

**Neebing Economic Development Advisory Committee
Minutes
Monday, June 12, 2017
5:15 pm Neebing Municipal Office**

1. Attendance: D. Kilgour, C. Butikofer, B. Marshall, E. Butikofer, W. Robinson
regrets- C. Bruce, P. Cain, A. Wallenius, G. Davies
on leave- D. Crack
2. Approval of the Agenda.
Moved by: W. Robinson/ C. Butikofer. Carried
3. Declaration of conflict of interest: none
4. Approval of the minutes of May 8 , 2017
Moved by B. Marshall/ E. Butikofer. Carried
5. Business arising from the minutes-
 - a. Old Business-
Letter to Premier Wynn was submitted May 23 but no response was received yet. Council sent a resolution to all pertinent Ministries and Municipalities in support of compensation from conservation land.
Neebing Community Fair – correspondence has been sent, thanking participants.
6. Strategic plan and applying for Rural Economic Development (RED) Funding
 - Wayne is pursuing the attendance of a representative from RED to attend our September 11 meeting. The purpose of the funding has to be clearly thought out and likely would take the form of a study of the needs of Neebing. The committee should bring Fort William First Nation on board.
 - After much discussion it was agreed we should add a few items to our strategic plan :
 - * getting better high speed internet
 - * pursuing gas for heat
 - *develop and inventory for existing businesses
 - *join the Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce
 - *create a package of marketing tools
7. Erwin elaborated on the council pursuing compensation from the government for Conservation lands. This is in comparison to the community's that have railroad property being compensated for lost taxes for these properties within their communities. OMA and Bill Mauro have taken positive interest in the concept.
8. The display will be picked up and put up for the Tailgate Sale. Other opportunities include Canada Day.
9. Opportunities for small businesses and OTHER :
 - Dawne and Clara were invited by Lois Nuttall to promote Neebing at the Cheese Farm on June 6th to a bus load of Tourism providers who were on a FAM (familiarization) tour of the Thunder Bay and area hot spots.
 - Wilma Mol is having a market in her parking lot on Thursdays starting June 29 from 4 - 7 and is asking for our assistance in promoting it to small businesses. 9 Action- Clara will post on Facebook page
 - The Co-op is planning a yard sale on June 24th (has since been rescheduled to a later date TBD)

- The gasifier project is resubmitting their application
- the Heart of the Continent is tentatively planning a gathering with the focus being the Outlaw Bridge celebrations in Mid-summer or at the end of August . Other plans are being made for a fall meeting and location is yet to be determined. The organization is one of the finalists for a SHIFT award in the Public Land Management Innovation Category. The focus this year on this award and the Nov 1-3rd event is on a business case for public lands: How investments in outdoor recreation and the protection of public lands promote local economic prosperity. (shiftjh.org)

10. Next Meeting September 11, 2017

11. Adjournment at 6:30 pm Motion by W. Robinson

**Neebing Economic Development Advisory Committee
Minutes
Monday, Sept 11, 2017
5:15 pm Neebing Municipal Office**

1. Attendance: D. Kilgour, C. Butikofer, B. Marshall, E. Butikofer, W. Robinson
regrets - G. Davies
on leave - D. Crack
2. Approval of the Agenda.
Moved by: W. Robinson/ B. Marshall. Carried
3. Declaration of conflict of interest: none
4. Approval of the minutes of June 12, 2017 – Deferred till October meeting
5. New Business:
 - a. The Committee met with Kendall Donahue from OMAFRA to discuss any available programs that local farmers might want to see here in Neebing. Discussion was also held with respect to OMAFRA's Rural Economic Development ("RED") Fund. Wayne Robinson is in contact with Thunder Bay Ventures in this regard. The Committee will work with local interested farmers on possible projects to submit for funding.

TASK – Wayne Robinson
 - b. The Committee is pursuing an "asset" inventory in the Municipality so that prospective developers can be directed to areas of interest (forestry, agriculture, aggregates, wilderness, conservation, tourism, parks, etc.). Funds for an intern are being pursued so that this project can be completed. The Committee will be approaching Lakehead University to see whether there is a potential to utilize students, staff and/or equipment. Ms. Donahue is assisting the Committee in this regard in terms of appropriate liaison with the University.
 - c. The Committee has determined that it is not prepared to apply by the deadline for this iteration of RED funding, but will prepare for the next issue.
6. Old Business
 - a. Letter to Premier Wynn was submitted May 23 but no response was received yet.
 - b. Clara has reached out to the Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce for information, benefits and pricing regarding membership.
7. Questions were asked about the status on the gasifier and there is no further information as reported by E. Butikofer.
8. Next Meeting October 16 , 2017
9. Adjournment at 6:30 pm Motion by W. Robinson