

**Revelstoke and Area  
Minutes of the Economic Development Commission  
Wednesday, April 4, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.  
in the Revelstoke Business and Visitor Information Centre Boardroom,  
301 Victoria Road West**

PRESENT: Members Roberta Bobicki(late), Connie Brothers, Lisa Longinotto, Connie Brothers, Brett Renaud, Kevin Dorrius, Rob Elliott, Tracey Buckley, Loni Parker, Robyn Goldsmith, Nathan Weston, Craig Tennock

Staff Nicole Fricot, Director of Community Economic Development  
Brooke Burke, Recording Secretary

ABSENT: Mark Baron

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order by vice chair, Rob Elliott at 4:01 pm.

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved by Tracey Buckley

Seconded by Connie Brothers

THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**3. PRESENTATION – EVERYTHING REVELSTOKE, BRYDON ROE & LARA DAVIS**

Lara reviewed the flight service information data. Noting January & February has the most seat sales. January had the most flight diversions due to weather. Feedback from the guest who were diverted didn't have any problem with the changes. Are looking into using Salmon Arm airport instead of Kelowna for any possible diversions in the upcoming season. Would like more time to start selling the air tickets as leaving it later tends to have many disadvantages such as having to reduce the costs of each ticket. Most guests are looking to confirm seats now for the next season. Brydon noted at this time he doesn't see the demand for year round service, but does see it as our community grows.

Roberta arrived during presentation and resumed chairing the meeting.

Discussion on concern about the program moving forward from RAA, RMR and the City on continued financial support. General discussion held.

Moved by Brett Renaud

**Seconded by Kevin Dorrius**

**THAT** Economic Development Commission recommend a letter be sent to council, RAA and RMR to support a 3-year flight service program, and to offer earlier bookings of the flights, continue with service in January, and encourage any future flight diversions to be sent to Salmon Arm airport.

**CARRIED**

**4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

**Moved by Kevin Dorrius**

**Seconded by Connie Brothers**

**THAT** the minutes from March 7, 2018 be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**Page 2, Item 6a, EDC Director Workplan** – Tracey had received Telus information back about free Wi-Fi in downtown area.

**Page 3, Item 6e, Parking Enforcement/Fees** – It was noted the letter sent to Mayor and Council was well received. Enforcement on parking violators is being looked at. Connie will follow up on this and report back. An internal memo was sent to City staff reminding them to park in the First Street parking lot.

**5. ACTIVITY REPORT**

Nicole reviewed the report with the following highlighted on:

- Rural Dividend funding was approved in amount of \$108,000 for a fabrication lab. Still looking for a location to send up. Additional funding requests have been sent out for the project.
- Downie had asked for support in lobbying the government for 24-hour ferry service. Discussion on potential costs could outweigh the need.
- Currently working with Nigel in Development Services on where the most work needs to be focused on for the OCP & ICSP updates. Parking will be included in this process, as currently there isn't much in the current documents. Will be going out to RFP.

**Action:** *Contact Ministry of Highways for ferry statistic usage.*

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**a) Wandering Wheels Proposal – Council Referral** – Nicole referred to the information in the package, as the province has asked for feedback from the City on the tenure application.

Key concerns about the tenure application included:

- The original use of the trail was a designated hiking trail
- The impacts on resident's water quality with the additional usage
- Selkirk Tangiers currently has tenure on this trail. Concerns were raised regarding the economic sustainability of having more than one heli-tour operator operate on the same trail
- Concerns were raised about the number of helicopters currently landing at Cartier without a tenure. Is there something that can be done about the unsanctioned usage of the trail (Several heli companies currently advertising drops at Cartier without tenure which was noted as an illegal use of the trail. Is it possible that this can be enforced?)
- Concerns were raised that there is currently no land use planning for the recreation areas around Revelstoke
- Concern raised about the limited parking in the area and lack of washroom facilities
- Concerns raised about the impacts on wildlife of additional heli-tour operators using the trail.

Key arguments in favor of supporting the tenure application included:

- mountain bikers that use the trail currently do the majority of the trail upkeep. Having another tenure on the trail could improve the maintenance of the trail.
- The amount of usage proposed in the tenure application is relatively low and some commission members felt that the overall impact would be fairly insignificant
- Selkirk Tangiers is currently not using the tenure

***Action:** The Commission would like key discussion points to be added to the Wandering Wheels referral letter to the Province.*

**Moved by Lisa Longinotto**

**Seconded by Tracey Buckley**

**THAT** the Economic Development Commission recommend council send a letter to the provincial government to work with the City, CSRD and community stakeholders on Land Use Planning.

**CARRIED**

**b) Development Concerns** – Many concerns over development process have been received and any solutions that could be offered are welcome. Nicole noted that the concerns surrounding development process are taken very seriously by both staff and Council and that ways of addressing current challenges is one of the main topics being discussed and considered by both Council and staff. Several concerns were raised by Commission members about development including, changing requirements and expectations throughout permitting process, delays in the process, lack of information or communication throughout the process and unclear timelines being given. Several Commission members expressed that there are many people in the community that are ready to build but because of large delays they are all on hold. A suggestion was made that if the City has any budget available, they should be encouraged to hire temporary contractors to deal with the smaller permits that would help the larger projects get the attention they need much sooner. Some contractors are now seeing developers pack up and leave due to the enormous backlog of permit issues and push back from City staff. Discussion on drafting a letter to send to council with some possible solutions to help streamline the permit process ensued.

**Move by Robyn Goldsmith**

**Seconded by Tracey Buckley**

**THAT** the Economic Development Commission issue a letter to council requesting staff streamline the permit process and utilize the occupancy permits as the backstop for the development permitting process.

**CARRIED**

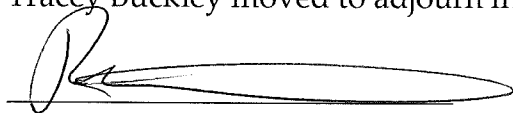
**7. ECONOMIC DATA**

Information was not discussed.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Next meeting is May 2, 2018.

Tracey Buckley moved to adjourn meeting at 6:22 pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roberta Bobicki', written over a horizontal line.

Roberta Bobicki, Chair