

**MIDDLESEX ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**(TO BE APPROVED)**

Wednesday, January 19, 2022, 1:00 PM  
Middlesex County Building  
399 Ridout Street North, London  
Virtual Meeting

Members Present      Brad Richards  
                                 Jim Maudsley  
                                 Ian Brebner  
                                 Warden Warwick  
                                 Councillor Cornelissen  
                                 Councillor Mayhew

Also Present            Durk Vanderwerff, Director of Planning  
                                 Marci Ivanic, Legislative Services Manager/Clerk  
                                 Chris Traini, County Engineer (present from 1:00pm-2:00pm)

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Richards called the meeting to order at 1:00pm

**2. PROVISION FOR DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**

None.

**3. MINUTES**

3.a      Minutes of the December 15, 2021 Meeting of the Planning Advisory Committee

Moved by Jim Maudsley  
Seconded by Ian Brebner

THAT the Minutes of the December 15, 2021 meeting of the Planning Advisory Committee be approved as presented.

Carried

#### **4. ACTION ITEMS**

##### **4.a Official Plan Review - Continued**

Chair Richards advised the Committee that he and D. Vanderwerff had met with Crispin Colvin from the Ontario Federation of Agriculture and discussed the OFA's position on minimum farm sizes and surplus farm dwellings.

##### **4.a.1 Agriculture**

The Committee resumed its discussion on minimum farm sizes and surplus farm dwellings.

Moved by Warden Warwick

Seconded by Jim Maudsley

THAT the minimum farm parcel size remain 'about 40 hectares' and that the following language with respect to minimum farm sizes be included as part of the Official Plan consultation process:

"A different minimum farm parcel size for local municipalities may be considered through an amendment to this Plan provided that a study is carried out by the local municipality with the guidance and assistance of the Province, to demonstrate that the different farm parcel size is appropriate for the type of agricultural uses common in the local area, yet is sufficiently large enough to maintain flexibility for future changes to the type or size of agricultural operations".

Carried

Moved by Warden Warwick

Seconded by Councillor Cornelissen

THAT a sliding scale be used to determine the period of time required to pass before a residence surplus to a farming operation may be severed as part of the Official Plan consultation process.

Carried

Moved by Ian Brebner  
Seconded by Councillor Mayhew

THAT a 20-year sliding scale be used to determine the period of time required to pass before a residence surplus to a farming operation may be severed as part of the Official Plan consultation process.

Carried

Staff was requested to formulate language for the Committee's consideration that would include wording in the County Official Plan to encourage local municipalities to address matters such as minimizing the loss of agricultural land and the retention of outbuildings with surplus residences in local Official Plans.

#### 4.a.2 Population and Housing Forecasts

The Committee discussed Population and Housing Forecasts. There was discussion about the impact of population growth on rural schools and it was noted that the County and local municipalities are developing a practice of sharing residential development information with the Thames Valley District School Board.

Moved by Councillor Mayhew  
Seconded by Jim Maudsley

THAT staff ensure that the Thames Valley District School Board is provided the County of Middlesex Population and Housing Forecast information.

Carried

#### 4.a.3 Drinking Source Water Protection

The *Clean Water Act* requires language to be included in the Official Plan with respect to drinking source water protections.

The Committee discussed the importance for extreme weather events and climate change to be taken into account during planning

processes and that there should be consideration of policy direction concerning biosolid storage facilities.

#### 4.a.4 Natural Heritage

The Committee discussed the benefits of the Natural Heritage System - climate change and climate resiliency, reducing stormwater runoff, erosion, planting of Carolinian trees, etc and discussed the policy move from protecting natural heritage features to the protection of the natural heritage system.

There was general agreement with the two core principles that Natural heritage planning is not intended to, and should not, impact the ability of agricultural uses to continue and that it is at the time of a potential land use change (ie agricultural to urban) that the impact of the change on the natural heritage system should be considered

### **5. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION ITEMS**

None.

### **6. INQUIRIES**

None.

### **7. NEW BUSINESS**

#### 7.a Next Meetings

The next meeting was set for Thursday, February 17, 2022. Cara Finn, Director of Economic Development and Boulevard Strategy Group, the County's Official Plan Communications Consultant will be asked to attend.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Jim Maudsley

Seconded by Warden Warwick

THAT the meeting adjourn at 2:56 pm.

Carried

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Marci Ivanic, County Clerk

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Brad Richards, Chair