

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

**MINUTES OF THE AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY AUGUST 26, 2016 AT 11 AM
IN THE RDN BOARD ROOM**

Present:

H. Houle	Chairperson
J. Fell	Electoral Area F
M. Ryn	Regional Agricultural Organization
J. Thony	Regional Agricultural Organization
K. Reid	Shellfish Aquaculture Organizations
K. Wilson	Representative District 68
G. Laird	Representative District 68
R. Thompson	Representative District 69

Regrets

C. Haime	District of Lantzville
C. Watson	Representative District 69
D. Trudeau	Interim Chief Administrative Officer
G. Garbutt	Gen. Mgr. Strategic & Community Development
P. Thompson	Mgr. Long Range Planning
T. Armet	Mgr. Building, Bylaw Services & Emergency Planning Services, Bylaw Enforcement

Also in Attendance:

M. Young	Director Electoral Area C
B. Rogers	Director Electoral Area E
J. Holm	Mgr. Current Planning
G. Keller	Sr. Planner, Long Range Planning
K. Marks	Planner, Current Planning
C. Simpson	Sr. Planner, Long Range Planning
B. Farkas	Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

The Chairperson called the meeting to order.

MINUTES

MOVED K. Wilson, SECONDED K. Reid, that the minutes of the Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting held on June 24, 2016, be adopted.

CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

J. Holm provided an update on the ALC's decisions on past applications that have been considered by the AAC. There will be ongoing reporting provided to the committee when the ALC reaches a decision on an ALR application.

A copy of a letter to AAC Members from J. Schile, Planner was included in agenda. The letter outlines the decision by the ALC to deny the request for subdivision for PL2016-042.

In addition, the ALC has provided a decision for PL2016-035 on August 24, 2016. The ALC has refused the application for non-farm use. A letter explaining the ALC's decision will be provided to the Committee.

The ALC has also provided a decision for PL2015-160 on August 25, 2016. The ALC has refused the application for 2116 Alborn Highway for subdivision. A letter explaining the ALC's decision will be provided to the Committee.

REPORTS

ALR Application No. PL2016-096 - Subdivision

MOVED Director Fell, SECONDED K. Wilson, that application No. PL 2016-096, Edwards/Kallin, be forwarded to the Agricultural Land Commission with a recommendation to approve the subdivision within the ALR.

NOT CARRIED

MOVED G. Laird, SECONDED M. Ryn, that Application No. PL2016-096, Edwards/Kallin, that Part of Lot 1, District Lot 35, Wellington District, Plan 3225, Lying Southerly of a Line Drawn Parallel to and Perpendicularly Distant 2.645 Chains Northerly from the Southerly Boundary of Said Lot and 6617 Doumont Road – Electoral Area 'C' be forwarded to the Agricultural Land Commission with a recommendation to not approve the subdivision within the ALR.

CARRIED

ALR Application No. PL2016-097 - Non-Farm Use

MOVED Director Fell, SECONDED K. Wilson, that Application No. PL2016-097, Culverden Holdings Ltd., Lot 1, District Lot 171 and Block 564, Nanoose District, Plan VIP71158 and 1888 Kaye Road – Electoral Area 'E' be forwarded to the Agricultural Land Commission with a recommendation to allow the non-farm use in the ALR.

CARRIED

Changes to the ALR Regulations – Verbal Update

G. Keller provided the committee with an update on the recently amended ALR Regulations. Mr. Keller advised that the new regulations are available at the ALC's website.

There was discussion regarding the RDN's role in regulating events which will now be permitted on land located in the ALR.

J. Holm informed the committee that the new significant changes to the ALC regulations have been enacted since the recent adoption by the RDN Board of amendments to the RDN zoning bylaws (Bylaw 500 and Bylaw 1285) to ensure that the RDN bylaws are more consistent with the ALR regulations.

MOVED K. Wilson, SECONDED G. Laird, that the AAC forward a recommendation to the RDN Board requesting that the Board consider amendments to zoning Bylaws 500 and 1285 to address recent amendments to the ALR Regulations (B.C. Reg. 210/2016).

CARRIED

MOVED M. Ryn, SECONDED K. Wilson, that the AAC recommends the Board refer the matter of zoning bylaw amendments to address recent changes to the ALR Regulations (B.C. Regulations 210/2016) to the AAC for recommendations to the Board.

CARRIED

Exploration of Composting – Verbal Update

G. Keller stated that in the interest of time he will provide a verbal summary on the bus tour which is scheduled to depart immediately after the AAC meeting.

RDN Agricultural Bylaw Amendments – Verbal Update

K. Marks noted that the RDN Agricultural Bylaw Amendments were adopted June 28, 2016 and directed committee members to the RDN website for detailed information.

Brochure on Rural Areas Guide for Residents Living in Farming Areas – Verbal Update

K. Marks distributed the brochure to committee members and made note of suggested changes from the committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Electoral Area 'H' Official Community Plan Review

C. Simpson advised the committee of a preliminary analysis for an ALR boundary assessment underway in EA'H' and noted that a report will be provided to the AAC for their review when a draft version is available. Ms. Simpson also noted that aquaculture will be included in the report.

Parksville Economic Development Working Group

J. Thony advised that she is a committee member with the Coombs Farmers' Institute and they are proposing to build a demonstration farm.

Coastal Invasive Species Committee

J. Thony noted that the District A Farmers' Institute now has a permanent seat on the board of the Coastal Invasive Species Committee.

Increased Public Awareness of Agricultural Area Plan

J. Thony indicated that there is a need for greater awareness of the AAP among the general public.

MOVED J. Thony, SECONDED M. Ryn, that the AAC recommend that the Board direct staff to look into ways to better inform the public of the existence of the AAP and its merits.

CARRIED

J. Holm invited the committee members to contact staff at any time for consultation regarding the process of bringing new agenda items to the committee and preparing motions for the committee.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON