

Minutes of the Regular Economic Development Commission Meeting held on Thursday, March 15, 2012, at 7:30 am in the Community Futures Boardroom, 135 Third Street, Duncan, BC.

PRESENT

Marsha Stanley, Chair
Directors B. Fraser and P. Kent
Roger Hart, George Robbins, Mike Kelly

ALSO PRESENT

Director I. Morrison
Tom Anderson, General Manager, Planning & Development
Rachelle Rondeau, Planner 1, Planning & Development
Cathy Mailhot, Tourism Cowichan Marketing Coordinator
Dave Devana, CAO, District of North Cowichan
Geoff Millar, Manager, Economic Development
Kathy Lachman, EDC Business Development Officer
Judy Mills, Recording Secretary

ABSENT

Pat Foster, Jenn George, John Morris, Jane Worton

**APPROVAL OF
AGENDA**

Two items of correspondence were added.

It was moved and seconded the amended agenda be accepted.

MOTION CARRIED

**ADOPTION OF
MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Economic Development Commission meeting, held February 17, 2012 be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

C1 – Catalyst

The following handouts were circulated; email from Dave Devana regarding Catalyst request for assistance and Municipality of North Cowichan media release dated March 9, 2012 supporting competitive business environment for industry and Catalyst.

Dave Devana reported the District of North Cowichan is considering a residential tax shift. Goal would be to get industry tax rate the same as Nanaimo. DNC Council will be meeting to decide direction they will take. He asked would the EDC support issuing a Media Press release.

Discussion ensued.

It was decided the issues at hand are important for a broader scheme for the province. The EDC will consider supporting and wait and see outcome of the DNC Council.

Further discussion ensued.

C2 - Invitation

The Environment Commission invited the EDC members to the Integrated Community Energy Mapping Project presentation to be held on March 22, 2012 in the CVRD Boardroom from 7-9 pm. If you are interested in attending please RSVP to EDC staff.

DELEGATE

**D1 – Private Sector
Green Building
Strategy**

Rachelle Rondeau introduced several approaches to encourage green buildings within the private sector with the purpose of obtaining feedback on the goals and policies of a CVRD private green building strategy. The Environment Commission is in support of a three tier approach including system of financial rebates, developing re-zoning requirement and continuing to introduce green building and new policies to apply to residential planning. Rachelle is working on another report with more specific questions and will circulate to EDC.

Discussion ensued.

It was recommended the report be received for information and the EDC will provide feedback at a later date.

Tom Anderson left the meeting at 8:23 am.

REPORTS

R1 – VIU Event

Roger Hart reported on background of the first Cowichan event of the U.N. International Year of the Cooperative planned for Friday, March 23, 2012 at 7pm at VIU Cowichan campus.

**R2 – Tourism
Cowichan Marketing
Coordinator**

Geoff Millar introduced Cathy Mailhot, Tourism Cowichan Marketing Coordinator. Cathy provided a brief overview of her role in the new position.

Discussion ensued.

**R3 – EDC
Appointments**

Geoff Millar reported the EDC is required to make an appointment to the Regional Agricultural Advisory Commission and the Environment Commission.

It was moved and seconded that the Economic Development Commission recommend the CVRD Board appoint George Robbins as the EDC appointee to the Regional Agricultural Advisory Commission.

MOTION CARRIED

It was moved and seconded the Environment appointee be postponed until the EDC membership vacancies are filled.

MOTION CARRIED

**UNFINISHED
BUSINESS**

**UB1 – Member
Recruitment**

Geoff Millar reported that Maria Lauridsen is on leave from VIU since September 2011. Keith Chicquen, Instructional Director would be willing to attend meetings until Maria returns.

Discussion ensued.

It was decided to invite a VIU representative to attend EDC meetings but hold off on appointment until Maria returns. Geoff & Roger will communicate with regard to contacting Darrel Mansbridge the interim campus principal.

Geoff Millar met with the CVRD Board Chair regarding recruitment. Chair Hutchins wants a targeted approach and broad advertisement. The application form will be streamlined so that applicant information has continuity and is easier to evaluate. The Chair added EDC members should be advocating in the communities to encourage regional representation.

Discussion ensued. It was noted to send copies of the advertisement to the Municipalities.

Director Kent and Roger Hart left the meeting at 9 am. No longer a quorum.

General consensus was to advertise the positions first then have sub-committee meet to work with applications.

The Chair reported Director Kent is the sub-committee chair.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Economic Development Commission is scheduled for Thursday, April 19, 2012 at 7:30 am in the Community Futures Boardroom.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 am.

Chair

Recording Secretary