

UDRAC MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 23, 2024



UXBRIDGE DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DATE	September 23, 2024
TIME	3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
LOCATION	Uxbridge Town Hall (Boardroom A) & Virtual (TEAMS)
ATTENDEES	Members Present: Mayor Dave Barton; Councillor Todd Snooks; Councillor Willie Popp; Mary Bridger (Chair); Don Andrews (Vice Chair); Joan Crosbie; Craig Marlatt; Mackenzie Rintz (V); Alexandra Lazarevski (V) and Shelley Macbeth (V).
	Township Resources: Kristi Honey, CAO; Judy Risebrough, Project Mgr. & Committee Staff Rep.; Hilary Williams, Director By-law, Animal Control & Development Services; Courtney Clark, A/Director, Public Works, Trails & Parks; Katlyn Jones (V), Museum Curator, Tourism Coordinator & BIA; Sierra Miller, A/Communications Officer.
	Resources: Carolyn Puterbough, OMAFRA; Danielle Culp (V), Region of Durham, Transportation Planning.
	Regrets: Craig Miller; Lori Talling, Invest Durham and Glen Macfarlane, Invest Durham.

○ CALL TO ORDER

Mary Bridger opened the meeting at 3:02 p.m. and asked if anyone needed to declare a pecuniary interest. None were declared.

○ REVIEW OF THE AGENDA

Mary reviewed the meeting agenda. Don Andrews made the motion to accept the agenda. Willie Popp seconded the motion. Approved.

○ REVIEW OF THE MINUTES

Mary reviewed the August 26, 2024, minutes. Craig Marlatt made the motion to approve the minutes. Don seconded the motion. Approved.



13. UDRAC Minutes
26-08-2024(f).pdf

○ Dedicated Leadership

Judy introduced Hilary Williams to the committee. Hilary has been appointed on an acting basis as Director By-law, Animal Control and Development Services.

Kristi Honey informed the committee that:

- The Township has posted a position for a Chief Planning Official. Hope to have an announcement on this very soon.

○ Revitalization of Lower Brock

Development

▪ **Lower Brock Street Redevelopment**

- Kristi informed the committee that the Township is still in mediation regarding the culvert litigation and the Township has been advised by legal that they should not take the building down until all parties have agreed.
- Kristi provided an update on the Circle K property (23 / 31 Brock St. W). Kristi informed the committee that the Township has received interest to use the location on the short-term as a potential filming location.
- Judy provided the following updates on behalf of the building department.
 - Kindred Works has provided a site plan application that is being reviewed by the Township.
 - 34/36 Brock St. W – the site plan application and a building permit is expected shortly. The property owner is still hoping to commence construction this fall.
 - The Township has received a CIP application for a “redevelopment/rehabilitation” grant for a property within the downtown.
- Willie provided an update that 2 Victoria has a new tenant, the Uxbridge Trail Dental.
- Hilary provided an update on 11-13 Brock St. W (fire damaged building). The Property Standards Act includes a provision that after 2 years a vacant building must be either repaired or demolished. Two years were reached in September 2024 so appropriate action will be taken by the Township.

- A general discussion regarding the Public Meeting that took place on September 16, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. *“Concerning and Official Plan Amendment and Related Zoning By-Law Amendment to Implement Certain Downtown Revitalization Initiatives”*.
 - Don provided a suggestion that the diagrams include a note that the building may include underground parking.
 - Shelley stated that she was surprised that so many believe that the Town is doing this, rather than understanding that the purpose of the work is to position the Township to engage a developer.

- **Community Profile – Update**

- Judy informed the committee that the [Community Profile](#), that was developed by the Invest Durham is now available through the Township Web Site. Glen Macfarlane made a presentation to the [General Purpose and Administration Committee](#) last week. This Community Profile is one of the deliverables for the current RED grant.
- Judy also advised the committee that Invest Durham and the Township are working with Carolyn Puterbough to obtain the statistics that will allow the Township to update the Market Area Data Report.

- **Communications**

- The committee is keen to develop a communication plan for informing the public, potentially an open house in early 2025 hosted by the committee.
- **Action:** Judy will set up a meeting with Shelley, Don, Joan, Craig Marlatt, and Mary with Sierra.
- Judy will also add Communications as a standing item.

- **Safe, Walkable Downtown**

- **Parking Study**

- Judy provided an update on behalf of Ben. She noted that the survey has been developed and she will send it out to the members for their input.
- Willie noted that the Consultant has reached out to the BIA. Danielle Culp and Katlyn also noted that the consultant has been in contact with her.

- Katlyn informed the group that the consultant would be attending the BIA meeting in October. She also noted that they are going to begin some surveying on Thursdays and Saturdays in the downtown area and that she had encouraged them to capture Sundays due to the Farmer’s Market.
- **Action:** Judy will send out the draft questionnaire for input from the members.
- Downtown as a Destination

RED Project – Downtown as a Destination

- **Centennial Park Master Plan**
 - No update as this is dependent on the Parking Study and Environmental Study.
- **Heritage Railway District**
 - Kristi informed the committee that the Township has reviewed the submissions and have decided to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) to operate a short-line railway. The Township is working with Metrolinx to develop the RFP.
 - Kristi also mentioned that the Township will consider short-term rentals of the Train Station. A press release was posted on September 20, 2024.
- **Volunteers & Activities**
 - In the last month: Studio Tour
 - **Action:** Judy will send out an email to collect the numbers from the above as well as Springtide.
 - Judy will work with Katlyn and Nadine to create a list of all the events that happened in the downtown during 2024.

○ **ROUNDTABLE**

- Katlyn spoke to events that are happening downtown in October. Most notably Ladies Night and Local Food Month.
- Mackenzie provided feedback from the Accessibility Committee, most notably that some individuals do not find there is sufficient time for pedestrians to cross the street (assume this is the east side of Toronto St. crossing Brock St.). The committee discussed this and thanked Alexandria for the information but felt that the objective has to be to balance the movement of traffic with the safety of pedestrians.

- **Action:** Judy will seek information from the Region regarding the timing for that intersection. The other option was to have an auditory signal added to the crossing at Brock and Toronto.
- Shelley reminded everyone of the upcoming Book Dunkard.
- Don updated that he is opening another restaurant in 8 to 10 weeks. There will be a 20-seat lounge, a 10-seat bar and a 20 to 24-seat dining room. The new restaurant will only be open in the evenings, Tuesday through Saturday.
- Craig offered to share information on ESA and the development of the city of Seaside.
- Colleen provided an update on the photography that has been undertaken on behalf of Central County Tourism.
- Joan provided an update from the Heritage Committee and how they are looking at working with Bylaw on the sign bylaw. Hilary confirmed that she is working with Jake to determine what is the next step for improving the sign bylaw.
- Judy informed the group that she met with the Heritage Committee to discuss the refresh of the Brock Street Heritage Guidelines that is being undertaken by Brook McIlroy as part of the current RED grant.
- Don updated the committee that the Bowling Alley has closed and that the Foundry Restaurant is closing in Port Perry, and they may be partnering with Second Wedge.

○ NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Monday, October 28, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. at the Uxbridge Township Municipal Office. A virtual option will be available.