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## Community Recovery Task Force

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**Meeting Date:** October 20, 2021

**Meeting Time:** 9:00 a.m.

**Location:** Microsoft Teams Meeting

**Prepared by:** Kyra Dunlop, Administrative Assistant Committees of Council

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### A. Call to Order

#### ▪ Task Force Member Attendance

Mayor Soever sent his regrets and Councillor Sampson called the meeting to order as Chair at 9:03 a.m. with Councillor Bordignon present.

Advisory participants present were Shawn McKinlay, Pamela McDermid, Andrew Siegwart, Tony Poole, Reverend Dr. Grayhame Bowcott, and Melissa Twist.

Regrets were sent by Mayor Soever, Dr. Sabrina Saunders, Tim Newton, Gillian Fairley, Tom Kennedy, Carolyn Letourneau, Cathy Innes, Sarah Fillion, Diane Anderson, Derek Hammond, Paul Pinchbeck, Rob Thorburn Sr., and Rob Cederberg.

Town Staff present included Director of Operations Shawn Carey and Director of Finance and IT Services/Treasurer Ruth Prince. Regrets were sent by Chief Administrative Officer Shawn Everitt, Director of Community Services Ryan Gibbons and Manager of Communications and Economic Development Tim Hendry.

#### Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Councillor Bordignon

Seconded by: Councillor Sampson

THAT the Agenda of October 20, 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 2021-76, 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**

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

None

### **B.2 Staff Reports, if any**

None

## **C. Matters for Discussion**

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### **C.1 COVID-19 Update and Grey Bruce Vaccination Update – Mayor Soever**

- **Grey/Bruce Vaccination Update**
  - Councillor Sampson provided an overview of the graphs provided by Mayor Soever.
  - The community was following the rules and this was reflected by the low case counts. There were no active cases in the Town.
- **Progress**
  - Ontario had lower numbers of hospitalizations compared to other provinces.
  - Vaccinations were still ongoing in the community and the Province had not yet provided information regarding booster shots.
- **Seniors' Experience and Feedback**
  - Task Force Member Pamela McDermid advised that many seniors were concerned with the ongoing lack of optometry services resulting from job action. Pam advised that the Seniors Centre had had a presentation explaining the job action to seniors.
  - The Seniors Centre will have a session on flu vaccination in the coming weeks. Last year there was a shortage of flu vaccination and the growth in the Town in the last 2 years may result in even less supply available.
  - Councillor Sampson noted the Province had indicated they were going to have increased flu vaccination supply available and that he would reach out to Mayor Soever about connecting with Dr. Arra on this issue.
  - Many seniors had been confused about the vaccine passport roll-out and which type of document they needed to show to businesses. Councillor Sampson noted that the L.E. Shore Library was providing laminating services for vaccine passports and that the Town could assist in communicating about vaccine passports on its' website information. Task Force Member Tony Poole noted that Riverside Printing Press was also providing laminating services.
  - Task Force members discussed the importance of healthcare and physician care needed in the Town

## **C.2 Updates from Task Force Advisory Participants**

### **Councillor Bordignon**

Councillor Bordignon noted that the Task Force should consider its' meeting frequency. Councillor Bordignon noted that the Task Force had been set up in March 2020 and that it had served an important role in facilitating communication with one another. Tony noted that other Town Committees may be better positioned to tackle some of the issues now that there had been some recovery and return to normal. Reverend Dr. Grayhame Bowcott noted that normal communications had resumed between community stakeholders. Shawn McKinlay noted that he had appreciated the benefits that the Task Force provided to its' members and community and that continuation of the meetings in some format or frequency would be good.

Councillor Sampson noted that the Task Force had been very important in keeping the community informed in the early stages of the pandemic and that he would bring the Task Force's feedback to the Mayor and to Council.

### **Shawn McKinlay**

Shawn noted that the Royal Canadian Legion would be launching a Seniors Literary Contest.

Shawn advised that the Legion would be holding two ceremonies for Remembrance Day including one held at the Cenotaph at 11:00 a.m. and one in Ravenna at 1:00 p.m. Councillor Sampson noted that the Town could assist in promoting those events through the Town website.

## **C.3. Vaccine Passport Discussion**

Councillor Sampson asked if any of the members had heard of or experienced issues with the implementation of the vaccine passport. Andrew Siegwart noted that overall the passports were going well and that the policy was good. Andrew noted that the Town could include additional communication to remind the community about vaccine passport use and requirements.

Andrew noted that a risk on the horizon was that it was currently unknown what would be permitted for outdoor recreation for winter 2021-2022. Councillor Sampson noted that a reach-out to the Province could be made to ensure this issue was addressed. Andrew noted it would be beneficial for a connection to be made with Paul Pinchbeck and the Ontario Snow Resort Association.

## **D. Correspondence**

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None

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

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

#### **E.1.1 Christmas Events 2021**

Councillor Sampson noted that the Town had not decided whether they would be hosting an Old Fashioned Christmas event. Tony noted that the Thornbury Business Improvement Association was in discussions around how to celebrate the Old Fashioned Christmas event including a focus on mitigating large gatherings and long line-ups. Councillor Bordignon noted that a Christmas Dinner was successfully run in 2020 and that a 2021 Christmas Dinner was currently in discussion between the Grants and Donations Committee and St. George's Anglican Church. Andrew noted that the Blue Mountain Village Association was starting its' Holiday Magic at Blue Event starting on November 19, 2021 and running until the Christmas break. Andrew noted that the event would have a variety of events spread over almost 2 months in order to encourage social distancing and reduce crowds.

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

- **COVID-19 Update and Grey Bruce Vaccination Update – Mayor Soever**
- **Updates from Task Force Advisory Participants**
- **Task Force Meeting Frequency/Continuation**

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

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November 17, 2021

Town Hall, Council Chambers (virtual)

It was discussed that one meeting before Christmas may be beneficial and that the Task Force would discuss meeting frequency at a subsequent meeting.

## **G. Adjournment**

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Moved by: Councillor Bordignon

Seconded by: Councillor Sampson

THAT the Community Recovery Task Force does now adjourn at 9:46 a.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair, Carried.