



Minutes

Community Recovery Task Force

Meeting Date: March 31, 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, Shawn McKinlay, Tony Poole, Diane Anderson, Reverend Dr. Grayhame Bowcott, Paul Pinchbeck, and Rob Cederberg.

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

Regrets were sent by advisory participants Tim Newton, Lisa Burechails, Tom Kennedy, Carolyn Letourneau, Cathy Innes, Pamela McDermid (absent due to technical difficulties), Andrew Siegwart, Sarah Filion, Derek Hammond, Mark Woodburn, Melissa Twist, and Melissa Goldmintz-Shah.

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

Moved by: Peter Bordignon

Seconded by: Rob Sampson

THAT the Agenda of March 31, 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 Grey Bruce Vaccination Update – Mayor Alar Soever

- **Progress**
- **Seniors' Experience and Feedback**
- Mayor Soever shared information from Dr. Ian Arra, Grey Bruce Public Health, which confirmed that Grey Bruce is expecting 3,500 to 5,000 vaccines per week and receives confirmation of vaccines 4 weeks in advance
- Vaccine clinics will be available in Grey Bruce every week going forward
- Mayor Soever will continue to work with Dr. Arra to advise of the issues experienced by seniors

Pamela McDermid was unable to join the meeting due to technical difficulties but provided the following comments regarding vaccinations for seniors following the meeting:

- There are many glitches in the booking system for vaccinations and seniors are being sent to fairly far flung clinics. One Meaford resident was persistent and argued for destinations that were closer to home and ended up being assigned to Collingwood. That was after she rejected Pentanguishene, Hanover & Kincardine.
- Someone said, "well at least they are getting the vaccination." This completely ignores one of the factors which are salient for many seniors and that is a lack of access to personal transportation. Just as there is a higher likelihood of seniors having phones than computers & internet, there is a higher likelihood of seniors not being able to drive themselves and having to rely on public transit which is scarce, must be booked ahead and has very limited schedules.
- The Other item that I wanted to raise was the Preventing Senior Abuse series that we are starting on April 8th.
- It is tangential to COVID-19 recovery, however the unprecedented increase in calls to the Seniors Safety Line since the pandemic began, has increased our awareness of how important it is to address this problem in our community and across Grey and Bruce, Ontario, and Canada.

C.2 COVID-19 Update – Mayor Soever

- COVID-19 cases in Ontario and Grey Bruce are trending upwards
- Mayor Soever noted his belief that Grey Bruce likely will not remain in the Green zone based on the case trending
- Mayor Soever reviewed the number of active cases on March 1, 2021 and March 30, 2021 in Grey Bruce
March 1, 2021: 12 active cases, 31 high risk contacts, and 2.6 contacts per case
March 30, 2021: 58 active cases, 437 high risk contacts, and 7.5 contacts per case

C.3 South Georgian Bay Tourism Recovery Task Force – Councillor Sampson

- A provincial Task Force has been established to put forward tactics to support the tourism industry once COVID-19 lockdowns are lifted – Councillor Sampson sits on this Task Force
- Councillor Sampson received Council's approval to establish a South Georgian Bay Tourism Recovery Task Force comprised of municipalities and stakeholders to make recommendations to the larger provincial Task Force by mid-April 2021
- Councillor Sampson noted that if any members of the Community Recovery Task Force have suggestions or recommendations, to provide them to staff

C.4 Updates from Task Force Advisory Participants

Reverend Dr. Grayhame Bowcott

- The Community Cares meals initiative has received \$30,000 from Grey County to maintain its meal programming to March 2022

Gillian Fairley

- Ontario Trillium Foundation announced the Community Building Fund, \$105 million for the not-for-profit sector – application deadline is April 28, 2021

Dr. Sabrina Saunders

- Library staff have been assisting qualifying individuals to register for the COVID-19 vaccine upon request
- Mayor Soever advised the Thornbury Pharmasave will be receiving the Astra Zeneca vaccine in the coming weeks for distribution

D. Correspondence

None

E. New and Unfinished Business

E.1 Additions to the Agenda

E.2 Items Identified for Discussion at the Next Meeting

F. Notice of Meeting Dates

April 13, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. (Tuesday due to scheduling conflict)

G. Adjournment

Moved by: Peter Bordignon

Seconded by: Rob Sampson

THAT the Community Recovery Task Force does now adjourn at 9:31 a.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair, Carried.