

REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
PLANNING SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT 16-2005

Minutes of a meeting of the Planning Services Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario on Wednesday, October 26, 2005 commencing at 2:05 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

- Committee: Councillors Smeaton, Chair; Baty, Bodner, Eke, Gabriel, Hildreth, Hodgson, Marshall, Timms, Trombetta.
- Staff: Messrs. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Cambray, Commissioner, Planning & Development Department; Farley, Director, Planning Services; Ms. Pilon, Legislative Assistant.
- Staff (Other): Messrs. Brickell, Smart Growth Expeditor; Nicholson, Senior Policy Coordinator Planner; Robson, Director, Community Integration; Goldsworthy, Planner/Tree By-law Enforcement Officer; Bowles, Executive Assistant to the Regional Chair.

DEVELOPMENT IMPLEMENTATION SERVICES

249. Official Plan Amendment No. 50
Food Supermarket in Collier Park Industrial Subdivision
McCleary Drive, east of Collier Road
City of Thorold

Mr. Muratori of Sullivan Mahoney provided the Committee with background information on the proposed location for the food supermarket in the City of Thorold.

Mr. Muratori advised the Committee that his clients are in agreement with the recommendations in the report.

Mr. Cambray advised the Committee that there are objections to this proposed development from a number of sources related to the need for and impact of the proposal on planned functions of existing and designated commercial areas in the City of Thorold. The City of Thorold was satisfied following an analysis of potential impacts, that the proposed development with specific limitations on size and format, would not adversely affect the city's existing commercial areas.

Moved by Councillor Hildreth
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Report DPD 133-2005, October 26, 2005, respecting the Official Plan Amendment No. 50, Food Supermarket in Collier Park Industrial Subdivision, McCleary Drive, east of Collier Road, in the City of Thorold, be received.

That Amendment No. 50 to the City of Thorold Official Plan to permit the development of a Food Supermarket be approved.

That all parties be notified of Regional Council's decision on this application in accordance with Provincial regulations.

That staff issue a declaration of final approval for the Amendment twenty (20) days after notice of Council's decision has been given, provided that no appeals have been lodged against the decision.

Carried.

PRESENTATION

250. Action Niagara: Economics for Smart Growth

Mr. Brickell provided the Committee with an overview of the Action Niagara: Economics of Smart Growth, a one-day event that will explore opportunities for "smart growth" development and community renewal, that is taking place on December 14, 2005 at the Sheraton Fallsview Hotel and Conference Centre in the City of Niagara Falls.

Mr. Brickell also encouraged members of the Planning Services Committee to forward nominations for the First Annual Regional Chairman's, Niagara Community Design Awards, which will be awarded at the Action Niagara event. The awards have been established to recognize individuals, projects and programs for their demonstrated vision, leadership, innovation and overall contribution to the design and building of a more pedestrian-focused and economically vibrant Niagara.

Committee members were provided with the draft agenda and registration form for the Action Niagara: Economics of Smart Growth event, and the information and nomination form for the Regional Chairman's Niagara Community Design Awards.

DEVELOPMENT IMPLEMENTATION SERVICES (Continued)

251. Consent Summary
From September 19, 2005 to October 9, 2005

Moved by Councillor Marshall
Seconded by Councillor Hildreth

That Report DPD 134-2005, October 26, 2005, respecting the Consent Summary from September 19, 2005 to October 9, 2005, be received.

Carried.

252. Regional Comments on Development Proposals
September 19, 2005 to October 9, 2005

Moved by Councillor Marshall
Seconded by Councillor Hildreth

That Report DPD 135-2005, October 26, 2005, respecting Regional Comments on Development Proposals, be received for information.

Carried.

(Refer to Staff Directions)

POLICY PLANNING

253. Updating the Tree Conservation By-law:
A Draft Forest Conservation By-law

Mr. Cambray highlighted various sections of the Forest Conservation By-Law for the Committee members.

Moved by Councillor Baty
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That Report DPD 136-2005, October 26, 2005, respecting the Updating the Tree Conservation By-law: A Draft Forest Conservation By-law, be received for information and circulated along with the draft By-law, attached as Appendix 1, to various agencies, individuals and groups for comment.

That the role of the Tree By-law Advisory Committee continue including representatives from the local municipalities and agricultural organizations.

That local Municipal Councils be requested to consider their role in tree conservation and the By-law particularly as it relates to smaller woodlands under 1 hectare as discussed in the report.

That staff hold one public meeting to present the draft By-law and obtain comments.

That staff report back to this Committee in December 2005 on the comments received.

Carried.

(Refer to Staff Directions)

254. Update on the Activities of the Regional Chair's Agricultural Task Force

Moved by Councillor Baty
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Report DPD 137-2005, October 26, 2005, respecting the Update on the Activities of the Regional Chair's Agricultural Task Force, be received for information.

Carried.

255. Erie Canal: History, Planning and Compatible Development
2005 New York State Canal Conference

Moved by Councillor Gabriel
Seconded by Councillor Trombetta

That Report DPD 138-2005, October 26, 2005, respecting the Erie Canal: History, Planning and Compatible Development, 2005 New York State Canal Conference, be deferred to the November 16, 2005, Planning Services Committee meeting.

Carried.

ADMINISTRATION

256. Construction Status and Funding of the
Greater Niagara Circle Route Trails System

The Committee members noted that a number of tourists from around the world have specifically visited Niagara Region to use the Greater Niagara Circle Route Trails System.

The Committee recognized Mr. George Nicholson, for his work on the Greater Niagara Circle Route Trails System.

Moved by Councillor Trombetta
Seconded by Councillor Bodner

That Report DPD 139-2005 (CSD 143-2005), October 26, 2005, respecting the Construction Status and Funding of the Greater Niagara Circle Route Trails System, be received for information and considered in relation to the request for an allocation in the 2006 Capital Budget to complete the circle aspect of the Greater Niagara Circle Route Trails System.

That \$186,000 from the 2005 Capital Budget for project ZPL9710, the Greater Niagara Circle Route Trails System, be initiated with Capital Levy Reserve Financing.

Carried.

(Refer to Staff Directions)

(Please note that Report DPD 139-2005 (CSD 143-2005) can be found behind the JNT RPTS Blue Book Tab)

257. Resource Membership in the Southern Ontario Gateway Council

Moved by Councillor Hodgson
Seconded by Councillor Trombetta

That Report DPD 140-2005, October 26, 2005, respecting the Resource Membership in the Southern Ontario Gateway Council, be received.

That Regional Niagara support the \$535.00 fee for 2005-2006 Resource Membership in the Southern Gateway Council.

That Regional Niagara provide information and staff time to support the development of positions supporting transportation issues affecting Niagara such as border crossings and Niagara-GTA Trade Corridor.

Carried.

258. Proposed 2006 Capital Budget
Completion of the Circle Component of the
Greater Niagara Circle Route Trails System

Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That Report DPD 141-2005, October 26, 2005, respecting the Proposed 2006 Capital Budget, Completion of the Circle Component of the Greater Niagara Circle Route Trails System, be received for information.

Carried.

259. Regional Municipality of Niagara's Participation in the
+30 Network – Planning for Long Term Urban Sustainability

Moved by Councillor Baty
Seconded by Councillor Gabriel

That Report DPD 142-2005, October 26, 2005, respecting the Regional Municipality of Niagara's Participation in the +30 *Network* – Planning for Long Term Urban Sustainability, be received.

That the Regional Municipality of Niagara become a member in the +30 *Network*, with the understanding that the \$2000 one time membership fee is available in the 2005 Smart Growth budget.

Carried.

260. Minutes of the Greater Niagara Circle Route Committee
Tuesday, August 23, 2005

Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Bodner

That the minutes of the Greater Niagara Circle Route Committee meeting held Tuesday, September 21, 2005, be received and the recommendations therein be approved.

Carried.

261. Minutes of the Ecological and Environmental Advisory Committee
Thursday, September 22, 2005

Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Bodner

That the minutes of the Ecological and Environmental Advisory Committee held Thursday, September 22, 2005, be received.

Carried.

262. Minutes of the Smarter Niagara Steering Committee
Wednesday, October 5, 2005

Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Bodner

That the minutes of the Smarter Niagara Steering Committee held Wednesday, October 5, 2005, be received.

Carried.

263. Minutes of the Transportation Strategy Steering Committee
Tuesday, October 4, 2005 – PD 76-2005

Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Bodner

That PD 76-2005, being the minutes of the Transportation Strategy Steering Committee meeting held Tuesday, October 4, 2005, be received.

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

264. Moved by Councillor Marshall
Seconded by Councillor Bodner

That the following communications be received and dealt with as directed by this Committee at this time:

PD 77-2005 Invitation/Brochure: Smarter Niagara Presents the Historic Places in Niagara Summit. The Preservation, Presentation and Marketing of Historic Places, Thursday, November 10, 2005, Beacon Harbourside Inn, Town of Lincoln.

-- Received.

PD 78-2005 Invitation to Action Niagara: Economics for Smart Growth, Wednesday, December 14, 2005, Sheraton Fallsview Hotel City of Niagara Falls.

-- Received.

PD 79-2005 Letter from Wayne and Judy Marr objecting to RPPA 4-2005 – Reeb Quarry in Wainfleet.

-- Received and referred to staff for consideration when the final recommendations' report is prepared.

PD 80-2005 Letter to Ministry of Natural Resources from the Regional Planning and Development Department objecting to the license under the Aggregate Resources Act for Reeb Quarry in the Township of Wainfleet.

-- Received and approved.

PD 81-2005 Letter from Walker Industries thanking Planning staff for organizing the October 5, 2005 tour of their operations in Niagara Falls and offering additional tours for Councillors or staff members who may be interested.

-- Received.

PD 82-2005 Newspaper article on the importance of designing public spaces.

-- Received.

Carried.

265. Moved by Councillor Gabriel
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Communication PD 83-2005, respecting the memo from Planning staff on the October 20th, meeting with the Province on the new Provincial Policy Statement and expansion of urban boundaries, be received.

Carried.

266. Moved by Councillor Hildreth
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That Communication PD 85-2005, respecting the Schedule for the Review Committee, Review of the Future of Planning, be received.

Carried.

267. Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor Bodner

That Communication PD 84-2005, respecting information on the timing of an appeal by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to the Ontario Municipal Board on the Niagara River Golf Course, be received.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

268. Reforestation of Niagara Region's Older Neighbourhoods

Councillor Smeaton and Mr. Cambray visited Mori Nurseries recently to discuss the possibility of purchasing end of line trees at a reduced rate, to be planted on boulevards within the Niagara Region. Councillor Smeaton noted that the reforestation of the older neighbourhoods within the Niagara Region is necessary to maintain and enhance the character and esthetics of the communities.

Councillor Smeaton also noted that it may be possible to purchase the trees through a partnership between to Niagara Region, local municipalities and the private property owners.

A report will be prepared following the receipt of a response from Mori Nurseries' and other interested nurseries for the Planning Services Committee's consideration in the near future.

269. Thank You!

Councillor Bodner thanked Planning staff and Walker Bros. for the tour of Walker Industries facilities following the previous Planning Services Committee meeting.

The Committee discussed the importance of these types of tours. Planning staff were requested to explore the opportunity for another tour of some greenhouses in Niagara.

Councillor Bodner also thanked Mr. Cambray for making a presentation to the Port Colborne Council on the Urban Design Guidelines and staying to discuss a planning topic on the agenda.

STAFF DIRECTIONS

Staff was requested to:

- Check the application information under the Town of Pelham in the report and confirm that the application is in fact, north of Canboro Road. (Refers to Minute Item # 252)
- ensure that the Agricultural Sub-Committee was included in the circulation of the report. (Refers to Minute Item # 253)
- monitor the calls received respecting violations of the by-law and if calls are received more frequently on the weekends, ensure that a plan is put in place to receive the calls on the weekends, in order to ensure that the appropriate action is initiated without delay. (Refers to Minute Item # 253)
- forward information on the Greater Niagara Circle Route to all cycling clubs worldwide upon its completion. (Refers to Minute Item # 256)

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 4:10 p.m. to meet again at 2:00 p.m. on November 16, 2005, in Committee Room 4, at Regional Headquarters.

Bill Smeaton
Chair

Janet Pilon
Legislative Assistant

Pam Gilroy
Regional Clerk