

**MINUTES
COMMITTEE STRUCTURES 2016
PUBLIC MEETING
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015
6:30PM
SPENCERVILLE MUNICIPAL OFFICE**

Present: Mayor Pat Sayeau, Chair
Deputy Mayor Peggy Taylor
Councillor Michael Barrett
Councillor Gerry Morrell
Councillor Karie Smail

Staff: Debra McKinstry, CAO/Clerk
Sheena Earl, Deputy Clerk
Shelbi Deacon, Community Development Coordinator

Public: Mr. Hugh Cameron
Mr. Joe Martelle
Mr. Tim Nason
Mr. Clint Cameron
Mr. Mark Packwood
Mr. Dave Robertson
Mr. Scott O'Brien
Mr. Lucas Billet

Mayor Sayeau welcomed all in attendance at 6:30pm. He noted that the purpose of the meeting was to gather public feedback with respect to committee mandates and structures.

Staff provided an overview of the current mandates and structures of the Administration and Finance Committee of the Whole, Public Works, Environmental Services & Facilities Committee of the Whole, Community Development Committee and Recreation Advisory Committee. Suggestions provided in writing to the CAO/Clerk prior to the meeting were also reviewed (attached).

Mayor Sayeau opened the discussion up to members in the gallery and the following input was provided verbally at the meeting:

- Membership on South Nation Conservation committees may serve as means to get the public more involved in governance;

- Joint marketing committee established among various groups across the Township to foster broad support and outreach for events and festivals;
- Township should consider hosting a second “Business after 5” type event;
- Merits and complications association with the proposed expansion of the Recreation Committee mandate to include facilities was discussed;
- With respect to the Community Development Committee (CDC), the following suggestions were put forward:
 - Suggestion to merge CDC and Recreation Advisory Committee with membership from local business and recreation associations was discussed;
 - further suggestion that an Ad Hoc Committee form out of this joint RAC/CDC group to work with tourism/festival promotion;
 - remove planning applications and continue to keep recreation separate from CDC;
- Establishment of community-focused groups outside of Committees of Council encouraged but concerns raised about diluting the message of various groups without focus and tangible goals;
- Suggestion that each Committee review departmental budgets based on mandate;
- Importance and difficulty of leveraging volunteers and community champions;
- Focus more on the individual values and interests of committee applicants to encourage greater involvement;
- Focus on the overall good of the municipality, not individual interests of committee members;
- Allocate some budget to each community and allow community groups to recommend spending priorities;
- Follow up with community event organizers to offer any further assistance and to seek feedback on municipal support;
- Host a volunteer appreciation event or reception

Mayor Sayeau thanked all present on behalf of Council and noted that changes to committee mandates and structures would be considered further in the New Year.

The meeting adjourned at 8:07pm.

Sheena Earl, Secretary