



Minutes

Community Recovery Task Force

Meeting Date: March 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.

Due to time constraints, and in an effort to ensure enough time was left for questions and answers, Item C.1 was moved ahead of the procedural items on the agenda.

C.1 Grey Bruce Vaccination Update – Medical Officer of Health, Grey Bruce Health Unit Dr. Ian Arra

NOTE: Included for reference are the following Press Release documents:

1. Media Release – COVID-19 Vaccine Progress
 2. Media Release – COVID-19 Vaccine for Those 80 Years Old and Older, February 25, 2021
 3. Media Release - COVID-19 Vaccine for Those 80 Years Old and Older, February 28, 2021
- Dr. Ian Arra, Medical Officer of Health, provided an update on vaccine progress in Grey/Bruce Counties and noted that the main barrier to vaccine distribution to this point is vaccine availability – late March/early April 2021 should see an increase in the number of vaccines distributed to the area
 - Dr. Arra noted that long-term care residents have received their first vaccine, high risk retirement home residents have received their first dose, health care workers, and first responders have almost been fully vaccinated
 - Residents aged 80+ will be prioritized and identified through family health teams, with digital and phone registration options available – all identified residents who are 80+ should receive their first vaccination by the end of March 2021
 - In the case where individuals' family doctors are outside of Grey/Bruce Counties, and where their primary residence is outside of Grey/Bruce Counties, those individuals should seek vaccination from the health unit where their primary address is listed
 - Main vaccination sites will be Owen Sound, Hanover, and Kincardine but there will be vaccination hubs planned for mass immunization (Health Unit has developed a list of 18 potential facilities to host these hubs in various Grey/Bruce communities)

- Family Health Teams and pharmacies will also be able to provide the COVID-19 vaccinations
- Volunteers who wish to assist with the vaccine rollout are welcome – a help line phone has been set up to manage volunteer requests
- It was emphasized that hubs near the eastern border of the region should be considered, particularly given the number of seniors in The Blue Mountains and potential transportation limitations to get individuals to and from vaccination sites
- It was noted the vaccines will be provided in accordance with the Province's framework
- Dr. Arra clarified that the vaccines still have efficacy even if the first and second dose are delivered beyond the recommended maximum spread of 42 days (currently Moderna recommends a 28 day delay between the first and second dose, while Pfizer recommends a 21 day delay between the first and second dose) – Dr. Arra further noted he anticipates that booster shots will be required every few years for the COVID-19 vaccines
- Mayor Soever noted the Town will print out vaccination forms to have available at service counters for the enquiring public, the Library is also able to print the vaccination forms free of charge for requestors
- Dr. Arra noted his appreciation for the level of collaboration demonstrated by the community and stakeholders, Mayor Soever thanked Dr. Arra for his attendance, and for the diligence and leadership displayed by Dr. Arra and the Grey/Bruce Public Health team

▪ **Task Force Member Attendance**

Mayor Soever, Councillor Bordignon, and Councillor Sampson were present. Task Force Advisory Participants present were Dr. Sabrina Saunders, Tim Newton, Cathy Innes, Andrew Siegwart, Sarah Fillion, Diane Anderson, Derek Hammond, Reverend Dr. Grayhame Bowcott, Paul Pinchbeck, Melissa Twist, and Melissa Goldmintz-Shah. Invited members included Dr. Ian Arra, who left following discussion at Item C.1., Shannon Fry, Pharmacist, and Pamela McDermid, Seniors Centre Without Walls Program Manager.

Town staff present were Director of Finance and IT Services Ruth Prince, Director of Operations Shawn Carey, Director of Community Services Ryan Gibbons, and Manager of Communications and Economic Development Tim Hendry.

Regrets were sent by Gillian Fairley, Lisa Burechails, Shawn McKinlay, Tom Kennedy, Carolyn Letourneau, Tony Poole, Mark Woodburn, Rob Cederberg, and the Town's Chief Administrative Officer Shawn Everitt.

▪ **Approval of Agenda**

Moved by: Councillor Bordignon

Seconded by: Councillor Sampson

THAT the Agenda of March 3, 2021 be approved as circulated, including any additions to the Agenda, being Item E.1.1 Pharmacy Update, and Item E.1.2 Seniors Update, 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.2 Moving Grey Bruce into Green Zone – Mayor Soever

- Mayor Soever provided an overview of Green Zone gathering limitations for various types of establishments but encouraged stakeholders to remain cautious to avoid further provincial lockdowns
- Melissa Goldmintz-Shah enquired whether businesses have any guidance on how to manage customers or clients from other zones – a Grey Bruce Health Unit press release provides some additional guidance, which Sarah Merrifield will forward to participants

Melissa Goldmintz-Shah left the meeting at 9:53 a.m.

C.3 Housing and Food Security Update – All Attendees

- Increased meal demands noted on the Community Cares Seniors Meal delivery
- Beaver Valley Outreach provided service to 25 families in February, noted an increase in families seeking housing support

C.4 Updates from Task Force Advisory Participants**Andrew Siegwart**

- Line management, masking, reduced capacity, and other health and safety protocols are in place at Blue Mountain Resort and the Village area
- Reinforced by team of ambassadors who provide outreach and education to those individuals participating in Blue Mountain Resort amenities
- Businesses in the Village area are generally sticking with more conservative operating parameters

- Mayor Soever thanked Andrew for the efforts of Blue Mountain Village and Resort to ensure the best possible health and safety protocols are in place

Sarah Fillion

- Clarksburg businesses have reopened, and a new business will be opening in the area

D. Correspondence

None

E. New and Unfinished Business

E.1 Additions to the Agenda

E.1.1 Pharmacy Update

- Pharmacy will help to convey the information supplied by Dr. Arra
- Significant challenge is that The Blue Mountains is on the line between Simcoe County and Grey County
- Thornbury Pharmasave has four (4) pharmacists who can inject

E.1.2 Seniors Update

- Programming recently included a session for seniors about vaccines
- Programming focuses on providing information and keeping in touch with people
- Generally seniors are concerned about health, isolation and loneliness; they are anxious and seeking information
- BVO is still meeting people's emergency needs
- Many seniors are concerned about being able to get to the vaccination centres
- Income tax services being offered to seniors who require assistance

Mayor Soever thanked both Shannon and Pamela for the update, and for the work they do in the community.

E.2 Items Identified for Discussion at the Next Meeting

- Task Force survey results
 - Response from Advisory participants by March 17, 2021
- Vaccine Update (standing item)

F. Notice of Meeting Dates

March 17, 2021

G. Adjournment

Moved by: Councillor Bordignon

Seconded by: Councillor Sampson

THAT the Community Recovery Task Force does now adjourn at 10:03 a.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair, Carried.