

BACED

The BACED meeting was held at the Township of Strong Municipal Office on February 11, 2019.

Present: Chair Tim Brunton, Margret Ann MacPhail, Willie Hollet, Lewis Hodgson, Celia Finley, Wendy Whitwell, Staff: Nancy Field, Brendan Robinson, Nicole Fraser, John Theriault, Dave Gray and Nicky Kunkel (Secretary).

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

MINUTES

Minutes from the January 21, 2019 meeting were approved as circulated by resolution moved by Margret Ann MacPhail and seconded by Willie Hollet.

CEDO REPORT

Dave Gray outlined his written report highlighting:

Core Activity Tracking: Statistics provided for January 16 to February 10, 2019. It was mentioned that the Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce will be taking over the Almaguin Highlands Tourism website from Explorer's Edge until it can be folded into the Almaguin web presence project with the regional department.

Regional Economic Development Update: The Phase 2 application for CIINO was submitted and will undergo review from the FedNor Officer and then onto the Board and Minister for approval. The first ACED discussion meeting with all interested partners will be taking place directly after this meeting.

Digital Main Street Update: This project funding has been applied for with the TABIA. The project relies on the approval of the NOHFC Communications and Marketing Intern also being approved. Fifty percent of that position will be devoted to improving the web presence for Almaguin businesses and implementing the Digital Main Street Program. The Committee had discussions regarding how hands-on the position would be and that businesses would be required to put effort into the program as well.

Downtown Assessment Update: The NCIR application has been withdrawn and a new application, with a better program fit for the Capacity Building Program application process. However, with the end of the CIINO and program funding on January 31, 2019 with no carry forward of surplus there are no project funds allocated in 2019 to complete the Assessment. This project will be tabled for later discussion as project funds are being allocated.

Northern Immigration Program: the CEDO Report indicated this would be a support partnership with the City of North Bay. The Committee was pleased to be part of the program.

EDCO Conference Follow Up: The CEDO reported that his presentation on Regional BR+E was successful.

Draft 2019 Budget Review: The CEDO presented a draft budget for 2018 referred to as Scenario 1. This budget has the \$14,577 asked for from each partner. It is expected that one partner is withdrawing due to financial constraints and the Townfolio expense was not covered for year 3 which together have a shortfall in the budget of \$16,577. There were three options presented to resolve the shortfall and they will be discussed further at the March 11, 2019 meeting. The Committee is willing to consider another organization buying services from BACED. There was a question regarding insurance for BACED members and the census was that this Committee is a Committee of Council and members are appointed by Council so municipal insurance will protect the membership.

Draft 2019 Work Plan Review: The Committee reviewed the work plan and noted that the capacity to complete projects depends on the final budget numbers. The Committee asked the CEDO to cost out each project with staff time, materials, and all expected expenses considered. Once they have the project list with total costs, they will prioritize the projects based on the allocated budget for 2019.

Next meeting date is set for March 11, 2019.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.