

DISTRICT OF SOOKE

Sooke Economic Development Commission

Meeting 36, June 10, 2009
7:00 p.m. Municipal Meeting Room

Committee Members Present:

Councillor Sheila Beech
Bryan Mooney
Jeannette Wilford

Absent: Scott Gertsma, Councillor Herb Haldane, Alexander Chandler

Staff: Evan Parliament, Chief Administrative Officer
Lisa Urlacher, Council Clerk
John Zarembo (Sooke Harbour Chamber of Commerce)

1. **Approval of Agenda**

MOVED and seconded to approve the agenda as circulated.
CARRIED

2. **Delegation:**

Sasha Angus, Economic Development Officer for the Greater Victoria Development Agency provided an overview of regional economic development. Mr. Angus provided a powerpoint presentation highlighting:

- the benefit of partnering with experts in their field - the GVDA o brings the strengths of each partner to the table to address opportunities and challenges facing the region.
- Operational Activities including the support of local businesses, regional business retention and investment / labour attraction
- Strategic Priorities including sustainable development industry cluster, increasing household sustainable jobs and a regional information portal.

Mr. Angus provided statistics - available at <http://www.gvda.ca/reports> :

- Global Economic Environment
- Regional Gross Domestic Products
- Value of Building Permits
- Average Housing Prices
- Population Growth and Forecasts
- Regional Demographics
- Labour Force

A discussion ensued involving question and comments from members of the Commission, staff and Mr. Angus as to economic development.

3. **Adoption of Minutes:**

MOVED and seconded that the minutes of May 13, 2009 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

4. **Business arising from minutes:**

MOVED and seconded to direct staff to send a letter to MapleLine Magazine declining the proposal for a full page advertisement explain that the SEDC is committed to advertising globally and nationally; **AND THAT** the SEDC would consider financially supporting an article outlining the economic development successes of Sooke in an upcoming addition.

Staff

CARRIED

5. **Commission Membership:**

The Commission accepted the letter of resignation received from commission member Wayne Nowak and asked staff to advertise for a third member from the public at large for two consecutive weeks in the Sooke News Mirror.

Staff

6. **Information:**

The Commission received the Council Resolution dated May 25, 2009 and agreed by consensus to undertake a 6 month review at the next scheduled meeting. Staff will provide the action list and measurables for discussion.

Staff

The Commission received the letter addressed to the owner of Goodridge Island and discussed Brown Field funding opportunities.

7. **Discussion:**

The Commission discussed Hi-Tech Development Park opportunities.

The Commission asked that a Joint meeting be arranged with the Juan de Fuca Development Commission.

Staff

8. **Next Meeting**

Wednesday, July 8, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 1:54 p.m.

Certified by:

Scott Gertsma
Chair

Evan Parliament
Chief Administrative Officer