



**The Corporation of the Municipality of Mississippi Mills**

**Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting**

**MINUTES**

**January 28, 2021**

**12:30 p.m.**

**E-participation**

Committee Present: Lorne Heslop  
Scott Sigurdson  
Councillor Holmes  
Brenda Cochran  
Paul Crozier  
Merlin Knapton

Staff Present: Jennifer Russell, Deputy Clerk  
Cynthia Moyle, Acting Clerk

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**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 12:38 pm.

**B. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**

None

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Moved by** Lorne Heslop

**Seconded by** Paul Crozier

**THAT** the agenda be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ACTION:** remove Alice and replace with Alus

**Moved by** Merlin Knapton  
**Seconded by** Scott Sigurdson

**THAT** the Agriculture Advisory Committee minutes dated February 24, 2020 be approved as amended.

**CARRIED**

**E. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

None

**F. REPORTS**

None

**G. OTHER / NEW BUSINESS**

**G.1 Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs - Drainage Act Amendments**

Committee members discussed amendments to the Drainage Act. OMAFRA has asked for public feedback on the proposed amendments to the Drainage Act. The current process to obtain municipal approval for drainage works is complex and length. The new regulation would streamline the process for minor improvements that would help projects to be completed in a less costly and more efficient way while maintaining environmental protections. The criteria include the following: improvement would be initiated by the property owner, take place on an individual property, property owner would pay the full cost of the construction for the minor improvement and there would be no construction access on neighbouring properties.

The Committee discussed answers to the discussion questions and provided direction to the Acting Clerk to submit a response to OMFRA. Acting Clerk Moyle to circulate draft letter for input to members and prior to presenting to COW.

**H. INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**I. ROUND TABLE**

Lorne Heslop - request for Agriculture Committee to be notified when zoning removes the Agricultural land designation from property; committee should learn about Land Evaluation Area Review (LEAR) as it's an important exercise.

Brenda Cochran - request for Agricultural Committee to keep a list of items they would like to advise on Council.

Councillor Holmes - Bicentennial Agricultural Committee to be created for 2023 celebrations.

**J. MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

To be determined

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by** Merlin Knapton

**Seconded by** Scott Sigurdson

**THAT** the meeting be adjourned at 1:24 pm

**CARRIED**

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Cynthia Moyle, ACTING CLERK,  
Recording Secretary