

Before we begin our meeting, we would like to acknowledge that Stewiacke is in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

1. Opening and Welcome

1.1. Present/Regrets - Chair Susan Creelman, Darren Schriver, Julie Hay, Brian Harrison, Marla Taylor, Mark Laughlin, Todd Fleck, Interim CAO Kevin Matheson, Greg Connell, Councilor Roseanne Chapman and Guests Beate Acker and Cathy Newton. Regrets David Phillips.

1.2. Approve Agenda - Concurred

1.3 - PRESENTATION – Stewiacke Garden Club – Beate Acker. Beate's presentation gave a brief history of the Stewiacke Garden Club that originated in 1979, current membership and activities. The focus on the presentation was on the creation and progress of the Stewiacke Community Garden set to have a grand opening June 2024.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

2.1. April 2024 - Concurred

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

3.1. Council update – Kevin updated committee on zoning updates and pending approvals, CAO recruitment progress, budget approval, tax rates remain same but garbage collection seeing a significant increase, Riverside refurbishment commenced and need for an infrastructure bylaw.

3.2. Transportation Study/Community Transit updates – Darren advised CTCL still having staffing issues so no progress.

3.3 - Town map - No progress

3.4 – TCPEP update – David – sent regrets. Susan did advise that the TCPEP Board looking for some new members. Let Susan know if you have any suggestions.

3.5 – Strategic planning session April 18th re Marketing Levy, DMO update – Susan/Mark – Recapped session in April. Consultant for the project will return to the area June 5 and 6 and we are hoping to have another session in our area. Asked the Committee to think of key influencers we can invite and what we want to promote. Committee input included – Hop Yard, Branch & Blossom, Garden Club, Todd and Dojo Group, Stewiacke Music Festival @ River Park, Purcell Racing Group, Vissers Farm, Horse farm @ Stevens Road, Rachel deConde, Stewiacke Tourism Assoc. Brian mentioned the “Halfway” logo and marker. Roseanne recalled the Super Host concept from years back when local business owners and employees were educated on all the local history and amenities to advise tourists.

4. New Business

4.1 – Advise businesses re Google maps – Susan asked Alana at NoBL for an article or wording to advise the businesses in newsletter.

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4.2 – Agenda format, acknowledgement and motions. – Susan advised Committee the need for this Committee to make motions on specific actions or funds being spent to keep in proper parliamentary procedure as we are a Committee of Council.

5. **Member Reports-** Mark mentioned the parking of several transport trucks at Community Centre and asked if this allowed, something we can promote or is it a violation. Also asked if we can do a traffic study yearly to get better trends on patterns. Hotels continue to be busy and more flights being added to airport. Todd advised DOJO had a seminar in April and will hold another in fall and in meantime travel to Valley. Darren mentioned the highway sign that remains in ditch at Exit 11 northbound. Marla B&B is busy. Julie the VIC received summer job funding. Roseanne mentioned community garden project and the new door at Legion.

6. **Dates to Remember – STEP process re DMO June 5, 6 TBA;**

7. **Next Meeting – June 6, 2024 @ 9:00 AM**

8. **Adjournment**