



Community Development Committee

Meeting Minutes

May 4. 2020

In Attendance: Chair Jane Bustin, Mike Trinacty, Rod Reeves, Heather Morse, Beth Wilson, Carol Hiscock-White.
Staff: Debbie Elliott

The Virtual Meeting was called to order by Chair Jane Bustin at 6:00 pm.

The Agenda was reviewed and approved with the addition of the item 'Plantings for Summer' under New Business. *Reeves/Hiscock-White*

The Minutes of the March 4 Meeting were approved as circulated.

Current Business:

- Debbie briefed the Committee on communications with the Berwick Business Community. Information on Email Database distribution list correspondence, social media information provision and conversations that Debbie has had with the majority of local businesses were presented. Committee members shared their knowledge of same. Debbie invited the community members of the committee to be included on the Email Distribution list (Councilors are already included) but they all declined.

New Business:

- Committee members had received copies of the Community Garden (Individual Plots) Project in advance of the meeting for their review. Debbie provided an overview of the document and the project and answered the committee's questions. There was a lot of discussion about the project and how it could be implemented. Committee members suggested asking for sponsorship donations of such items as soil, tools etc. An 'ask' for support to the Western Kings Community Health Board was suggested. Debbie asked for a recommendation from the Committee for Council's consideration and that was given.
 - o **Action:** Mike Trinacty offered to take the recommendation to Council as Chair Bustin was not going to be able to attend.
- The Committee opened a brainstorming session for potential communication or initiatives to help business get through COVID-19. In light of the earlier discussion about communications, the committee determined that area was covered. Topics of discussion then included 'how businesses could get back to work safely', the 'stay home...but' scenario, what might be coming for businesses such as hair salons, physio/massage operations, 'small promotions per sector' were considered and what that could look like. Councillor Reeves raised a 'support local' theme and, from his experience during Covid-19, suggested that it might look something like '*Everything you could want is here at home*'. The committee agreed with that concept. Debbie will work on some messaging around the idea.
- Summer Plantings – apple chair baskets and planters were discussed for a general consensus that they were important and should be proceeded with.

Next Meeting: The committee agreed to meet virtually on Wednesday, May 20th at 6pm

The meeting was adjourned at 8 pm.