

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
AGRICULTURAL POLICY & ACTION COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**APAC 3-2020
Friday, November 27, 2020
Committee Room 4 / Video Conference
Niagara Region Headquarters, Campbell West
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold ON**

Committee Members Present in Committee Room 4: Councillor Witteveen (Committee Chair)

Committee Members Present via Video Conference: Councillors Disero, Jordan, Steele; G. Janes, J. Kikkert, C. Mullet Koop, B. Schenck (Committee Vice Chair), J. Schonberger, L. Troup, K. Wiens

Absent/Regrets: Bradley (Regional Chair); Councillors Butters, Easton; C. Hamilton, A. Vaughn

Staff Present in Committee Room 4: E. Acs, Manager, Community Planning, K. Lotimer, Legislative Coordinator, L. Sicoli, Economic Development Officer

Staff Present via Video Conference: M. Evelyn, Legislative Coordinator, M. Trennum, Deputy Regional Clerk

Others Present via Video Conference: P. Bootsma, Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario, H. Fraser, Irrigation Ambassador, Ontario Tender Fruit Growers, J. Janiec, Ontario Federation of Agriculture, K. MacPhearson, Greenbelt Foundation, S. Marshall, Ontario Tender Fruit Growers, R. Sayej, Town of Lincoln

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Witteveen called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

3. **PRESENTATIONS**

3.1 **Irrigation Update**

Hugh Fraser, Irrigation Ambassador, Ontario Tender Fruit Growers, provided information respecting Irrigation Update. Topics of the presentation included:

- Project as of November 2019
- Mimicking the "LADII" System
- St. Catharines Interviews
 - Ontario Power Generator
 - Water Treatment Plant
- Other Areas
 - Town of Lincoln
 - Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake
- Why is this Initiative Important?

4. **DELEGATIONS**

There were no delegations.

5. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

5.1 **APAC-C 6-2020**

2021 Agricultural Policy and Action Committee Meeting Dates

Moved by Councillor Steele

Seconded by J. Kikkert

That Correspondence Item APAC-C 6-2020, being a memorandum from A.-M., Norio, Regional Clerk, dated November 27, 2020, respecting 2021 Agricultural Policy and Action Committee Meeting Dates, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendation **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the Agricultural Policy and Action Committee meetings **BE HELD** on Fridays at 9:00 a.m. on the following dates in 2021:

February 26, April 30, September 24, and November 26.

Carried

6. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Moved by Councillor Jordan
Seconded by J. Kikkert

That the following items **BE RECEIVED** for information:

APAC-C 7-2020

Report PDS 25-2020 Woodland Conservation By-law, Agricultural Policy and Action Committee

APAC 2-2020

Agricultural Policy and Action Committee Minutes – September 25, 2020

Carried

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Farm Help Housing

Sarah Marshall, Ontario Tender Fruit, requested an update respecting the request for a Regional Development Charges By-law (By-law 2017-98) exemption specific for farm help houses. Erik Acs, Manager, Community Planning, advised that it will be considered as part of the scheduled review of the Development Charges By-law scheduled to occur in 2022.

7.2 Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) Update

Joe Schonberger, Committee member, advised that the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) would be hosting virtual information sessions respecting Floodplain Mapping for the Town of Lincoln on December 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. and the Town of Grimsby on December 16, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

7.3 Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act

Committee members discussed the impact of *Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act* on the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) and the downstream effects for the agricultural community in Niagara. Committee Chair Witteveen advised that a number of Niagara organizations have sent letters to the Provincial Government respecting this matter.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Friday, February 26, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Councillor Witteveen
Committee Chair

Mark Evely
Legislative Coordinator

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk