

Town of Hampton Economic Development Committee Meeting

Tuesday, January 21, 2025

In attendance: Chris White (staff), Josh Adams (Chair), Councillor Todd Beach, Heather Libbey, Paula Copeland, Jill Ganong, Marcelle Bélanger

Regrets: Chris Rendell, Michel Boudreau

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1. **Call to Order:** Josh Adams called the meeting to order at 6:33pm
 2. **Introduction of new member:** Josh welcomed Paula Copeland as the newest member of the committee.
 3. **Approval of Agenda:** Moved by Heather Libbey: seconded by Jill Ganong
 4. **Conflict of Interest:** None
 5. **Approval of previous minutes:** moved by Todd Beach, seconded by Marcelle Bélanger to accept the minutes of November 19, 2024.
 6. **Business Arising from the Minutes:**
 - a. Local Governance Reform: Chris White shared the issues around the rollout of solid waste management in new areas at start of the year. An information session on collection services for all area residents has been scheduled at Hampton High School for Thursday, February 6th at 6:30pm. Members welcome to attend.
 - b. Housing Accelerator Fund: the application is still undergoing review. No deadline for a decision.
 - c. Storefront Improvement Grant: during the budget process for 2025 it was decided to suspend the grant program for 2025; the program will be revisited as part of the budget discussion for 2026. Jill Ganong shared that CBDC have launched two new grant programs for 2025 including a CyberSecure program; details to be shared with HACC and area businesses.
 - d. Envision Saint John: Hampton was the first community host of the regional Fundy WinterFest; SNOWball tournament, Snowshoe with First Nations Storytellers and Cookie Crawl all sold-out events. \$800 raised for PRO Kids at tournament.
 - e. Community Expo: (Action Plan 3.1.4). Scheduled for Saturday, February 15 at Senior's Resource Centre, 10am-1pm. 17 of 18 spots reserved by a mix of service organizations and clubs.
 7. **New Business:**
 - a. Expanded use of Visitor Information Centre: Several programs held in Q4 of 2024 (Astronomy Workshop, Learn to Sew, Screenwriters Group). Several events in February – details in newsletter.
 - b. Blue Trails Tourism: the town will partner with Hook & Paddle on a fishing tournament hosted from the Lighthouse River Centre May 31st – June 1st. Event will be recorded and shared via several channels.
 8. **Reports:**
 - a. Planning & Development Update: Chris White reviewed the stats. Heather Libbey asked, how do we incent the repurposing of older buildings? Concerns around maintaining Hampton 'look ad feel' without protections, incentives, or both. Chris to investigate for next meeting.
 - b. PAC Report: No report available; tabled to next meeting.
 - c. Chamber Report: Todd Beach shared the approved business plan has been submitted to meet accreditation requirements; Emerging Entrepreneur group developing; 4 board members will finish their term at Spring AGM – looking for new members; Golf Tournament scheduled for July 4th.
 - d. Heather Libbey moved the adoption of the Reports; seconded by Jill Ganong.
 - e. **Correspondence:** None.
 9. **Next Meeting Date:** February 18, 2025.
 10. **Adjournment:** Todd Beach so moved at 7:44pm.

SIGNATURE: _____

Josh Adams

DATE: _____

Feb 18, 2025