o 51, 53 and 55 Mill St. W – former granary building and ruins
  o South Side of Grand River
    ▪ 26 -28 Ross St. – former Little Folks property with foundry ruin
    ▪ 32 Ross St. – former Walser building
    ▪ 18 Ross St.
    ▪ 24 Carlton Place – former Little Folks Admin
5.2 New Working Group
The Economic Development Task Force created a working group for Tax Increment Equivalent Grants. The working group will be tasked with identifying actions that can be taken on priority sites to encourage development through Tax Increment Equivalent Grants.

The Task Force appointed Bob Cameron, Peter Mohr, Colin Harding, Tony Morris, and Ted Ecclestone to the sub-committee.

6. Working Group Update
6.1 Economic Development Strategic Action Plan Working Group
The working group updated the Task Force that they have begun work on the implementation plan for the Strategic Action Plan. A template has been provided from the consultants to assist in the process.

7. Economic Development Update
7.1 P. Rutter, Economic Development Officer, indicated she has booked “Your Town Rising” a speaker to address advancing downtown revitalization at the Fergus Library. The engagement is titled “Your Town Rising”.

8. County of Wellington Economic Development Update
8.1 Mayor Linton provided an update regarding Economic Development at the County. The update included increased CIP branding from the County of Wellington that could be used in Centre Wellington.

He further indicated that Guelph/Wellington has been named a finalist in Canada’s Smart Cities Challenge, and has been awarded $250,000 to further develop the bid towards the $10 million prize. The winner of Canada’s Smart Cities Challenge will be announced May 15, 2019.

Mayor Linton indicated that the County would be moving ahead with rural transportation, with the help of $500,000 grant from the Province.

9. Information Items
9.1 2019 EmployerOne Survey Results
Deferred to a future meeting.

9.2 Next Meeting - June 6, 2019 - 8:30 am

10. Adjourn - 10:02 am

Chair

Deputy Clerk