

Minutes of a Meeting of the Wood Buffalo Downtown Revitalization Advisory Committee held via electronic communications in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Wednesday, November 2, 2022, commencing at 5:00 PM.

Present:

Owen Erskine, Recreation, Culture and Heritage Representative, Chair
Carolyn Evancio, Seniors Resource Committee Representative
Jean-Marc Guillamot, Business Community
Todd Hillier, Safety and Security Sector
Henry Hunter, Education Sector)
Renee Moulard, Public-At-Large
Marty Noskey, Indigenous Representative
Melanie Walsh, Community Development Sector
Funky Banjoko, Councillor
Lance Bussieres, Councillor

Absent:

Brianne English, Oil and Gas Industry

Administration:

Kelly Hansen, Director, Strategic Planning and Program Management
Kevin Meacher, Department Administrator, Strategic Planning and Program Management
Darlene Soucy, Clerk, Legislative Services

1. Call to Order

Chair Owen Erskine called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION:

THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Carolyn Evancio
SECONDER:	Jean-Marc Guillamot
FOR:	Erskine, Evancio, Guillamot, Moulard, Noskey, Walsh
ABSENT:	English, Hillier, Hunter

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

3.1. Wood Buffalo Downtown Revitalization Advisory Committee Meeting - October 5, 2022

THAT the Minutes of the Wood Buffalo Downtown Revitalization Advisory Committee Meeting held on October 5, 2022, be approved as presented.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Marty Noskey
SECONDER:	Melanie Walsh
FOR:	Erskine, Evancio, Guillamot, Moulard, Noskey, Walsh
ABSENT:	English, Hillier, Hunter

4. Presentation

4.1. Cullen Bird re: Heat Management and Greenspace in Downtown Fort McMurray

Cullen Bird, Fort McMurray resident, presented on how creating urban greenspaces can help control heat and improve quality of life as a means to creating a truly vibrant downtown Fort McMurray, that is cool, welcoming, and walkable.

Entrances

Todd Hillier, Committee Member, joined the meeting at 5:08 p.m.

Henry Hunter, Committee Member, joined the meeting at 5:14 p.m.

4.2. Kevin Weidlich, Chief Executive Officer, and Lisa Sweet, Director, Business and Investment Attraction, Fort McMurray Wood Buffalo Economic Development and Tourism re: Five Year Strategic Plan and Commercial and Retail Development Program

Kevin Weidlich, President and Chief Executive Officer, and Lisa Sweet, Director, Business and Investment Attraction, Fort McMurray Wood Buffalo Economic Development and Tourism (FMWBEDT), presented an update on FMWBEDT's five-year strategic plan, noting that the goals include attracting more retail and commercial development to the area, as well as supporting existing businesses through initiatives such as Startup YMM.

Exits and Returns

Todd Hillier, Committee Member, exited the meeting at 5:56 p.m.

Marty Noskey, Committee Member, disconnected from the meeting at 5:57 p.m. and rejoined at 6:06 p.m.

Melanie Walsh, Committee Member, exited the meeting at 5:59 p.m.

5. New and Unfinished Business

5.1. Main Street Streetscape Design Project Update

Ihsan-ul Haq, Project Manager, Engineering, provided an update on the Main Street Streetscape Design Project, noting that the design will include pedestrian friendly enhancements, lighting, and intersection improvements in various areas downtown, including the intersection of Franklin Avenue and King Street.

Exit

Councillor Funky Banjoko exited the meeting at 6:13 p.m.

5.2. Kiyām Community Park Update Construction Update

Bipul Bhowmik, Transportation Engineer, Engineering, provided an update on the Kiyām Community Park construction, noting that the Park is nearing substantial completion with some deficiencies to be addressed, and the Park should open to the public in the near future.

Opening Ceremonies Event Plan

Nadia Power, Manager, Public Engagement, provided an update on the Kiyām Community Park opening ceremonies event, noting that planning is in progress and the date of the event will be determined when construction is substantially complete and that a full year of events are planned to celebrate the Park being an all-season space.

5.3. Downtown Communications Plan

Nadia Power, Manager, Public Engagement, provided an overview of the page that has been created on the Municipality's website, which provides detailed information on downtown Fort McMurray as a vibrant gathering space that supports local businesses and recreation, as well as offering many options to explore, shop, eat and socialize.

5.4. Downtown Area Redevelopment Plan Update

Christopher Booth, Manager, Community Development Planning, provided an update on the Downtown Area Redevelopment Plan, noting that the second draft of the Plan is in the review stage, and that the next public engagement is scheduled to occur early in 2023 before the final Plan goes to Council for approval.

5.5. Committee Meeting Format

Kevin Meacher, Department Administrator, provided an overview of the Committee Members' input into the potential meeting formats of virtual, in-person or a hybrid model, and lead a discussion on the meeting format going forward.

With consensus of the Committee, it was agreed that the February 2023 Committee meeting will be conducted using a hybrid meeting format of in-person and virtual attendance.

5.6. Action Log Review

Kevin Meacher, Department Administrator, provided an update on the Action Log, which helps inform the Committee on meeting agenda items, and noted that the annual report to Council will be presented to Council in the near future highlighting the Committee's successes and upcoming priorities.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Chair