



Aurora Economic Development Corporation

Board of Directors Meeting

MINUTES

Date & Time:	January 23, 2024 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Location:	Aurora Town Hall, Holland Room
Attendees:	Marilee Harris (Chair), Tim Hammill, Steve Hinder, Nima Khadem Mohtaram, Richard Gong, Keith Loo, Mayor Tom Mrakas, Doug Nadorozny, and Sandra Ferri (Aurora Chamber of Commerce)
Regrets:	Councillor Rachel Gilliland and Mae Khamissa
Staff:	Lisa Hausz, Angela Haynes, Marco Ramunno, and Elliott Chiu

1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement

We would like to start by acknowledging that the Anishinaabe lands on which we live and work are the traditional and treaty territory of the Chippewas of Georgina Island. Aurora is part of both Treaty #13 and the Williams Treaties. We acknowledge and thank them for sharing this land with us. The Town of Aurora has the important responsibility of the stewardship of this land now and into the future.

2. Approval of the Agenda

- Motion to approve: Nima K. M.
- Motion seconded: Tim H.
- Passed

3. Declarations of Conflict

None

4. Approval of Previous Minutes

Recommendation(s)

- THAT the previous minutes from November 14, 2023 meeting be approved.
- Motion to approve: Nima K. M.
- Motion seconded: Tim H.
- Passed



Steve Hinder: Confirmed that he is still working on arranging for Mr. Frank Stronach to deliver a presentation regarding his ideas in relation to Economic Development in Canada along with his Charter.

Marilee H.

- Suggest that the presentation be made to the AEDC Board.
- Full Board attendance would be required.

Angela H.

- To provide Steve H. with AEDC Board Meeting dates for 2024

Recommendation(s)

THAT the Steve H. receive approval regarding booking Mr. Frank Stronach.

- Motion to approve: Steve H.
- Motion seconded: Tim H.
- Passed

5. Chair’s Address

Marilee Harris, Chair

- How can/will the Town recognize Southlake Hospital’s 100-year anniversary?

6. Regular Business

6.1 Communications

6.1.1 Town Update (5 mins)

Doug Nadorozny, CAO

Town Square

- Final completion update coming soon
 - Completion is expected to be closer to the Fall 2024
- The SARC expansion is going well
 - Completion is expected in approximately 14-months
- Residential Development
 - There is still a lot of interest in multi-unit developments

- **Fibre Optics (Telmax)**
 - This service is being installed in homes throughout the Town.

Mayor Tom Mrakas

Town Square

- The overall design of Town Square is unique to the York Region
 - The Bridge at Town Square could be rented for special events.
- Town Square is currently looking into their staffing needs

Lisa Hausz, Manager, Policy & Economic Development

Trade Mission

- The report regarding the Town's visit to Leksand, Sweden is upcoming
 - The itinerary is being developed
 - Proposed date: April 13 – 20, 2024

Award

- The Mayor has been nominated for the "Hazel McCallion Community Leadership Award" through the Economic Developers Council of Ontario (EDCO).
 - EDCO Conference Award Dinner – February 8, 2024 | 8:00 p.m.

6.2 Advocacy

6.2.1. Aurora Chamber Update (5 mins)

Sandra Ferri, President & CEO, Aurora Chamber of Commerce

Graduation

- The Chamber held a graduation event on January 18, 2024
- Have applied for more government funding
 - Decision expected by the end of March

Tourism

- Applied for a \$240K Tourism grant in support of an all-season annual program

Drive Business Summit

- February 8, 2024 | Stonehaven Banquet Hall

Mayor's Lunch

- February 21, 2024 | Royal Venetian Mansion

ventureLab Program

- Partnering on the development of a session for female entrepreneurs

7. Action Items Update

7.1 Marketing Update (10 mins)

Lisa Hausz, Manager, Economic Development & Policy

Action Items Update

- Review Action Team Charts

Tim H.: Do Action Teams replace the sub-committees?

Lisa H.:

- Yes, but they can change
- Tourism has been highlighted as an area of development for the Town

Tim H.: Does the Action Team Lead have to be a Board Member?

Lisa H.: No. The Action Team leads are as follows:

- Innovation Hub – Nima K. M. / Ehsan M.
- Local Business Support – Angela H. / Sandra F.
- Downtown – Lisa H. / Phil R.
- Marketing & Communications – Lisa H. / Cindy S.

7.2 Action Plan budget requests for 2024 (15 mins)

- See attached memo

8. Other Business

8.1. Governance Update (10 mins)

Lisa Hausz, Manager, Economic Development & Policy

- Need to review AEDC Governance
- AEDC Board should consider developing a Governance Committee
 - Nima K. M. & Tim H. have volunteered
 - Marilee H. will participate when available

Young Professional / Youth Member on the AEDC Board?

- Non-voting, honorary position
- AEDC Board voted “not at this time”



9. Next Meeting(s)

March 13, 2024

AEDC Board Meeting

Zoom

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

[Meeting format changed from hybrid to virtual]

10. Closed Session (if required)

Marilee Harris, Chair

11. Adjournment

Recommendation

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

- Motion to approve: Nima K. M.
 - Motion seconded: Keith L.
- Passed