

Minutes

Date: May 13, 2020

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Location: via Zoom Video Conferencing

Members Present:

Chair Donald Sanderson, Archipelago Reeve Bert Liverance, McDougall Mayor Dale Robinson, McKellar Councillor Morley Haskim, Parry Sound Mayor Jamie McGarvey, Seguin Mayor Ann MacDiarmid, Whitestone Mayor George Comrie

Regrets: Carling Councillor Terry Gilbert

Steering Committee, Alternate Members and Presenters in Attendance:

Steering Committee Members: Archipelago CAO John Fior, Carling CAO Kevin McLlwain, McDougall CAO Tim Hunt, McKellar Clerk Administrator Tammy Wylie, Parry Sound CAO Clayton Harris, Seguin CAO Chris Madej, Whitestone CAO Michelle Hendry; Alternate Members: McKellar Mayor Peter Hopkins, Parry Sound Councillor Vanessa Backman, Seguin Councillor Art Coles; Citizens Advisory Committee Chair Tom Lundy, Vice-Chair Ryan Purdy; CS&P Architects and consulting team: Sam Spagnuolo, Susan Lewin, Bill Van Ryn; Recording Secretary Rebecca Johnson; IT Moderator Forrest Pengra

1.a Approve Minutes

**Moved by Mayor Robinson
Seconded by Mayor Comrie**

That minutes of the November 6, 2019 WCPC Meeting are hereby approved as circulated.

Carried

**Moved by Councillor Haskim
Seconded by Mayor MacDiarmid**

That minutes of the Closed November 6, 2019 WCPC Meeting are hereby approved as circulated.

Carried

1.b Additions to Agenda; Approval of Agenda

**Moved by Mayor Robinson
Seconded by Reeve Liverance**

That the agenda for May 13, 2020 WCPC Meeting is hereby approved as circulated.

Carried

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest - none

3. New Business

3.1 Project Update

Verbal Report Submitted by/Spokesperson: Sam Spagnuolo, CS&P Architect

Sam Spagnuolo provided a power point presentation similar to that provided at a previous meeting, regarding the proposal for a West Parry Sound Area Recreation and Culture Centre, including a drawn rendering, vision, components of the facility, conceptual design, benefits to the community, partnerships, Indigenous benefits, etc. With a vision of “healthy active living”, as an underlying principle of the Wellness Centre, Mr. Spagnuolo noted that the components of the 49,000 square foot facility included a multi-lane lap pool, full gym, fitness area with track, multi-purpose rooms including a room used for future daycare. Mr. Spagnuolo noted that the consultants are now waiting for an update from the Citizens Advisory Committee on the program.

Mr. Spagnuolo itemized the benefits of having a community centre like this and reported that it was the consulting firm’s opinion based on familiarity with other applications, that the West Parry Sound Area’s application for a grant was a strong one.

With respect to the workplan, Mr. Spagnuolo reported that it is behind schedule by about two weeks because of the COVID-19 pandemic, with 90-95% scope of work completed.

Bill Van Ryn of Tatham Engineering, reported on the field work completed for Phase I ESA, the purpose of which is to determine if there is any contamination on the existing property, based on the building, site work done, history of the site. They looked for asbestos, PCBs, urea formaldehyde foam, lead, mercury in paint and found no contamination, as expected based on the age of the building (YMCA building). Mr. Van Ryn noted that there is fill on site which can’t yet be verified as clean, due to its inaccessibility, however this will be addressed soon and there are not concerns with the fill based on when it was placed there.

Mr. Van Ryn noted that beneficially, the bedrock is deeper than originally estimated along the servicing corridor along Parry Sound Drive. There is softer soil and peat in the area of building; where the pool is proposed will require deeper excavation so there are no concerns with that, however there may require more extensive footings in other areas. Savings in reduced bedrock will outweigh extra costs for extended footings.

The consultants responded to questions of the Committee per the following:
Results of the Y building assessment suggest it does not seem feasible to keep the existing building due to its age and general condition.

With respect to whether the back portion of the Y building was sinking, Susan Lewin of

CS&P Architects reported that the building assessment did indicate quite a few building envelope issues, notably roof leaks and wall assembly, in addition to the building being functionally inadequate, but that the report did not mention settlement of the foundation, although the building was reclad fairly recently to cover settlement cracks.

Recommendation

Moved by Reeve Liverance
Seconded by Mayor McGarvey

That the verbal report of CS&P Architects be received for information purposes.

Carried

3.2 Citizen Advisory Committee, Public Consultation Approach

Submitted by/Spokespersons: CAC Chair Tom Lundy, Vice-Chair Ryan Purdy

CAC Chair Tom Lundy reported that prior to the COVID-19 pandemic shut-down, 6 public consultation meetings had been lined up throughout the municipalities. A presentation accompanied by a survey to help gather public input was to have been used.

CAC Vice-Chair Ryan Purdy reported that the survey focusses on asking what people would like to see and do in the building to help drive the CAC's recommendations on what building features to include. The challenge now is how to provide the presentations and surveys when public in-person meetings are no longer possible. Presentations could be made in a virtual Town Hall style meeting or pre-recorded and available along with the survey.

In response to Committee member questions, the presenters noted that the survey does not deal with economic questions such as the impact on taxes, and that this type of issue seems more appropriate to be addressed by municipal elected or appointed officials/CAOs. Feedback from surveys should be obtained within two weeks, with another two weeks needed for the committee to analyze the data and provide recommendations to the Steering Committee and WCPC. The presenters received a member recommendation that under the circumstances of some area inadequate internet service and closed public spaces, that a printed survey copy be made available in places such as retailers which are open to the public.

Recommendation

Moved by Mayor Robinson
Seconded by Mayor MacDiarmid

That the verbal report of the Citizens' Advisory Committee Chair and Vice-Chair be received for information purposes

Carried

3.3 McKellar Council Resolution to Postpone Public Meetings

Submitted by/Spokesperson: Township of McKellar

Councillor Morley Haskim reported that McKellar Township had passed a motion to postpone public meetings to discuss financial viability of the project, particularly during this period of the COVID-19 pandemic. Councillor Haskim suggested the Committee might consider at a future meeting a cap on the project cost.

At the invitation to respond, CS&P Architects Sam Spaguolo and Susan Lewin reported that the application submitted has been for the full program, and acknowledged that it was for a four-lane and not a six-lane pool, the latter of which they hear CAC interest in. They reported that they hear that the funding will come, and that the West Parry Sound Area's application continues to be a strong application in their view.

Each of the other members of the Committee present responded to the issue advocating to stay the course and not postpone public meetings at this time, noting the strength of the application, the unified approach, the advocacy already done and the need for public consultation given the promise of public consultation.

Councillor Haskim thanked the other Committee members for their comments, indicated that he felt no motion was necessary to advance this issue, that McKellar was expressing concern about potential cost overages, but would stay the course with the rest of the Committee.

3.4 Grant Application Advocacy

Submitted by/Spokespersons: Steering Committee

Steering Committee member Clayton Harris gave an overview of advocacy actions taken to date including outreach by Mayor McGarvey to MPP Norm Miller; Mayor Robinson's delegation meeting with Ministers at ROMA, Mayor MacDiarmid's outreach to MP Scott Aitchison, and presentation of the proposal to Premier Ford when he was in Parry Sound. Mayor McGarvey also reported on discussions he has had with Ministers Clark, Thompson, and Scott on the project.

The Committee discussed whether or not to form an advocacy sub-committee and declined in favour of continuing advocacy efforts at the entire WCPC level, noting the upcoming AMO virtual conference would offer delegation opportunities. Steering Committee member Clayton Harris offered the SC's efforts to create a briefing paper that Committee members could use when advocacy opportunities became available.

Recommendation

Moved by Mayor McGarvey
Seconded by Mayor Comrie

That the Steering Committee be directed to create a grant application advocacy strategy

(i.e. a briefing paper) back to this Committee.

Carried

Recommendation

**Moved by Reeve Liverance
Seconded by Mayor McGarvey**

That the WCPC make arrangements for a delegation to appropriate ministers at AMO Conference with as many heads of Council in attendance virtually as possible to demonstrate strength and unity.

Carried

In a follow-up later in the meeting, Mayor McGarvey suggested that when the delegation to ministers at the AMO Conference is undertaken, that the two area First Nations be invited to participate.

3.5 Ratification of Appointment to CAC

Submitted by/Spokesperson: CAC Chair Tom Lundy

Recommendation

**Moved by Reeve Liverance
Seconded by Mayor Robinson**

That the resignation of Larry Fleetham be accepted from the CAC and his appointment revoked; and

That the appointment of Glen Barnden to the CAC be revoked by virtue of his move away from the Parry Sound Area; and

That the appointment of Sherrill Judge to the CAC be formally ratified.

Carried

4. Other Business – N/A

5. Adjournment

Chair Sanderson adjourned the meeting at 7:56 PM