



Minutes

Community Recovery Task Force

Meeting Date: May 11, 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 9:01 a.m. with Councillor Rob Sampson and Councillor Peter Bordignon present.

Advisory participants present were Shawn McKinlay, Carolyn Letourneau, Cathy Innes, Andrew Siegwart, Sarah Filion, Tony Poole, Diane Anderson, and Derek Hammond.

Town staff present were Director of Finance and IT Services Ruth Prince, Director of Operations Shawn Carey, Communications and Economic Development Coordinator Carling Fee, and Administrative Assistant Committees of Council Kyra Dunlop.

Regrets were sent by advisory participants Dr. Sabrina Saunders, Tim Newton, Gillian Fairley, Tom Kennedy, Pamela McDermid, Reverend Dr. Grayhame Bowcott, Paul Pinchbeck, Mark Woodburn, Melissa Twist, and Rob Cederberg. The Town's Chief Administrative Officer Shawn Everitt, and Director of Community Services Ryan Gibbons also sent their regrets.

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

Moved by: Councillor Bordignon

Seconded by: Councillor Sampson

THAT the Agenda of May 11, 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 and Grey Bruce Vaccination Update – Mayor Alar Soever

- **Grey/Bruce Vaccination Update and Progress**
 - Province has prioritized second vaccine dose for high-risk health care workers
 - The Owen Sound Vaccination Hub has been transferred from the Bayshore to the Julie McArthur Recreational Complex to enable the Bayshore to be converted into a field hospital
- **Seniors' Experience and Feedback**
 - Mayor Soever noted that he provided feedback to Dr. Arra regarding seniors who received their first dose COVID-19 vaccines through the community vaccine clinics but have not booked their second shot – Mayor Soever advised that Public Health is tracking these individuals and will reach out when 14 weeks has passed, unless something changes
- **COVID-19 Update**
 - The Task Force reviewed the number of cases in the Province, Grey Bruce, and The Blue Mountains, along with the provincial hospitalization rates
 - Case counts and hospitalization rates throughout the Province are beginning to decline
 - Mayor Soever pointed to the spike in case numbers that occurred in April 2021 in Grey County and noted it was largely related to social gatherings
 - Tony Poole confirmed that The Blue Mountains Chamber of Commerce is reviewing the feasibility of having COVID-19 Rapid Test Kits available for pick up at the Chamber office for businesses in The Blue Mountains

C.2 Business Recovery and the need for COVID-19 Exit/Provincial Re-Opening Strategy

The Task Force reviewed the draft letter that was developed by Councillor Sampson and Councillor Bordignon in conjunction with Andrew Siegwart, Tony Poole, and Sarah Filion. The letter, which will be provided on the Mayor's letterhead, requests the Premier to confirm the COVID-19 Exit/Provincial Re-opening Strategy for the Province, and details several perspectives from the business community.

Moved by: Councillor Sampson

Seconded by: Councillor Bordignon

THAT the Community Recovery Task Force approves the draft letter and requests that it be sent to the Office of the Premier on behalf of the Task Force, Carried.

C.3 Updates from Task Force Advisory Participants

Derek Hammond

- Requested clarity regarding the Town's position on patio extension permits for summer 2021
- Mayor Soever committed to follow-up with staff on this matter

Tony Poole

- Noted thanks to the Town for coordinating and circulating the letter to the Premier regarding COVID-19 exit/Provincial re-opening
- Requested that the letter be circulated also to local businesses through the various business associations

Andrew Siegwart

- Noted his thanks to the Town for circulating the COVID-19 exit/Provincial re-opening letter
- Requested that the letter also be circulated to municipalities with similar tourism sectors

D. Correspondence

None

E. New and Unfinished Business

E.1 Additions to the Agenda

E.2 Items Identified for Discussion at the Next Meeting

- COVID-19 Update

F. Notice of Meeting Dates

May 26, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

G. Adjournment

Moved by: Councillor Bordignon

Seconded by: Councillor Sampson

THAT the Community Recovery Task Force does now adjourn at 9:28 a.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair, Carried.