

## Community Meeting Summary

The community meeting commenced at 1:35 p.m on November 20, 2017 at the Ramara Centre with 13 community members in attendance. Attendees included:

- Corinne and Jim Ingall
- Murray and Margaret Mulvihill
- Tim Artchuk
- Bert Harrington
- Milton Baker
- Chris and Maryleah Palaro
- A. Kumar, R. Kumar
- David Hawkins
- Joshua Chitiz

Deputy Mayor John O'Donnell and Ward 5 Councilor Kal Johnson also made an appearance at the meeting.

On behalf of the project team the following were in attendance:

- Heather Sadler, EcoVue Consulting Services Inc.
- Kent Randall, EcoVue Consulting Services Inc.
- Nolan Drumm, EcoVue Consulting Services Inc.
- Ashlyn Kennedy, EcoVue Consulting Services Inc.
- Deb McCabe, Township of Ramara
- Dave Wellman, Township of Ramara
- Jennifer Strong, Township of Ramara

The meeting started with introductions of the project team and the community members in attendance. After the introductions, Mr. Randall provided a background on why the Official Plan needed to be updated and then further explained the reasoning for the community Meeting. The presentation continued by explaining the role of the Official Plan for the Township of Ramara, the planning hierarchy and where we are at in terms of the project schedule.

After the introductions and background information the meeting moved into the discussion. The project team had predetermined six (6) key areas of the Official Plan to discuss. Due to the lower numbers of residents attending and everyone not being able to stay the whole time, the project team decided to change the format of the meeting and have one big roundtable discussion instead of six smaller roundtable discussions. The key points from the discussion are listed below.

- Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority permit system has been difficult to deal with and may be deterring landowners from developing their property
- Clean up the main street in Brechin
  - Through Community Improvement Plans
- Not enough population to maintain businesses
  - Sales and staff (people are traveling from Woodville to fulfill jobs at a restaurant in Lagoon City)
- Lake is an asset that should be utilized
- Opportunities for aging in place
- Not enough services to sustain population for the long term
- Have to travel to Orillia to obtain services (medical care)
  - Population moves there as they age
- Expansion of water/sewer services to Atherley
- Brechin as an industrial centre
- Lagoon City and Bayshore Village are two largest residential developments
- Promote the Township as a rural escape from Orillia
- County Report regarding provision of county wide water/sewer services
- Promote local businesses within the Township
  - More diversified uses to serve the residents
  - Tourist opportunities
- Tourist commercial areas
  - Encourage a network of attractions that can be part of a self-guided tour to bring people to the Township like “Tap into Maple”
- Promote the two Provincial Parks in the Township
- Promote use of the Trent Severn Waterway
- Rural Economic Development policies
- Productive agricultural land
- Township should maintain Rural land use designation
- Affordable housing should be a priority. There is a need for it in the Township
  - There is a need for a clear definition
- Move ahead with the development of the Rama Road Corridor
- Beautify the town – make Brechin/Atherley a destination like Niagara – on – the – Lake
- There is a lack of transportation in the Township
- Growth is occurring in Uptergrove – what happens next?
- There is a need for a community-wide initiative
- Promote residential areas