

Economic Development and Tourism Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: September 26, 2023
Time: 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm
Location: Zoom

Members Present **Deputy Mayor Gosse**
 Councillor Connors
 Councillor Barrett

Staff Present **Jennifer Lake, Director of Economic**
 Development and Tourism

1. Business Development

1.a Investment Attraction Data Project

The Town received funding from the CanExport Community Investments Fund through Global Affairs Canada to enhance information and digital presentation from an international investment attraction perspective. The work will include a review of current information to identify gaps and result in a template for staff to use when responding to investment inquiries. The budget for this project is \$17,500 with 50% coming from Global Affairs Canada.

Mayor Bent joined the meeting at 12:11 pm

1.b Renewable Energy Action Plan

The Town received funding from the CanExport Community Investments Fund through Global Affairs Canada to complete a Renewable Energy Action Plan. The budget for this project is \$40,000 with 50% coming from Global Affairs Canada.

There was a discussion regarding Net Zero targets and opportunities for proactive measures which will require additional conversations within the organization.

Councillor Moores joined the meeting at 12:31 pm.

1.c CBA Chamber of Commerce

The Committee discussed the Bright Business Awards event and confirmed, as has been in past years, that up to 3 complimentary tickets would be provided to event sponsors relative to their sponsorship level, one complimentary ticket would be provided to award sponsors to attend to present their award, and one complimentary ticket would be provided to award nominees. Additional tickets are available for purchase from the Town's website.

In addition, the Committee welcomes the opportunity to meet with the President of the Conception Bay Area Chamber of Commerce to discuss the unregistered business issue in the near future.

Deputy Mayor Gosse left the meeting at 12:43 pm.

2. Tourism Development

2.a Savour CBS

The Director updated the Committee on the plans to date for Savour CBS. There are currently 40 events in the schedule online and radio/social media advertising is underway. The event has also been promoted in the Shoreline for the month of September. It is a great event promoting our local business community and the natural collaborations that are evolving among businesses is exciting.

3. Community Development

3.a Community Transit Plan

The Community Transportation Program provided funding to complete a Transit Implementation Plan. A Request for Quotes will be circulated in the very near term and some targeted consultation will follow as part of the scope of work. It is the hope that we will see a final report prior to year-end.

3.b Trail Connection at Chamberlains Park

The Conception Bay South Parks Commission received funding from Trades NL for \$8,000 to complete a nature trail from 2570 Topsail Road to the south entrance of Chamberlains Park off Chaytors Road. Representatives from Chamberlains Park, Parks Commission, Grand Concourse Authority and the Town met on site and are all aligned with the plan.

This connection will provide safer access from the parking area on Topsail Road to the Park and it is anticipated more trail users will be inclined to park at the overflow lot leaving more space at the north parking lot on Chaytors Road for accessible parking. It is the hope that this project will be completed in the coming months.

3.c Food Cycle Science

The partnership with Food Cycle Science for the provision of 100 food cycler units to residents has been a great success and feedback we have heard has been positive. There is a standing offer from Food Cycle Science to maintain the same offer to the end of 2023 should there be a desire by the Committee to re-open the interest and offer additional units for residents of the Town. The cost to the Town to partner with Food Cycle Science to offer up to 100 units is approximately \$14,720 which subsidizes the units by \$100 and covers the shipping charges.

The Committee concurred to proceed therefore the following recommendation is required:

Recommendation:

Be it so resolved that the Town continue the Food Cycle Science partnership to offer up to 100 additional Food Cyclers units to residents at a subsidized cost. The cost to the Town is approximately \$14,500. Funds are available in account number 01-502-1018-5099.

4. Departmental Report

The Director updated the Committee on the recent accomplishments and ongoing initiatives within the department.

5. Economic Development and Tourism Committee Report

Be it so resolved that the recommendations/decisions made at the Economic Development and Tourism Committee meeting of September 26, 2023 be accepted as presented:

- Investment Attraction Data Project
- Renewable Energy Action Plan
- CBA Chamber of Commerce
- Savour CBS
- Community Transit Plan
- Trail Connection at Chamberlains Park
- Food Cycle Science
- Departmental Report

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.

Councillor Connors, Chair

Jennifer Lake, Director of Economic
Development and Tourism