

SUBJECT TO ADOPTION

DISTRICT OF NORTH SAANICH

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Community Agricultural Commission**

Wednesday November 13, 2019 at 1:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Chair S. Rowed
Members I. Fancey
M. Soellner
D. Chown
J. Rashleigh
M. Hughes

Council Liaison C. Stock
Planner C. Rimell
Community Planning Commission Liaison J. Kingham
Commission Secretary C. Gotto

ABSENT:

Member M. Aylard
Member E. McMurphy
Community Stewardship Commission Liaison F. Mailhot

The chair called the meeting to order at 1:30p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY: D. Chown
SECONDED BY: I. Fancey

14-CAC That the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

MOVED BY: I. Fancey
SECONDED BY: M. Soellner

15-CAC That the September 11, 2019 minutes be approved.

CARRIED

3. REFERRALS

a.) Draft Regional Context Statement – Proposed Bylaw No. 1485 (Referred by: Council for comments)

The Planner gave an overview of the Regional Context Statement and addressed questions from the Commission.

MOVED BY: J. Rashleigh
SECONDED BY: I. Fancey

16-CAC Whereas we are disappointed in the lateness of the meeting today the Commission request that staff schedule Community Agricultural Commission meetings in ample time, and provide all relevant and pertinent documents to the Commission in a timely manner, in order that the Commission can provide commentary that is well informed and will allow for meaningful inclusion in Council and CRD deliberations.

CARRIED

MOVED BY: M. Soellner
SECONDED BY: I. Fancey

17-CAC That trails currently identified as bike trails on schedule “D” of the OCP should be clearly identified as multipurpose trails.

CARRIED

MOVED BY: M. Soellner
SECONDED BY: M. Hughes

18-CAC Whereas in schedule “D” of the OCP has a proposed municipal collector road which would connect the southern portion of Littlewood Road to the northern portion of Littlewood Road, we have concerns that the road if developed would go through designated agricultural land contrary to the ALR.

CARRIED

MOVED BY: J. Rashleigh
SECONDED BY: S. Rowed

19-CAC That the terminology in the bylaw No.1485, section 16.1.2 does not adequately define rural character, agricultural character, or working landscape and these should be defined through the appropriate means such as a policy change.

CARRIED

MOVED BY: J. Rashleigh
SECONDED BY: D. Chown

- 20-CAC In consideration of the formulation of the policy the District consider specific parameters, which could include:
- a) native plantings— not suburban plantings;
 - b) pollinator plantings;
 - c) hedgerows;
 - d) ditches/culverts not enclosed water movement;
 - e) dark nights- minimal night lighting;
 - f) minimize non-porous surfaces (sidewalks and paved roads);
 - g) landscaping that is edible, or speaks to the rural character; and
 - h) moving away from the use of pesticides.

CARRIED

MOVED BY: S. Rowed
SECONDED BY: I. Fancey

- 21-CAC That section 16.1.8 include a reference which would recognize the importance and value of the four government employers in this region:
1. Center for Plant Health;
 2. Institute of Ocean Sciences;
 3. Victoria Airport; and
 4. 443 Helicopter Squadron.

CARRIED

MOVED BY: J. Rashleigh
SECONDED BY: I. Fancey

- 22-CAC The Commission recommends that Council put in place measures to prevent the abuse of the principles and objectives of the agricultural land use in section 16.1.9.

CARRIED

MOVED BY: M. Hughes
SECONDED BY: S. Rowed

- 23-CAC The Commission recommends that the District of North Saanich develops measures to facilitate and realize the full food production potential of its agricultural lands in the district.

CARRIED

MOVED BY: J. Rashleigh
SECONDED BY: S. Rowed

- 24-CAC The Commission suggests that facilitation considerations could include:
- a) processing of food;
 - b) storage of food;
 - c) distribution of food; and
 - d) the encouragement of growing crops on lands that are not being utilized.

CARRIED

MOVED BY: S. Rowed
SECONDED BY: M. Hughes

- 25-CAC Whereas this Commission considers Sandown to be an unresolved issue we ask that Council allow the Commission to view the Sandown lands with an agrologist that is not retained by the developer and provide comment.

CARRIED

4. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY: D. Chown
SECONDED BY: M. Hughes

- 26-CAC That the meeting be adjourned at 3:36p.m.

CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT

APPROVED AND CONFIRMED

Recording Secretary

Curt Kingsley
Director, Corporate Services