



Minutes

The Blue Mountains

Agricultural Advisory Committee

Date: July 17, 2025
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Location: Virtual Meeting, Teams
Prepared By:
Susan Cameron, Legislative Coordinator

Members Present: Gerbe Botden, Duncan McKinlay, Lynn Vail, Taylor Knott, Councillor Ardiel, Councillor Alex Maxwell

A. Call to Order

A.1 Traditional Territory Acknowledgement and Moment of Reflection

We would like to begin our meeting by recognizing the First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples of Canada as traditional stewards of the land. The municipality is located within the boundary of Treaty 18 region of 1818 which is the traditional land of the Anishnaabek, Haudenosaunee and Wendat-Wyandot-Wyandotte peoples.

A.2 Committee Member Attendance

Chair Ardiel called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Legislative Coordinator Susan Cameron noted all members were present virtually, except for Gerbe Botden.

Gerbe Botden joined the meeting at 7:06 pm.

A.3 Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Taylor Knott
Seconded by: Lynn Vail

THAT the Agenda of July 17, 2025, be approved as circulated, including any items added to the Agenda.

Yay (5): Duncan McKinlay, Lynn Vail, Taylor Knott, Councillor Gail Ardiel, and Councillor Alex Maxwell

Absent (1): Gerbe Botden

The motion is Carried (5 to 0)

A.4 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and general nature thereof

NOTE: In accordance with the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* and the Town Procedural By-law 2023-62, Council or Committee Members must file a written statement of the interest and its general nature with the Clerk for inclusion on the Registry.

None

A.5 Previous Minutes

Moved by: Duncan McKinlay

Seconded by: Taylor Knott

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee minutes of March 20, 2025, be adopted as circulated, including any revisions to be made.

Yay (5): Duncan McKinlay, Lynn Vail, Taylor Knott, Councillor Gail Ardiel, and Councillor Alex Maxwell

Absent (1): Gerbe Botden

The motion is Carried (5 to 0)

B. Staff Reports and Deputations

None

C. Public Comment Period

None

D. Matters for Discussion

D.1 Follow-up Direction from Council

D.1.1 Communications Campaign for Wild Chervil and Giant Hogweed

Moved by: Lynn Vail

Seconded by: Taylor Knott

That the Agricultural Advisory Committee receives for information the communications campaign for wild chervil and giant hogweed

Yay (5): Duncan McKinlay, Lynn Vail, Taylor Knott, Councillor Gail Ardiel, and Councillor Alex Maxwell

Absent (1): Gerbe Botden

The motion is Carried (5 to 0)

D.2 Proposed Property Standards By-Law

Chair Ardiel provided a verbal update to the Committee regarding the proposed Property Standards By-law and noted that this is going back to the drawing board and legal council is being sought out for all sectors. Chair Ardiel noted that there are no changes at this time.

D.3 Abandoned Orchard Update

Chair Ardiel noted that there has been some movement on this front with some orchards being cleaned up in the area and Georgian Bay Fruit Growers submitted an entire list of orchards that need to be addressed. Committee member Gerbe Botden noted Fruit growers, will continue to identify issues that are detrimental to their farming practices.

D.4 Update from Committee regarding any farming practice concerns

Members had an open discussion, with no concerns at this time.

D.5 2026 Meeting Schedule

Moved by: Councillor Alex Maxwell

Seconded by: Gerbe Botden

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee receives and endorses the 2026 meeting schedule as presented

Yay (6): Gerbe Botden, Duncan McKinlay, Lynn Vail, Taylor Knott, Councillor Gail Ardiel, and Councillor Alex Maxwell

The motion is Carried (6 to 0)

E. Correspondence

None

F. New and Unfinished Business

F.1 Additions to Agenda

None

F.2 Items Identified for Discussion at the Next Meeting

- Corporate Strategic Plan

G. Notice of Meeting Dates

Agricultural Advisory Committee, November 20, 2025
Virtual

H. Adjournment

Moved by: Gerbe Botden
Seconded by: Lynn Vail

THAT this Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting does now adjourn at 7:34p.m. to meet again November 20, 2025 Virtually, or at the call of the Chair.

Yay (6): Gerbe Botden, Duncan McKinlay, Lynn Vail, Taylor Knott, Councillor Gail Ardiel, and Councillor Alex Maxwell

The motion is Carried (6 to 0)