



# Committee Report

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## Sustainability Advisory Committee Report

**Meeting Date:** March 10, 2021  
**Meeting Time:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Location:** Town Hall, Council Chambers  
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON

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### Sustainability Advisory Committee Recommendations

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**NOTE:** The following are recommendations from the Sustainability Advisory Committee to be considered for adoption by Council

- [Receive Minutes \(March 10, 2021\)](#)

**Recommended** (Move, second)

THAT Council of The Town of The Blue Mountains receives Sustainability Advisory Committee minutes dated March 10, 2021, as attached, for information purposes.



# Minutes

## The Blue Mountains, Sustainability Advisory Committee

**Date:** March 10, 2021  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Location:** Town Hall, Council Chambers - Virtual Meeting  
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON  
**Prepared by:**  
Sarah Merrifield, Executive Assistant Committees of Council

**Members Present:** Pamela Spence, Kim Harris, Sarah Fillion (Economic Development Advisory Committee alternate), Councillor Andrea Matrosovs, and Elora Tarlo following the Call to Order

**Members Absent:** Deputy Mayor Rob Potter, Andrew Siegwart, Steven Troster

**Staff Present:** Director of Operations Shawn Carey, Manager of Sustainability and Solid Waste Jeff Fletcher, and Sustainability Coordinator Nicholas Cloet

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### A. Call to Order

#### A.1 Traditional Territory Acknowledgement

We would like to begin our meeting by recognizing the First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples of Canada as traditional stewards of the land. The municipality is located within the boundary of Treaty 18 region of 1818 which is the traditional land of the Anishnaabek, Haudenosaunee and Wendat-Wyandot-Wyandotte peoples.

#### A.2 Committee Member Attendance

Executive Assistant Committees of Council Sarah Merrifield confirmed that all members were present, save Deputy Mayor Potter and Steven Troster. Sarah Fillion is the appointed Economic Development Advisory Committee who is attending on behalf of Andrew Siegwart.

### **A.3 Approval of Agenda**

Moved by: Pamela Spence

Seconded by: Kim Harris

THAT the Agenda of March 10, 2021 be approved as circulated, including any additions to the Agenda.

Yay (4): Sarah Fillion, Pamela Spence, Kim Harris, and Councillor Matrosovs

Absent (3): Elora Tarlo, Deputy Mayor Potter, Steven Troster

**The motion is Carried (4 to 0, 3 absent)**

### **A.4 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and general nature thereof**

Committee member Elora Tarlo joined the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

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

None

### **A.5 Previous Minutes**

Moved by: Kim Harris

Seconded by: Pamela Spence

THAT the Minutes of February 10, 2021 be approved as circulated, including any revisions to be made.

Yay (5): Sarah Fillion, Pamela Spence, Elora Tarlo, Kim Harris, and Councillor Matrosovs

Absent (2): Deputy Mayor Potter, Steven Troster

**The motion is Carried (5 to 0, 2 absent)**

## **B. Staff Reports and Deputations**

### **B.1 Deputations, if any**

None

## **B.2 Public Comment Period (each speaker is allotted three minutes)**

NOTE: In accordance with the Town Procedural By-law 2019-56 fifteen minutes is allotted at the Meeting to receive public comments regarding Sustainability Advisory Committee matters included on the Agenda. The speaker shall provide their name and address, and shall address their comments to the Chair.

Comments shall not refer to personnel, litigation or potential litigation matters, or matters that are a follow-up to a Public Meeting.

**NOTE:** Committee meetings are currently being held virtually to assist with social distancing with respect to COVID-19. Comments received from the public that have not been included on the Agenda will be read at the meeting by the Executive Assistant.

None

## **B.3 Staff reports, if any**

None

# **C. Matters for Discussion**

## **C.1 Integrated Community Sustainability Plan Update**

- Survey overview
- Public Engagement Methodologies planned for Phase 2 and Phase 3
- Phase 2 and Phase 3 "Next Steps"

Manager of Sustainability and Solid Waste Jeff Fletcher provided an Integrated Community Sustainability Plan Phase 1 update and noted that the Town received 250 survey responses, which is approximately a 20% or better conversion rate based on the number of individuals who visited the webpage. A workshop has been set up with the sub-committee and several stakeholders for March 16, 2021 which includes presentations on the three pillars of sustainability. The next area of focus will be Plan Visioning. Committee member Pamela Spence noted to date, 250 survey responses and 10 user experience interviews constitute the data collection. Pamela enquired whether this is enough data for Phase 1. Jeff clarified that staff and the consultant also hosted a workshop in February 2021 that included a broad dissection of stakeholders. Staff is also reviewing the Sustainable Path document's action items to identify which recommendations have been implemented, attempted, accomplished, or not addressed.

With respect to Plan Ambassadors, Jeff noted that materials have been created which are available on the "Bang the Table" survey page to assist with promotion of the surveys, and phasing activities, and to allow the ambassadors to assume the role of community liaisons. Ambassadors would also have their names and approved contact details available for members of the public. Jeff noted he will work with the Clerks Department to set this up if the Committee is interested.

Committee member Pamela Spence noted she is in agreement with the Ambassador program, provided a separate email address can be created to ensure private contact details are not included. Co-Chair Kim Harris enquired whether each Committee member could assume responsibility for responding to a particular concern, for example: Kim could be responsible for “green building” enquiries and information. This will be reviewed with the Clerks Department and staff will follow-up. Co-Chair Councillor Matrosovs noted there is consensus, pending review of the program details. Councillor Matrosovs further enquired the methods being used to engage youth, and particularly high school students. Councillor Matrosovs noted that high school students may be ideal community ambassadors, particularly to provide the linkage with other youth. Sustainability Coordinator Nicholas Cloet confirmed that representatives of Youth Roots were included in the datawalk workshop but further engagement is needed. Councillor Matrosovs requested copies of the ambassador materials when available in order to present the material to Georgian Bay Youth Roots. There may be an opportunity to offer High School community service hours for youth interested in the program.

Moved by: Kim Harris

Seconded by: Sarah Fillion

THAT the Sustainability Advisory Committee receives the item C.1 Integrated Community Sustainability Plan Update for information purposes.

Yay (5): Sarah Fillion, Pamela Spence, Elora Tarlo, Kim Harris, and Councillor Matrosovs

Absent (2): Deputy Mayor Potter, Steven Troster

**The motion is Carried (5 to 0, 2 absent)**

## **C.2 Sub-committees Update**

- Tree Preservation By-law and Tree Canopy (Councillor Matrosovs, Pamela Spence, Elora Tarlo)
  - Met recently to provide feedback to staff regarding the Joint Open House materials (Joint Tree Preservation Open House scheduled for March 24, 2021)
  - Session will include representatives from the Town, Grey County, Niagara Escarpment Commission, Grey Sauble Conservation Authority, and Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority
  - Interested individuals are asked to pre-register for the session; the session will be recorded and the archived recording will be available on the Town’s website for anyone who is unable to attend

- ICSP Sub-Committee to Support ICSP Development (Deputy Mayor Potter, Kim Harris, Pamela Spence)
  - Met recently to discuss the survey progress and datawalk workshop, and offered suggestions on how to achieve more community engagement in the survey, in particular, the sub-committee requested that the need to register to complete the survey be removed
  - In future phases of the ICSP, additional community stakeholders should be engaged with
- Development Charges - Other Initiatives (Deputy Mayor Potter, Pamela Spence, Steven Troster) - temporarily on hold
- Renewable Energy (Kim Harris)
  - Would like to explore initiatives where property owners can take out loans for the purpose of making their homes more sustainable
  - Staff are liaising with Clean Air Partnership who recommend that this type of program be undertaken as part of a provincial consortium
  - Staff are also meeting with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to consider potential funding streams for Community Initiative Funding, which is exploratory only at this point

### **C.3 Committee Action Items**

- Integrated Community Sustainability Plan
- Sub-Committee Work
- Policy for Development Charges - Attainable Housing
- Community Improvement Plan updates, as requested
- Seabin Presentation, once February 10, 2021 recommendation is considered by Council
- Polystyrene Recycling Options, once February 10, 2021 recommendation is considered by Council
- Knowledge Series

## **D. Correspondence**

None

## **E. New and Unfinished Business**

### **E.1 Additions to Agenda**

### **E.2 Items Identified for Discussion at the Next Meeting**

- Library for Committee resources, including resources for information sharing with the Public
- Community Improvement Plan Update
- Green Development Standards Update, once available

## **F. Notice of Meeting Dates**

April 14, 2021

Town Hall, Council Chambers (virtual)

## **G. Adjournment**

Moved by: Pamela Spence

Seconded by: Kim Harris

THAT the Sustainability Advisory Committee does now adjourn at 10:08 a.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair.

Yay (5): Sarah Fillion, Pamela Spence, Elora Tarlo, Kim Harris, and Councillor Matrosovs

Absent (2): Deputy Mayor Potter, Steven Troster

**The motion is Carried (5 to 0, 2 absent)**