

**SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT
AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

January 22, 2019

MINUTES FROM THE AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE CEDAR ROOM AT THE SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT OFFICES, 1975 FIELD ROAD, SECHELT, BC

PRESENT:	Chair	David Morgan
	Members	Paul Nash Gretchen Bozak Barbara Seed Erin Dutton Gerald Rainville Jon Bell
ALSO PRESENT:	Director, Electoral Area F Director, Electoral Area E Director, District of Sechelt Manager, Planning and Development Senior Planner Planning Office Assistant /Recorder Applicant Applicant	Mark Hiltz Donna McMahon Darnelda Siegers (part) Andrew Allen Yuli Siao Genevieve Dixon Patrick Connelly Clinton McDougall
	Public	1
REGRETS:	Member	Faye Kiewitz

CALL TO ORDER 3:35 p.m.

INTRODUCTIONS Round table introductions

AGENDA The agenda was adopted as presented.

DELEGATIONS

Patrick Connelly and Clinton McDougall from Sunday Cider Company Limited.

MINUTES

Recommendation No. 1 *AAC Meeting Minutes for May 22, 2018*

The Agricultural Advisory Committee recommended that the meeting minutes of May 22, 2018 be received and approved.

REPORTS

LCRB Endorsement Applications for Lounge and Picnic Area – Sunday Cider

Patrick Connelly and Clinton McDougall from Sunday Cider Company Limited presented a presentation on the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB) application for endorsement of a food and beverage lounge and picnic area in Electoral Area E to the AAC.

Key points of discussion:

- The subject property is a 20 acre site. Sunday Cider has a lease on an Okanagan orchard (Macintosh and Golden Delicious) apples for future use, and also a purchase agreement with an orchardist in Lake Country that is growing cider apples.
- Initially the applicant will use 50% of product from off Coast until orchard is mature.
- First block of 427 trees planted on the property. Experimenting with a variety of root stalks.
- The applicant clarified that the application for lounge meets all agency requirements for seating (30 people or less), and SCR D requirements are 100 square metres for indoor area and 50 square metres for outdoor area.
- ALC site requirements are 1000sq metres for a picnic area, alcohol can be brought to the picnic area but no liquor sales in the picnic area.
- There will be a small retail area to purchase products for use on or off the property.
- The applicant plans to showcase other local beer/wine provider's onsite as permitted through licensing.
- Applicant is aware of challenges with fencing and eventually will add an electric fence around the perimeter.
- LCRB licensing requires 25% grown products on site or leasing from another orchard and the ALC area requirements is 50% grown products on site, both agencies will continually check to ensure the requirements are met year after year.
- The applicant has indicated that they applied for farm development status with BC Assessment. BC Assessment will be out in the summer months to look at progress on site.
- The applicant confirms the license for cidery is similar to winery license. No current plan on growing grapes.
- The applicant intends on selling product to wine shops and bottle shops. Potentially package cider for restaurants and pubs.
- The applicant states they have no intention to sell packaged non-alcoholic beverages offsite. Non-alcoholic beverages will be sold only onsite.
- The applicant intends to employ water conservation methods when using regional water and using water from the creek for part of the process.
- The creek does run low in the summer but runs all year.
- The root stock trees chosen are of standard size, low maintenance. Not high density, interested in trees that can survive without a lot of water.
- The applicant has been granted an approval in principle by the LCRB. Which includes a tasting room and a retail /online store.
- The applicant notes timeline for full approval is a year to acquire the lounge license.
- Construction to be complete with final building inspection around April 2019.
- A land based winery is the classification that first gets put on by the Liquor Distribution Branch. The requirement to meet the ALC agreement is two hectares of land where a cidery orchard exists or in development and a lease in place.
- The ALC is aware of application and does not require a formal application at this point and will reach out in the future.

- There is a Type 2 waste water disposal system that was recently installed on site and organic waste will be sent to another farm for animal feed. Remaining waste will be composted on site that will be filtered and spread out in the compost field on the property.
- Environmental consultants have done a preliminary walk through on the site.
- The applicant indicates that the existing property access is from Highway 101. The gravel driveway may be paved in the future.

Recommendation No. 2 *LCRB Endorsement Applications for Lounge and Picnic Area – Sunday Cider*

The Agricultural Advisory Committee supports the LCRB Endorsement Applications for Lounge and Picnic Area for Sunday Cider Company Limited.

Recommendation No. 3

The Agricultural Advisory Committee would like to determine priority policy areas for agriculture and intends to examine three such areas in its remaining term and therefore the AAC seeks direction from the Board regarding priority policy areas, such as water use.

NEXT MEETING Tuesday, February 26, 2019

ADJOURNMENT 5:11 p.m.