



Hamilton

Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee

REPORT 19-005

Monday, November 25, 2019

7:00 p.m.

**Ancaster Fairgrounds, Rooms A & B
630 Trinity Road, Ancaster**

Present: Councillors L. Ferguson and A. VanderBeek

A. Spoelstra (Chair), D. Smith (Vice-Chair), J. Mantel, C. McMaster,
N. Mills, A. Payne, R. Pearce, R. Shuker, G. Smuk and M. Switzer

Absent

With Regrets: Councillors B. Clark and B. Johnson – Personal
J. Groen, P. Krakar and C. Roberts

Also Present: H. Swierenga, Ontario Federation of Agriculture

**THE AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE PRESENTS
REPORT 19-005 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:**

- 1. Revised Terms of Reference - Agriculture & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee (PED19173) (Wards 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 15) (deferred from the September 9, 2019 meeting) (Item 10.1(a))**

That the revised Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee Terms of Reference, attached as Appendix "A" to Agriculture & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee Report 19-005, be approved.

That Report PED19173, respecting Revised Terms of Reference - Agriculture & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee, be received.

- 2. Corporate Climate Change Task Force Request - Information Update (deferred from the September 9, 2019 meeting) (Item 10.2)**

(a) That the Information Update, respecting a Corporate Climate Change Task Force Request, be received.

(b) (i) That a Climate Action Working Group of the Agriculture & Rural Affairs

Advisory Committee be established to assemble current knowledge on farm abatement technologies, strategies and management practices to reduce agricultural greenhouse gas emissions and sequester carbon in soil while maintaining or enhancing productivity and report back to the Agriculture & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee at each meeting; and,

- (ii) That the following Members of the Agriculture & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee be appointed to the Climate Action Working Group:

- (1) Cathy McMaster
- (2) Andrew Spoelstra

R. Shuker wished to be recorded as opposed.

3. City Assessment of Development Charges to Agriculture Organizations Without a Farm Business Registration Number (Item 10.3)

That the Agriculture & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee is supportive of all Agricultural Societies in Hamilton (Rockton, Binbrook and Ancaster) being exempted from Development Charges.

FOR INFORMATION:

(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 2)

The Committee Clerk advised of the following change to the agenda:

6. DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 6)

- 6.1 Ian Graham, National Farmers Union Ontario Local 351, respecting Item 10.2 - Corporate Climate Change Task Force Request – Information Update (for today's meeting)

The agenda for the November 25, 2019 meeting of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee was approved, as amended.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)

There were no declarations of interest.

(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 4)

(i) September 9, 2019 (Item 4.1)

The Minutes of the September 9, 2019 meeting of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee were approved, as presented.

(d) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 6)

- (i) Ian Graham, National Farmers Union Ontario Local 351, respecting Item 10.2 - Corporate Climate Change Task Force Request – Information Update (for today's meeting) (Added Item 6.1)**

The delegation request, submitted by Ian Graham, National Farmers Union Ontario Local 351, respecting Item 10.2 - Corporate Climate Change Task Force Request – Information Update, was approved for today's meeting.

(e) PUBLIC HEARINGS / DELEGATIONS (Item 8)

- (i) Ian Graham, National Farmers Union Ontario Local 351, respecting Item 10.2 - Corporate Climate Change Task Force Request – Information Update (Added Item 8.1)**

Ian Graham, National Farmers Union Ontario Local 351, addressed the Committee respecting Item 10.2 - Corporate Climate Change Task Force Request – Information Update, with the aid of a presentation.

The delegation by Ian Graham, National Farmers Union Ontario Local 351, respecting Item 10.2 - Corporate Climate Change Task Force Request – Information Update, was received.

A copy of the presentation is available on the City's website at www.hamilton.ca or through the Office of the City Clerk.

For further disposition of this matter, refer to Item 2.

(f) GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS (Item 13)

Agriculture & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee Members used this opportunity to discuss matters of general interest.

(g) ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)

The meeting of the Agriculture & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Spoelstra, Chair
Agriculture and Rural Affairs
Advisory Committee

Alicia Davenport
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE (DRAFT)

MANDATE

The Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee (ARAAC) is a volunteer Advisory Committee established by City Council in accordance with these adopted Terms of Reference. The ARAAC will provide input to Council and City staff on issues that impact agriculture and rural communities, and act as the liaison between those communities and Council, helping to preserve, maintain and advance an economically viable agriculture base in the City of Hamilton.

SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES

The ARAAC's scope of activities, as it relates to their mandate, are as follows:

- To solicit and coordinate the interests and concerns of Hamilton's farming industry, agricultural organizations, farm families and non-farm rural residents, presenting recommendations before City Council as necessary;
- To serve as a community forum for the exchange of information on agricultural and rural affairs matters and encourage public awareness and education of agricultural and rural issues;
- To review and provide advice on federal, provincial and municipal strategies, policies, studies, plans, by-laws and proposal related to agriculture and rural affairs;
- To provide advice on agricultural and rural affairs matters, as they arise, at the request of Council or staff; and,
- To serve as the Tree By-Law Committee, as set forth in By-law No. R00-054, the Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth Woodland Conservation By-law, for the purpose of hearing applicants who are refused a permit for minor exception, and recommending whether the permit should be issued or denied with or without terms and conditions.

REPORTING STRUCTURE

The Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee reports to City Council, through the Planning Committee.

COMPOSITION & TERMS

The Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee shall be comprised of up to 19 voting members and up to five key stakeholders/advisors (non-voting) as follows:

Voting Members:

- Three members appointed by the Hamilton-Wentworth Federation of Agriculture;
- One member appointed by the Wentworth-Brant Christian Farmers Association;

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- One member appointed by the Hamilton-Wentworth Women's Institute;
- One rotating member appointed by the Agricultural Societies (Rockton, Binbrook and Ancaster);
- Two members appointed by the Wentworth Soil & Crop Improvement Association;
- Up to five citizen members appointed by Council; and,
- Up to six Councillors appointed by Council from Wards 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and/or 15.

Key Stakeholders/Advisors (Non-voting Members):

- The Member Service Representative for Zone 5 from the Ontario Federation of Agriculture;
- One staff representative from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs;
- One member appointed by farmers markets in Hamilton;
- One member appointed from the Chamber of Commerce (Flamborough, Stoney Creek, Hamilton); and,
- One member appointed from the Wentworth Junior Farmers Association.

Quorum shall be a half of the voting membership rounded up to the nearest whole number. Non-voting members are not counted in determining the number required for quorum or in determining whether or not quorum is present.

Volunteer citizen members of the ARAAC will be selected as per the City of Hamilton's Policy respecting the Appointment of Citizens to the City's Agencies, Boards, Commissions, Advisory (Volunteer) Committees and Sub-Committees for the Term of Council (4 years) or until such time as a successor is appointed by Council.

A Chair and Vice-Chair of the ARAAC shall be elected for the Term of Council (4 years) or until such time as a successor is appointed.

COMMITTEE SUPPORT

The following resources will be made available to the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee:

- The City Clerk's Division will provide legislative support and be responsible for the administrative costs of operating the Committee meetings;
- City staff liaison(s) from the Economic Development Division and Planning Division; and,
- The Committee may request information or support from other City Divisions and Departments or experts in the field to assist in formulating appropriate decisions and recommendations.

MEETINGS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Meetings shall be held at the call of the Chair at an appropriate meeting space and time. Regular meetings will not be scheduled during the months of July, August or December,

Approved by Council on [INSERT DATE]

but special meetings may be called during these months.

The Terms of Reference shall be reviewed by the Committee within each Term of Council.