

The regular meeting of the Economic Development Committee was held this evening with Mayor Jacyno in the Chair with all members present. Staff members present were Terry Lapierre, CAO and Susan Ellis – Coordinator, Economic Development, Recreation & Tourism.

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Levasseur, seconded by Councillor White THAT the Minutes of the March 8, 2005 meeting are accepted as circulated.

CARRIED

LEGION PRESENTATION:

Stan Halliday, Branch 72 President, informed Committee members that the Government of Canada has declared 2005 as the Year of the Veteran. The Legion will be honouring and remembering veterans and teaching the youth the history and sacrifices of the veterans. This year marks the 60th Anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

Jean Campbell, Branch 72 Vice President, said there will be special dates held throughout the year highlighting the contributions of the veterans.

Jim Purcell, Co-Chairman – Veterans Day stated that the 11th Annual Peacekeepers Parade will be held June 11 in Petawawa with ceremonies being held after at each Legion.

Mr. Halliday presented Mayor Jacyno with a framed poster and picture for his desk depicting the Year of the Veteran. Mayor Jacyno thanked the Legion for their gifts and commended them for their continued work in the community.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Ms. Ellis informed the Committee of the increase in the number of new business inquiries that the department has received reflecting the positive economic impact that the new call center is having on the City. Ms. Ellis added that construction permits for the first quarter of 2005 total \$16,220,351. The annual total for 2004 was \$18,000,000.

Ms. Ellis reviewed the department reports.

1. **On-Line Support Update** – Information Item
2. **Communities in Bloom** – Information Item
3. **AECL Suppliers** – Information Item
4. **Ottawa Valley Showcase** – Ms. Ellis said that a presentation was made to the displaced workers informing them of employment and business opportunities in Pembroke. The workers were quite impressed with the presentation and some follow-up contacts have already been made.
5. **Economic Development Advisory Committee 2005** – Information Item

6. **Pembroke Downtown Development Commission** – Ms. Ellis asked for Committee approval regarding street closures on July 29 and July 30 to accommodate a Homecoming Festival and also street closures to accommodate the Farmers’ Market between May 25 and July 9.

Councillor White stated that the street closures need to be well advertised so the public and emergency services are well aware of the changes. Councillor Lowe said that the downtown merchants are anxious to work with the Farmers’ Market and ensured that everyone would be well informed of the street closures.

MOTION: Moved by Councillor White, seconded by Councillor Lowe THAT approval is given to the Pembroke Downtown Development Commission to close Pembroke St. W. between Victoria St and Alexander St on July 29 and July 30. Approval is also given to close Pembroke St. W. between Alexander and Church St. for the Farmers’ Market on Wednesdays and Saturdays from May 25 to July 9, 2005.

CARRIED

7. **OSTAR Downtown Revitalization Best Practices** – Ms. Ellis said that a by-law will be presented at the next Committee meeting authorizing the City of Pembroke to enter into an agreement with the Province of Ontario as represented by the Associate Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

The meeting adjourned on motion by Councillor Severin, seconded by Councillor Lowe.

CARRIED