

ADVANTAGE HOPE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 18, 2023 – District of Hope Council Chambers, Hope

Called to order: 7:05pm

Attended: Tannis Hendriks, Tanya Seltenrich, Scott Medlock, Sarah Brown, Gerry Wiebe, Martin Hendriks, Angela Skoglund, Laura Reid, Dean Lin

Regrets: John Fortoloczky, Aaron Pete

Addendums:

- Visitor Centre April 2023 report
- April 20, 2023 meeting minutes
- May 4, 2023 meeting minutes

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion that the May 18, 2023 Hope Business and Development Society agenda be adopted as presented – *Moved, seconded - APPROVED*

3. Adoption of Minutes

(Amended) motion that the Apr. 20, 2023 and May 4, 2023, Hope Business and Development Society minutes be adopted as presented – *Moved, seconded - APPROVED*

4. Land Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge that we are conducting our board meeting tonight from the ancestral, traditional, shared, and unceded territory of the Chawathil people of the Tiyt Tribe. The Tiyt Tribes of the Sto:lo territory extend along the boundaries down both sides of the Fraser River, from Yale to Seabird. We thank you for welcoming us to the territory and allowing us to carry out the work that we are doing here tonight.

5. Delegations/board member introductions - none

6. Business from previous minutes:

- a. Pride flags: going up before council again for reconsideration; does the Visitor Centre want to fly the flag at the center? Operations manager confirmed “yes”; member will make sure council is aware.
- b. Lines of communication: board chair met with Mayor Smith over lunch to remind him of the communication protocols between council and AH board.

7. Committee and board reports

- a. Finance committee
 - i. Nothing to report; no need to approve any financials until finance meeting can happen

ii. Need to set a date in June when we can all meet to do a financial review before summer break; suggestion of Thursday June 15 – operations manager will check and confirm availability of council chambers.

b. Policy & procedure review committee

i. Revised document is ready and it will get sent out this week to all members to review in time for June 15th meeting.

c. Board recruitment and orientation committee

i. Nothing to report.

d. MRDT representative

i. Operations manager checked with Fiona – we will have to reapply for the MRDT as per usual, so it won't be a simple process; once ED has been hired, Fiona wants to meet with the ED to review process. MRDT application will be due to next April 2024.

ii. Will support be needed from Popkum/Bridal Falls region and the other outlying regions? Because if Chilliwack steals Popkum/Bridal Falls, that will impact the amount of funding we can apply for.

iii. RMI (report municipality initiative) funding can be used for capital projects (ie: downtown revitalization improvements), so the ultimate goal is to get this funding.

e. Communications strategy committee

i. Had an initial meeting to discuss a MRDT one-pager that we can give to hoteliers to show them how the MRDT has been spent and has benefited their business and the whole community.

f. Executive Director Hiring committee

i. We've interviewed the two interested candidates; both have been invited for an in-person interview. One candidate investigated housing and declined the in-person interview due to not wanting to move here. We feel very strongly that the other person will make a strong candidate; in-person interview is Wed May 24 at 1pm; candidate seems very prepared for their interview – seems very promising.

ii. Question: If this candidate wasn't the only one proceeding to in-person, who else would have been considered? This candidate has some very good transferable skills (grant writing) and committee is confident in proceeding to this one and only interview.

iii. Question: Are we okay proceeding with a younger person that has no ED experience?

- We either leave the position empty, or try and mould someone to take on the position and support them in learning and catching up to speed.

- This is more of an 'entry level' ED position, so is in favour of seeing how the in-person interview goes and then decide.

- Can we provide remote access to the in-person presentation from the candidate? (It will happen around 2pm after the formal interview finishes.) Hiring committee will check with John F. and see if this can be done.

iv: Open discussion: is there a conflict of interest for this candidate to maintain her position with her current society position while being ED for Hope Cascades and Canyons? Not sure, hiring committee will need to ask her about how she would handle any potential conflict (ie: abstaining from voting that would affect tourism center and/or society).

g. Board reports – Operations manager (as presented on Visitor Centre Report submitted)
Ensuing discussion as follows: none.

8. Other business

a. Downtown Revitalization:

- Was really interesting to listen to Chris and Michael from MVH Urban Planning and hear their ideas.

- It was good to see some people there that weren't urged to come out; there were others that wanted to attend but couldn't, but generally there seems to be enthusiasm from local business owners. First rough draft is coming May 26 from Michael & Chris; next public meeting will be June 20 (to confirm asap). Operations manager will see if the first draft can be shared with the board to review.

9. Discussion period

a. Visitor centre now has 3 bathrooms set up for the summer tourism traffic.

b. Got an invitation to meet with B&B Construction to hear about their project proposal filling in a gravel pit on Hwy 3 (just before the Hope slide) and turning it into a landfill for industrial construction waste that has been processed; would create 40 jobs. Member: we need to be very careful as the waste is potentially very hazardous to the environment; if the company is a bad operator, then it could invite a lot of problems.

c. AGM coming up Thursday June 1st at the Legion

Motion to adjourn – Moved, seconded – APPROVED

Adjourned 8:26pm