



AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 7, 2025, 1:30 p.m.

Members Present: Kai Wiens - Chair, Councillor Sandra O'Connor, Councillor Erwin Wiens, John Fedorkow, Kathryn Hoshkiw, George Lepp, Albrecht Seeger, John Thwaites, Chris Van de Laar

Staff Present: Steve Burke - Manager of Policy and Heritage Planning, Connor MacIsaac - Planner II, Shannon Mista - Legislative and Committees Coordinator, Ashleigh Myers - Government Relations, Economic Development and Tourism Office

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Kai Weins, Chair at 1:30 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by: Chris Van de Laar

Seconded by: John Thwaites

That the agenda be adopted as presented.

APPROVED

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None were declared.

4. PREVIOUS MINUTES

4.1 February 10, 2025

Moved by: John Fedorkow

Seconded by: George Lepp

The February 10, 2025, minutes were received.

APPROVED

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Niagara Region, Colin Horne & Anthony Habjan - APAC Presentation Protecting the Health and Safety of Niagara's International Agricultural Workers (IAW)

Colin Horne and Anthony Habjan from the Niagara Region presented on Protecting the Health and Safety of Niagara's International Agricultural Workers (IAW).

The Committee asked the Presenters questions for clarification.

5.2 Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, Steve Gillis & Geoff Verkade - NPCA ALUS Presentation

Geoff Verkade from the NPCA presented on ALUS.

The Committee asked the Presenter questions for clarification.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

There were none.

8. BUSINESS

8.1 Drains, Culverts and John Deere Tractor - Brandon Enns

Brandon Enns gave an update on the green machine and plans for drains and culvert cleaning.

Moved by: Chris Van de Laar

Seconded by: John Thwaites

That the information provided by Brandon Enns be received.

APPROVED

8.2 Farmer Profile Initiative / Rooted in Growth Review - Ashleigh Myers

Ashleigh Myers gave an update on the Farmer Profile Initiative and the event that took place on April 4th at Jackson Triggs for the Rooted in

Growth Presentation, which had the region and different local representatives in attendance.

Moved by: Kathryn Hoshkiw

Seconded by: Albrecht Seeger

That the update provided by Ashliegh Myers be received.

APPROVED

8.3 The Niagara Region - APAC - C - Soil Health Working Group

The Committee discussed different soil options and gave there feedback to Connor who will be attending the first meeting of this working group on April 11, 2025.

8.4 Official Plan Feedback - Steve Burke

Steve Burke, Manager of Policy and Heritage Planner, gave the Committee an overview of the expectations on the Official Plan going forward and said that another meeting would be held after the draft plan had been created.

The Committee asked clarifying questions.

Moved by: Councillor Erwin Wiens

Seconded by: Albrecht Seeger

That the Agricultural Committee request Council to inform the Niagara Region that they are opposed to the \$250.00 migrant workers home inspections, and the cost should be borne by the Niagara Region.

APPROVED

9. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Albrecht Seeger

Seconded by: Kathryn Hoshkiw

Adjournment unanimously took place at 4:06 p.m.

APPROVED