

**PLANNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 18, 2022; 11:00 A.M.
SCHOOL HOUSE, 730 VICTORIA STREET**

Attendees: Chair Pat Smith
Councilor Jean McCardle
Bruce Gough
CAO Margaret Andrade

Meeting was called to order by Chair Smith at 11:01 a.m.

Motion to accept the Minutes of the February 9, 2022 Planning Board Meeting

Moved by Councilor McCardle; Seconded by Bruce Gough. Motion carried

No Conflicts of Interests were declared.

Chair Smith opened the floor to a discussion of the events leading up to the notice from the Ministry that we must hold another public meeting before the Official Plan and Zoning and Subdivision Control Bylaws are adopted by Council.

CAO reported that on February 10, 2022 she received a phone call from a member of the Ministry staff advising that the Minister had received a letter from a resident stating that a second public meeting had been promised the residents if significant changes had been made to the Plan and Bylaws. They advised the Minister that the documents were about to be presented to council for adoption on the 15th of February without a public meeting being held.

Ministry staff advised that if we did not hold a public meeting before adoption of the documents, then the Minister would not approve the documents.

Bruce Gough responded that he felt we had no choice but to hold a public meeting in order to retain the trust of the residents and transparency of the Planning Board.

Councilor McCardle disagreed with the directive of the Ministry, stating that there had already been two public meetings. There is frustration that we are not being told who the letter to the Minister is from and what they had written. This process has been going on for 2 years and we need to adopt the documents and begin the process of considering amendments.

Chair Smith advised that we have not spent the final \$5,000 budgeted for the document review and that it can be used to make additional changes if needed..

The Board then engaged in a discussion about the opportunity for the residents to provide written submissions after the public meeting. While Chair Smith and Bruce

Gough agree that residents can send in written submissions after the meeting, Councilor McCardle states submissions should only be accepted before the meeting so that Board members can address them at the public meeting. All Planning Board members agree this is satisfactory.

A motion is moved that that the Rural Municipality of Victoria Planning Board, on the advice of the provincial Ministry, will hold a public meeting to review the Final Official Plan and Zoning Subdivision Control Bylaws on March 10, 2022 at 6:30 pm, storm date: March 11, 2022 at 6:30 pm. Written submissions from the public will be accepted until March 8 at 5 p.m. by the CAO.

Moved by Councilor McCardle; Seconded by Bruce Gough. Motion carried.

Chair Smith introduced discussion of increasing Planning Board members. While hesitant, at this time to appoint anyone new to Board during the review process, Chair Smith suggested inviting Councilor Marly Anderson to return to the Board as a member.

Motion made to invite Marly Anderson to join the Planning Board.

Moved By Councilor McCardle; Seconded by Bruce Gough. Motion carried.

Public Input

Cecil MacDonald suggested there are too many Councilors and former Councilors, and recommends new members from outside the Central Core and Council, to give a more diverse perspective from the whole Municipality.

Brenda Boudreau agreed with Cecil, advising that this would change the perception that the Central Core is the only area represented. Brenda stated that she doesn't agree that people have to volunteer. People should be asked to join. Brenda feels there is a desperate need for a Heritage Plan.

There was an enthusiastic discussion on publicizing letters forwarded to the Board by residents and whether they should be read aloud unless they are confidential. Planning Board will consider the issue.

Chair Smith asked someone to move to adjourn the meeting.

Move to adjourn by Bruce Gough.