

Agricultural Advisory Committee

Minutes

Date: Thursday, March 8, 2018
Location: Council Chamber
City Hall, 1435 Water Street

Committee Members Present: John Janmaat (Chair), Ed Schiller, Keith Duhaime, Pete Spencer, Tarsem Goraya and Jill Worboys (Interior Health)

Committee Members Absent: Yvonne Herbison (Vice-Chair), Domenic Rampone, and Jeff Ricketts (Alternate)

Staff Present: Planner Specialist, Laura Bentley; Planner, Trisa Atwood; and FOI-Legislative Coordinator, Sandi Horning

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Opening remarks by the Chair regarding conduct of the meeting were read.

2. Applications for Consideration

2.1 McCulloch Rd 3305-3309, A17-0010 - Leonard & Tracey Wikenheiser

Staff:

- Displayed a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the application before the Committee.
- The original property was 26.5 acres in size and was purchased by the applicants in 1962.
- In 1981, the applicants subdivided the property, creating a 14 acres parcel which was then sold.
- There are currently 2 homes on the subject property:
 - o One being used as a permanent residence; and
 - o One being used as a residence for farm help.
- The proposal is for a 1 acre home site severance in order to facilitate the retirement of the property owner.
- Staff are seeking a recommendation from the Committee to include with Council consideration of the home site severance application. Should Council support the application, it will be forwarded to the Agricultural Land Commission for consideration.

AAC/Staff Discussion:

- Staff responded to questions from the Committee members.
- Staff confirmed that the second dwelling is not part of the home site severance application.

Leonard Wikenheiser, Applicant:

- Advised that purchased the property in 1962 and that it's now time to retire.
- Wants to live in the same house he has lived in since 1962.
- Believes that the farming operations will not be impacted by the home site severance.
- Responded to questions from the Committee members.
- Advised that the second dwelling on the property would be suitable for someone to reside in while working the farm.

Moved by Keith Duhaime/Seconded by Ed Schiller

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee recommends that Council support Agricultural Land Reserve Application No. A17-0010 for the properties located at 3305-3309 McCulloch Road to request permission from the Agricultural Land Commission for a "Subdivision of Agricultural Land Reserve" under Section 21 (2) of the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* for the purpose of a home site severance.

Carried

ANEDOTAL COMMENTS:

The Agricultural Advisory Committee recommended that Council support the application for a subdivision of the subject property for the purpose of a home site severance; however, it was noted by the Committee that any potential purchaser of the subdivided land may not be aware of traditional farm practices. The Committee emphasized the need for educating the public about living in agricultural areas and how farming practices can impact residential lots.

3. Minutes

Moved by Ed Schiller/Seconded by Pete Spencer

THAT the Minutes of the January 25, 2018 Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting be adopted.

Carried

4. ALC Decisions - Update

Staff:

- Advised that no application have gone to Council for consideration since the last Committee meeting in January.
- Provided comment on the Ministry of Agriculture's workshop from last week.
- Advised that the Minister of Agriculture has announced the formation of an independent committee to lead a public engagement process and provide recommendations to the provincial government regarding ideas for revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission.

There is an opportunity to submit ideas by completing the online survey by 4:00 pm on April 30, 2018 (<https://engage.gov.bc.ca/agriculturallandreserve/>).

5. Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting is proposed for April 12, 2018.

6. Termination of Meeting

The Chair declared the meeting terminated at 6:25 p.m.

John Janmaat, Chair

/slh

DRAFT