AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, December 18, 2024 at 7:00pm
Nicomekl River Meeting Room
4th Floor, 20338-65 Avenue, Langley, BC

M I N U T E S

Present:
J. Caldarella, Community Co-Chair
Councillor M. Pratt, Council Co-Chair

C. Allison, J. Green, A. Hamer, R. Ross, O. Smid, A. Smith and J. Walker

Staff:
S. Mikicich, Manager, Community Planning and Major Projects
A. Reeve, Planner II, Community and Policy Planning
K. Stepto, Recording Secretary

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES OF THE COAST SALISH PEOPLES

J. Caldarella acknowledged the Traditional Territories of the Coast Salish Peoples.

A. APPROVAL AND RECEIPT OF AGENDA ITEMS

1. Agricultural Advisory Committee – December 18, 2024

Moved by C. Allison,
Seconded by R. Ross,
That the Agricultural Advisory Committee approve the agenda and receive the agenda items of the December 18, 2024 meeting.
CARRIED

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Agricultural Advisory Committee – October 23, 2024

Moved by O. Smid,
Seconded by J. Green,
That the Agricultural Advisory Committee adopt the minutes of the October 23, 2024 meeting.
CARRIED

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2. Agricultural Advisory Committee – November 27, 2024

Moved by R. Ross,
Seconded by A. Smith,
That the Agricultural Advisory Committee receive the Notes of the November 27, 2024 meeting.
CARRIED

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. HAC Rural Heritage Task Force

S. Mikicich provided a presentation with an overview of the Rural Heritage Task Force report. He noted that Goal #5 in the Township's Heritage Strategy is to protect Langley's rural heritage by:

- Supporting adaptive re-use of historic farm structures and flexible zoning for non-conventional uses.
- Exploring heritage issues in rural Langley and investigating ways of providing conservation incentives for historic farms with significant heritage buildings.
- Supporting innovative agri-business and agritourism initiatives for Langley's historic farms.

The Rural Heritage Task Force was established in 2023 and its mandate was to:

- Support public awareness and appreciation of Langley's rural heritage and its importance to the identity of this community.
- Articulate the threats to rural heritage and understand the challenges for the conservation of old farmhouses, barns, outbuildings etc.
- Undertake case study research on opportunities and potential precedents for rural heritage conservation.

The Task Forceundertook a case study approach for researching specific issues and opportunities related to rural heritage. They looked at physical conservation works (both public and private), community partnerships, adaptive re-use of obsolete buildings, and educational programming that supports awareness and appreciation of rural heritage.

There are numerous municipal examples of incentivizing conservation of recognized heritage buildings and promoting retention of character buildings by granting additional development rights in exchange for heritage conservation and designation. Staff are exploring the use of Heritage Revitalization Agreements in rural Langley .

Public awareness of Langley's heritage remains limited. Some key work plan priorities for the Heritage Advisory Committee in 2025 are to:

- Advance public information and education, starting with an update of the Township website; and

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Update the Township's Heritage Inventory and to recognize additional heritage buildings via listing on the Community Heritage Register.

Discussion ensued regarding having a joint Heritage Advisory Committee and Agriculture Advisory Committee farm tour to include heritage sites in rural Langley. It was agreed to pursue this in 2025.

D. REPORTS

1. Co-Chair Reports

Councillor Pratt thanked the committee for its service and commitment this year and reported that he has joined the Board of the Langley Farmers' Market.

J. Caldarella thanked the committee for electing him as Co-Chair in 2024 and for its hard work throughout the year.

E. CORRESPONDENCE

F. WORK PROGRAM

1. Agriculture Outreach Campaign

Discussed at the last meeting.

2. 2024 Year End Report

Moved by C. Allison,
Seconded by A. Hamer,
That the Agricultural Advisory Committee receive and endorse the Agricultural Advisory Committee 2024 Annual Report and ask staff to forward it to Council for information.
CARRIED

G. COUNCIL REFERRALS

H. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. Farmers' Institute Update

A. Smith reported that the Farmers' Mingler will take place on February 24, 2025 at Locality Brewing at 7:00pm.

I. NEXT MEETING

Date: Wednesday, January 29, 2025
Location: Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338-65 Avenue, Langley, BC
Time: 7:00 pm

J. TERMINATE

Moved by J. Green,
That the meeting terminate at 7:54pm.
CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Community Representative Co-Chair

Council Representative Co-Chair