



# Committee Report

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## Sustainability Advisory Committee Report

**Meeting Date:** August 11, 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 \(August 11, 2021\)](#)

**Recommended** (Move, second)

THAT Council of The Town of The Blue Mountains receives Sustainability Advisory Committee minutes dated August 11, 2021, as attached, for information purposes.



# Minutes

## The Blue Mountains, Sustainability Advisory Committee

**Date:** August 11, 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:** Deputy Mayor Rob Potter, Andrew Siegwart, Pamela Spence, Steven Troster, Kim Harris, Councillor Andrea Matrosovs  
**Regrets:** Elora Tarlo  
**Staff Present:** Director of Operations Shawn Carey, Sustainability Coordinator Nicholas Cloet, Administrative Assistant Committees of Council Kyra Dunlop  
**Regrets:** Manager of Sustainability and Solid Waste Jeffery Fletcher

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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 Elora Tarlo who sent regrets.

Town staff present were Director of Operations Shawn Carey, Sustainability Coordinator Nicholas Cloet, and Administrative Assistant Committees of Council Kyra Dunlop. Regrets were sent by Manager of Sustainability and Solid Waste Jeffery Fletcher.

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

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Potter

Seconded by: Pamela Spence

THAT the Agenda of August 11, 2021 be approved as circulated, including any additions to the Agenda.

Yay (6): Deputy Mayor Rob Potter, Andrew Siegwart, Pamela Spence, Steven Troster, Kim Harris, and Councillor Andrea Matrosovs

Absent (1): Elora Tarlo

**The motion is Carried (6 to 0, 1 absent)**

### **A.4 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, 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: Deputy Mayor Potter

THAT the Minutes of July 14, 2021 be approved as circulated, including any revisions to be made.

Yay (6): Deputy Mayor Rob Potter, Andrew Siegwart, Pamela Spence, Steven Troster, Kim Harris, and Councillor Andrea Matrosovs

Absent (1): Elora Tarlo

**The motion is Carried (6 to 0, 1 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 - Sustainability Plan Coordinator Nicholas Cloet (verbal)**

Sustainability Coordinator Nicholas Cloet provided an update with respect to the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan ("ICSP"). Nicholas noted that the public survey closed July 31, 2021 and had a total of 118 responses. In addition, 5 public engagement workshops were completed, as well as an Ambassadors meeting with the Blue Mountain Village Association. There is currently a business survey running, and open for 3 weeks which has been promoted primarily through business association contact. Nicholas confirmed there have only been 6 respondents at last check, however, staff have heard that due to labour shortages and the busy season, business owners may not have the time to complete the survey. Nicholas also confirmed that the resource kiosk, which has been moved to various locations in the municipality, has resulted in 11 responses at last check. The results of these Phase 2 ICSP Public Engagement efforts will be reviewed by Intelligent Futures and distilled into key themes to develop the Vision that will guide the third phase of ICSP development - Action Planning.

Phase 2 will culminate in a Committee Summit where Committees of Council, members of Council, and Town Task Forces will review the engagement results of Phase 2 in an effort towards cross-disciplinary collaboration. There are three sessions scheduled between September 28 and September 29, 3.5 hours in length. The invitation is currently being prepared and will be circulated this week.

Committee member Andrew Siegwart noted his concern that the Committees of Council tend to represent a homogeneous component of the community at large and may not be reflective of part time residents, or a majority of the community. Deputy Mayor Potter noted it is important that any survey questions, or questions through the Summit are very specific to gain the best insights. He also requested confirmation that the Rural Access to Broadband Internet Task Force will be extended an invitation, which Nicholas confirmed. Councillor Matrosovs requested that Georgian Bay Youth Roots be extended an invitation, and noted that Joint Municipal Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee already has Council representatives who will be in attendance, so there is no need to extend an invitation to the entire Committee.

Committee member Steven Troster enquired as to how the public engagement timelines were developed, and noted his concern with only 118 public responses. Nicholas confirmed that the timeline for public engagement of Phase 2 was brought first to the ICSP sub-committee and later to the full Committee via the Phase 2 Public Engagement Plan. Nicholas further noted that the deadline for survey responses was extended at the request of the Committee. Councillor Matrosovs noted that if it is possible to extend any response deadlines into September, that might be helpful. Committee member Andrew Siegwart noted that each season brings its unique challenges and noted that the sustainability issue might not have as broad an interest in the community, although it is still an important initiative. Andrew noted that as the phasing continues and the questions become more tactical in the survey responses and the public engagement sessions, additional insight might be provided by the community. Committee member Pamela Spence noted she is unsure why the survey responses are lower, citing potential survey fatigue, or COVID-19 burnout. Pamela reinforced her faith in Intelligent Futures, and noted they should be able to pull the tactical and strategic details forward.

It was noted that public engagement is underway for the Town's Transportation Master Plan. Councillor Matrosovs noted there may be some lessons learned through that process that will be helpful as the Town proceeds with ICSP Phase 3. Director of Operations Shawn Carey noted that 251 survey responses were received for the Transportation Master Plan survey. Shawn further noted that the topic of transportation is often an acute issue for some people, and very tangible, particularly when compared to the topic of sustainability, which can mean different things to different people. Shawn noted his thanks to staff and the Committee for their hard work through the ICSP development and noted the bigger point is to get the community talking about sustainability.

## **C.2 Action Item Tracking**

- Water Bottle Refill Station Update, if available
  - Budget roll-over considerations
  - Outdoor station installation on trails
  - Low-tech options
- Polystyrene Recycle Options Update, if available
  - Program developed for next year's budget, pilot established for 2021
- University of Toronto Seabin Efforts Update - Autumn 2021, further to June 9, 2021 Committee Request
  - Request for follow-up presentation to Committee to be sent
  - Anticipate presentation late Fall 2021
- BMAHC Presentation Request
  - Councillor Sampson to attend September 8, 2021 Sustainability Advisory Committee meeting to present the Gateway Site Design Guidelines
- Policy for Development Charges - Attainable Housing
- Knowledge Series
  - Staff will be reaching out to Greenbelt Association to set up presentation date
- 15-17 Arthur Street Parking Lot Design Considerations
  - Information forthcoming to Committee in September or October 2021
- Library for Committee Resources
  - Staff have retained any materials provided through Agenda Packages, and supplementary materials on Town network
  - Noted that links to public resources will be included in a dedicated sustainability page on the redeveloped Town website
- Green Development Standards Update
  - Committee requesting staff to provide a fulsome update at the September 8, 2021 meeting
- Official Plan Review
  - Town staff presenting to Committees of Council once consultant has been retained
  - Initial Public Meeting was held July 12, 2021

## **C.3 Sub-committee Updates**

- Tree Preservation Sub-committee
  - Report being provided at the August 24, 2021 Committee of the Whole
    - Committee member Pamela Spence noted the sub-committee is disappointed that the report to August 24 does not articulate recommendations by the sub-committee and emphasized that the Town needs a By-law now
  - Sub-committee continues to provide insight as the By-law is developed

- Becoming evident through community feedback that the rural area cannot be painted with 'one brush' - there are a variety of uses for rural properties
- Renewable Energy Sub-committee
  - None
- ICSP Sub-committee to support ICSP Development
  - Update provided through Item C.1
  - A future sub-committee meeting will be scheduled

## **D. Correspondence**

None

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

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

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

- Attainable Housing Corporation Design Guidelines Presentation
- 15/17 Arthur Street Update, pending consultation with neighbouring property owners
- Green Development Standards Update
- RABIT Task Force Update
- Invite Planning staff to the September 2021 meeting to review the Town's Tree By-law development and provide an overview of Grey County's Tree By-law
- Standing Items:
  - Integrated Community Sustainability Plan Update
  - Action Item Tracking
  - Sub-committee Updates

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

September 8, 2021

Town Hall, Council Chambers (virtual)

Committee member Steven Troster requested that the September 8, 2021 Committee meeting be rescheduled to September 15, 2021. Staff confirmed they will review possible alternatives and follow-up with the Committee.

## **G. Adjournment**

Moved by: Pamela Spence

Seconded by: Kim Harris

THAT the Sustainability Advisory Committee does now adjourn at 10:00 a.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair.

Yay (6): Deputy Mayor Rob Potter, Andrew Siegwart, Pamela Spence, Steven Troster, Kim Harris, and Councillor Andrea Matrosovs

Absent (1): Elora Tarlo

**The motion is Carried (6 to 0, 1 absent)**