

AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING
January 4, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Jeff Shaver, Gary Albers, Lisa Severson, Wendy Onstein, Graham Houze, Dave Annable, Doug Malanka, Annette Simonian, Myron Belej

REGRETS

Mark Primeau, Judi Baril

1. **Call to Order**
Chair called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.
2. **Chair's Opening Remarks**
3. **Approval of Agenda**
Agenda Approved
4. **Approval of the Minutes**
Minutes approved for the December 7, 2020 meeting.
5. **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**
6. **Business Arising from the Minutes**
7. **Delegations**
8. **Correspondence**
9. **New and Unfinished Business**
 - 9.1 Mayor's Breakfast
 - The Mayor's would like to proceed with the Mayor's breakfast
 - Suggested Theme: Challenge of COVID – 'Don't waste a good crisis'
 - Will ask Burnbrae if they would like to be the speaker
 - Date: March 26
 - LGSBEC will take the lead
 - Plan to proceed with a hybrid of online and in person.
 - Will use ZOOM and LGBEC will use their ZOOM account
 - Location and catering: Brockville Country Club – LGSBEC will secure location and breakfast

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9.2 UCLG Economic Development, Corridor & BIC Update

- UCLG update are doing a great job with economic development during COVID
- There is strong support to continue with the Corridor Commission and the partnership is still the best thing for regional view.
- There just needs to be better communication, collaboration and notification of achievements
- The Corridor has established a subcommittee to address these concerns
- BIC – one lead, but no movement to date
- The township should be looking into the viability of supplying services that doesn't rely on Invista.
- The Township will take a introspective look to determine if this is something the community will back in order to help make the Industrial Park more investment ready.
- Committee discussed that it wouldn't be wise to put any public money into the Invista site. They are trying to make money on small businesses who can't afford it
- Committee discussed the concern that someone at the Corridor is getting paid as a full-time employee, but are they really working full-time. Feel it is not a sustainable model.

9.3 Committee Updates

- N/A

9.4 Roundtable

- General feeling that small businesses are being disrespected. There is too much support for big box stores. If the lockdown continues beyond January 23 many small businesses will be in trouble.
- EOWC inaugural meeting is Friday
- Let Myron know if there are any small business sectors that need some attention
- Interview for the replacement of the CAO are taking place this week

10. **Next Meeting – February 1, 2021 at 1:30pm**

11. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.