3RD REPORT OF THE

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting held on September 18, 2013, commencing at 7:32 p.m.

PRESENT: H. Fletcher (Chair), J. Asmussen, B. Bloomfield, O. Hobson and S. Twynstra and B. Mercier (Secretary).

ALSO PRESENT: B. Bergsma, D. Crinklaw, D. Duffin and L. Mottram.

I YOUR COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

Moratorium on a Class of Pesticides – Neonicotinoids

1. (3,4,5) That the Civic Administration BE REQUESTED to postpone any recommendations on a neonicotinoids (a class of pesticide) seed treatment plan until the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Ontario Bee Health Working Group recommendations are completed by the end of November 2013; it being noted that the Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) received the following with respect to this matter:

   a) a communication dated August 12, 2013, from G. Kenny, Program Coordinator, Emergency Response and International Development, the United Church of Canada, with respect to a moratorium on a class of pesticides called neonicotinoids;
   
   b) the attached presentation from T. Baute, Entomologist, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, with respect to a Working Group Study on neonicotinoids;
   
   c) the attached communication dated September 18, 2013, from M. Does, Food Not Lawns, with respect to links between the collapse of bee colonies and neonicotinoids; and,
   
   d) delegations from M. Knoester and C. Quinn, with respect to the use of neonicotinoids.

II YOUR COMMITTEE REPORTS:

AAC’s Meeting Schedule

2. (6) That the Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) reviewed and received a communication from R. Harvey, Community Gardens London, requesting that the AAC change its meeting schedule to once a month.

Environmental Review Lands Study Results and Next Steps

3. That the Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) heard a verbal report from B. Bergsma, Ecologist Planner, with respect to the Environmental Review Lands Study results and the next steps.

Urban Agriculture Policy

4. (Added) That the Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) formed a Working Group consisting of J. Asmussen, H. Fletcher and O. Hobson, to define an Urban Agriculture Policy; within the Urban Growth Boundaries of the Official Plan.

5. That the Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) noted and filed the following:

   a) (1) the 2nd Report of the Agricultural Advisory Committee from its meeting held on June 19, 2013; and,
   
   b) (2) a Report dated August 26, 2013, from the Managing Director, Planning and City Planner, with respect to ReThink London Discussion Papers on "What We’ve Heard”.

2nd Report of the AAC

6. That the Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) will hold its next meeting on December 18, 2013.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.