

DRAFT MINUTES

Rural Initiatives/Planning Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: August 26, 2020
Location: Elgin County Administration Building, 450 Sunset Drive, St. Thomas
 Administrative Services Boardroom, 3rd Floor
Time: 9:00 A.M.

Attendees: *Members of the Rural Initiatives/Planning Advisory Committee*
 Councillor Ed Ketchabaw (electronic)
 Councillor Sally Martyn (electronic)
 Councillor Dominique Giguère (electronic)
 Warden Dave Mennill (electronic)

Elgin County Staff

Chief Administrative Officer, Julie Gonyou (in-person)
 Director of Financial Services, Jim Bundschuh (electronic)
 General Manager of Economic Development, Alan Smith (electronic)
 Supervisor of Legislative Services and Community Relations, Katherine
 Thompson (electronic)
 Carolyn Krahn, Legislatives Services Coordinator (in-person)

Regrets: Heather Derks

1. Call to Order

The Rural Initiatives/Planning Advisory Committee met this 26th day of August, 2020 in the Administrative Services Boardroom, at the County Administration Building, St. Thomas at 9:00 A.M. Committee Members joined the meeting electronically via video conferencing.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Warden Mennill
 Seconded by: Councillor Martyn

Resolved that the agenda be approved as presented.

Recorded Vote

	Yes	No
Warden Dave Mennill	Yes	
Councillor Dominique Giguère	Yes	
Councillor Sally Martyn	Yes	
Councillor Ed Ketchabaw	Yes	
	4	0

- Motion Carried.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by: Councillor Giguère

Seconded by: Councillor Martyn

Resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting be adopted.

Recorded Vote

	Yes	No
Warden Dave Mennill	Yes	
Councillor Dominique Giguère	Yes	
Councillor Sally Martyn	Yes	
Councillor Ed Ketchabaw	Yes	
	4	0

- Motion Carried.

4. Additional Funding Requests and Community Grant Program Approval

The Supervisor of Legislative Services and Community Relations provided an update on funding requests received from community members on behalf of local event organizers. While the Committee decided to support Community Service organizations who developed new and creative ways of delivering their services during the pandemic, on June 23, 2020 the Committee decided not to provide financial support to festivals and events that had been cancelled. No requests for additional funds have been received directly from event organizers, but some community members have requested that the County consider providing operational funds to support organizations even if their events and festivals have been cancelled.

The application period for the 2021 calendar year will open on September 1, 2020, and the timelines will allow the Committee to provide funding earlier in the new year. All previous applicants will be encouraged to apply.

Moved by: Warden Mennill

Seconded by: Councillor Giguère

RESOLVED THAT the August 19th, 2020, report titled, Additional Funding Requests and Community Grant Program Approval, submitted by the Supervisor of Legislative Services and Community Relations, be received and filed for information; and,

THAT the Rural Initiatives and Planning Advisory Committee does not recommend additional funding at this time.

Recorded Vote

	Yes	No
Warden Dave Mennill	Yes	
Councillor Dominique Giguère	Yes	
Councillor Sally Martyn	Yes	
Councillor Ed Ketchabaw	Yes	
	4	0

- Motion Carried.

The Supervisor of Legislative Services and Community Relations presented the final drafts of the Community Grant Program application packages for Community Services, Festivals and Events, and Community Signage. The application packages were reduced in size, language was simplified, and duplicate questions were removed to ensure a positive experience for the grant applicant. Staff will seek feedback regarding the new program from applicants at the end of the 2021 process.

Moved by: Councillor Martyn
Seconded by: Councillor Giguère

RESOLVED THAT the Community Grant Program application packages for Community Services, Festivals and Events and Community Signage be approved and that staff proceed with implementation of the 2021 process beginning on September 1, 2020.

Recorded Vote

	Yes	No
Warden Dave Mennill	Yes	
Councillor Dominique Giguère	Yes	
Councillor Sally Martyn	Yes	
Councillor Ed Ketchabaw	Yes	
	4	0

- Motion Carried.

5. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date will be at the call of the Chair.

6. Adjournment

Moved by: Councillor Mennill
Seconded by: Councillor Giguère

Resolved that the meeting adjourn at 9:21 a.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair.

Recorded Vote

	Yes	No
Warden Dave Mennill	Yes	
Councillor Dominique Giguère	Yes	
Councillor Martyn	Yes	
Councillor Ed Ketchabaw	Yes	
	4	0

- Motion Carried.