



Minutes

Community Recovery Task Force

Meeting Date: February 3, 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 Peter Bordignon and Councillor Rob Sampson present.

Advisory participants present were Dr. Sabrina Saunders, Gillian Fairley, Cathy Innes, Andrew Siegwart, Tony Poole, Derek Hammond, Melissa Twist, Rob Cederberg, and Melissa Goldmintz-Shah.

Town staff present were Director of Finance and IT Services Ruth Prince, Director of Operations Shawn Carey, and Director of Community Services Ryan Gibbons.

Regrets were sent by advisory participants Tim Newton, Lisa Burechails, Shawn McKinlay, Tom Kennedy, Carolyn Letourneau, Sarah Fillion, Diane Anderson, Reverend Dr. Grayhame Bowcott, Paul Pinchbeck, and Mark Woodburn. Regrets sent by Town staff include Chief Administrative Officer Shawn Everitt, and Manager of Communications and Economic Development Tim Hendry.

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

Moved by: Peter Bordignon

Seconded by: Rob Sampson

THAT the Agenda of February 3, 2021 be approved as circulated, including any additions to the Agenda, 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

- Case numbers throughout Ontario and Grey/Bruce continue to decline
- Number of tests carried out are also decreasing
- Noted a number of cases in Ontario are related to a COVID-19 variant that appears highly contagious
- Of key importance is ensuring Long-Term Care Home residents are vaccinated
- Letter submitted by The Blue Mountains Mayor to Premier Ford: emphasizes need for safe and gradual reopening, emphasizes that reopening should include discussion with various Medical Officers of Health, emphasizes importance of working with stakeholders when considering reopening framework
 - Grey County Warden Selwyn Hicks submitted a similar letter to the Province
- Melissa Goldmintz-Shah requested clarity regarding whether, pending a Provincial announcement, the current understanding is that businesses will re-open after February 11, the Mayor replying that the letter written to Premier Ford requested some level of certainty regarding re-opening
- Andrew Siegwart noted Ministry of Tourism submitted a guidance template outlining adaptations by the ski industry has been submitted to the Health Table, with the request that skiing be added as an outdoor amenity, and a request for advance warning with respect to Provincial reopening plans

C.2 Potential Enhancement of Annual Events (Fall 2021) Update – CAO Shawn Everitt

- Ryan Gibbons provided an update on behalf of CAO Shawn Everitt
 - Discussing potential enhancement of existing events (Fall Fair, Apple Harvest Festival, etc) with the goal of being able to come together once the COVID-19 pandemic is over

C.3 Updates from Task Force Advisory Participants

Andrew Siegwart

- Blue Mountain Village Association Foundation is allocating fifteen, \$1,000 grants to local groups and associations with a focus on those organizations assisting to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 in the community – noted a theme around food security

Sarah Merrifield, on behalf of Revered Dr. Grayhame Bowcott

- Caring Meals program has seen a 10% increase in meals with 130-140 recipients weekly

Cathy Innes

- Beaver Valley Outreach has also experienced an increase in community need
- A large stock of food is available at the Beaver Valley Outreach, with gift cards available for procurement of fresh food items
 - Beaver Valley Outreach prefers cash donation or food card donation to supplement its food stock

Ryan Gibbons

- The Georgian Trail is groomed end-to-end in The Blue Mountains, over 21km total and has seen 19,000 users since January 1, 2021
- Tomahawk property is regularly used as well
- Overall, the community has positive feedback with respect to the outdoor recreational opportunities

D. Correspondence

None

E. New and Unfinished Business

E.1 Additions to the Agenda

Parking Regulations Feedback Received

- Mayor Soever noted considerable interest on the Parking By-law changes has been generated, with many individuals, both locally and in neighbouring municipalities, providing comment

E.2 Items Identified for Discussion at the Next Meeting

- Food Security

F. Notice of Meeting Dates

February 17, 2021 – to be reassessed thereafter

G. Adjournment

Moved by: Peter Bordignon

Seconded by: Rob Sampson

THAT the Community Recovery Task Force does now adjourn at 9:34 a.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair, Carried.