



Minutes

Community Recovery Task Force

Meeting Date: January 6, 2021
Meeting Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting
Prepared by: Sarah Merrifield, Executive Assistant Committees of Council

A. Call to Order

Mayor Alar Soever called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with Councillor Rob Sampson and Councillor Peter Bordignon present.

Advisory participants present were Carolyn Letourneau, Cathy Innes, Sarah Fillion, Tony Poole, Diane Anderson, Derek Hammond, Reverend Dr. Grayhame Bowcott, Paul Pinchbeck, Melissa Twist, Rob Cederberg, and Melissa Goldmintz-Shah. Shawn McKinlay joined following the call to order.

Town staff present were Director of Finance and IT Services Ruth Prince, Director of Operations Shawn Carey, Director of Community Services Ryan Gibbons, Manager of Communications and Economic Development Tim Hendry, Communications and Economic Development Coordinator Carling Fee. Chief Administrative Officer Shawn Everitt joined the meeting following the call to order.

Regrets were sent by Dr. Sabrina Saunders, Tim Newton, Gillian Fairley, Lisa Burechails, Tom Kennedy, Andrew Siegwart, and Mark Woodburn.

- **Task Force Member Attendance**
- **Approval of Agenda**

Moved by: Peter Bordignon

Seconded by: Alar Soever

THAT the Agenda of January 6, 2021 be approved as circulated, including any additions to the Agenda, being Item E.1.1 Input from Business Associations, Carried.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and general nature thereof

NOTE: In accordance with the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* and the Town Procedural By-law 2019-56, Community Recovery Task Force members must file a written statement of the interest and its general nature with the Clerk for inclusion on the Registry.

None

B. Staff Reports and Deputations

B.1 Deputations, if any

None

B.2 Staff Reports, if any

None

C. Matters for Discussion

C.1 COVID-19 Update – Mayor Soever

- Reviewed data and trending for COVID-19 in Ontario and Grey/Bruce Counties, and noted the increase in cases and hospitalizations
- Council heard from Business stakeholders, tourism operators, and business association representatives during the January 4, 2021 Special Meeting of Council

C.2 Overview of Holiday Operations in The Blue Mountains – All Attendees

- Noted an outbreak had occurred in a Town Department that does not regularly interact with members of the public
 - Notification was provided by the Town to members of the public
- Expressed thanks to Public Health representatives for diligent contact tracing and assistance

C.3 “Give the Gift of Blue” Update – Manager of Communications and Economic Development Tim Hendry

- Campaign ended January 3, 2021 with more than 1,000 entries
- Economic impact of the campaign ranged between \$49,000 to \$117,000
- Campaign well-received by business community and members of the public
- Expressed thanks to business stakeholders for assisting with marketing and promotion of the event

C.4 Christmas Dinner and Video Event Recap – Councillor Bordignon and Councillor Sampson

- Video was very professionally done and included elements of faith, the natural environment, and the community
- 250 meals distributed through the Community Cares program, and 250 meals were distributed at Beaver Valley Community Centre on December 19, 2020
- Any surplus revenue will go towards the Community Cares initiative

C.5 Updates from Task Force Advisory Participants

Tony Poole

- 2021 BIA budget to be presented to Council for consideration
 - Requesting Town to assist with various improvements in the downtown core
- Noted several restaurants in the BIA area are closed and not doing takeout

Reverend Dr. Grayhame Bowcott

- Community Cares meal program resumes Friday, January 22, 2021 – in the interim, volunteers are reviewing safety protocols with Public Health in light of the current lockdown
 - Grocery expense to end of school year 2021 are covered
- Partnership with Bruce Grey United Way “Food Bruce Grey” app – being used to track patterns of food scarcity

Carolyn Letourneau

- Beaver Valley Preschool remains open during the Provincial lockdown
- Treasure shop currently closed

D. Correspondence

None

E. New and Unfinished Business

E.1 Additions to the Agenda

E.1.1 Input from Business Associations

- Special Meeting of Council January 4, 2021
- Council heard from tourism operators, business stakeholders and business associations regarding the impacts of the current Provincial lockdown
- Key takeaway from the Council meeting is that operators require a clear and detailed reopening plan when the Province lifts the lockdown to enable businesses to respond appropriately
- Tony Poole noted businesses would be assisted by potential grants, a delay in the collection of commercial property taxes, extension or renewal of a “Shop Local” initiative

Diane Anderson left the meeting at 9:49 a.m.

E.2 Items Identified for Discussion at the Next Meeting

None

F. Notice of Meeting Dates

January 20, 2021

G. Adjournment

Moved by: Peter Bordignon

Seconded by: Rob Sampson

THAT the Community Recovery Task Force does now adjourn at 9:54 a.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair, Carried.