

# Minutes for *Ad Hoc* Committee Sign By-Law

## Regular Meeting

Council Chambers, Merrickville-Wolford Municipal Building

9:10am

2016-August-4

Present: Anne Barr, Connie Adams, Teri Hamway

Regrets: Leslie Way

1. Additions to the Agenda

1.1. None

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

2.1. Standard declaration that all committee members are business owners and that Council is aware of this.

3. Minutes

3.1. Review\adopt minutes of July 14th meeting – the minutes were adopted as circulated.

4. Delegations and Public Input

Mike Zaversenuke, 223 Main Street West, Merrickville, made a presentation with recommendations to abolish A-frame signs (sandwich boards) and that the Chamber of Commerce provide way-faring signs at intersections in the urban area. The proposal is attached to these minutes.

*The committee asked if the proposal would include businesses outside the urban area and businesses that do not belong to the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Zaversenuke indicated that all businesses would be included in his proposal.*

Karl Feige, representing the Chamber of Commerce, reported that a recent survey of their members (20 responses out of 80 members) reveals that A-frame signs and banners\flags are unpopular amongst businesses and visitors because they are obstructive and unsightly. He recommends the continued use of the metal finger signs and to expand their use. Mr. Feige reports that the existing finger signs are about 20 years old, have required very little maintenance during their life, and that they have been installed in about 15 different towns in North America since Merrickville adopted them. He recommends that the Municipality take over the installation and maintenance of the finger signs and to create “walk about” areas to encourage visitors to explore the side streets and businesses.

*The committee asked if Mr. Feige could provide the 20 responses (with all identifying information removed) so that the remarks could be included in the final report. He indicated that he could do that.*

Wayne Poapst, (address?), remarked that the existing finger signs blended into the background and would benefit from being painted a brighter colour.

*The committee and gallery engaged in a round table discussion regarding the possibilities of painting the finger sign posts and to establish a more visible background\template for future signs. Mr. Feige reported that some of the existing posts were hand-painted and some were powder coated in order to determine which system was more resilient and that the hand-painted posts have stood up well. This may indicate that the existing posts could be hand-painted a new colour.*

5. Old Business

5.1. Review sign guidelines and bylaws from Perth, Old Strathcona (Edmonton,) and others

5.1.1. The committee determined to use the Town of Perth – Signage Guidelines as a template to help explain the commercial sign requirements in the sign by-law

6. New Business

6.1. Items arising from public input\delegation

6.1.1. Deferred to the next meeting

6.2. Develop a list of resolutions\recommendations for signage

6.2.1. Deferred to a future meeting

6.3. Submission of final report timeline

6.3.1. Deferred to a future meeting

7. Information

7.1. None

8. Next Meeting

8.1. August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at 08:30 in the Council Chambers

9. Adjournment

9.1. 10:15