A. Call to Order

Mayor Soever called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. with Councillor Bordignon and Councillor Sampson present.

Non-voting advisory participants present were Carolyn Letourneau, George Matamoros, Shawn McKinlay, Melissa Goldmintz-Shah, Andrew Siegwart, Rob Cederberg, Diane Anderson, Tim Newton, Paul Pinchbeck, Reverend Dr. Grayhame Bowcott, Steve Simon, Cathy Innes, Derek Hammond, Mark Woodburn, Melissa Twist, and Sarah Filion.

Town staff present were Chief Administrative Officer Shawn Everitt and Director of Finance and IT Services Ruth Prince.

Regrets were sent by advisory participants Lisa Burechails, Tom Kennedy, and Gillian Fairley. The Town’s Manager of Communications and Economic Development Tim Hendry also sent his regrets.

B. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Peter Bordignon  Seconded by: Rob Sampson

THAT the Agenda of May 13, 2020 be approved as circulated, including any additions to the Agenda, being item E.1.1 Grey County Request re: COVID-19 Economic Recovery, 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.3 Staff Reports, if any
None

C. Matters for Discussion

C.1 Community Volunteer Needs

Andrew Siegwart noted Blue Mountain Village Association may be retaining volunteers as “Community Ambassadors” to assist visitors when the Village area reopens. It was suggested that the “Community Ambassador” role could be a joint initiative with businesses and the Town. Carolyn Letourneau of the Beaver Valley Outreach advised that the Outreach will need help when donations of used goods and clothing starts again. Carolyn noted this could be a volunteer opportunity, or a student position.

Mayor Soever requested Task Force members advise Town staff of any volunteer opportunities so that reference to the opportunity can be added to the exploreblue.ca website.

C.2 Community/Business Recovery Needs

- Food preparation and delivery program being conducted is sufficiently meeting the demand – the Church group received donations that will fund the program for 4-6 months, and Beaver Valley Outreach continues to provide curbside bagged food delivery and food cards
- Request for further deferral of property tax and utility payments and consideration of whether closed businesses could be exempt from standby water charges
- Continued communication regarding support available to businesses and residents as the Province of Ontario begins its phased reopening
- Require protocols for businesses to adapt during re-opening to ensure safety of employees and customers, safe management of open spaces (Blue Mountain Village Association offered to share the protocols it is developing)
- Digital Main Street program is hoping to extend to the end of 2020, but requires Council’s approval
- Thornbury BIA hosting its Annual General Meeting on June 3, 2020 which will include review and approval of its budget, which currently proposes operating from the reserves for 2020 and focusing on beautification projects rather than events
C.3  Task Force Initiatives Update – Mayor Alar Soever

Mayor Soever reviewed the Task Force Initiatives presentation which included review of exploreblue.ca and video production, an overview of the Community Donations challenge, website support programs offered through the South Georgian Bay Small Business Enterprise Centre, Canada Day virtual programming, Post-COVID-19 Recovery and Roll Out, reopening of the Town’s Waste Disposal Site, and extension of the curbside yard waste collection.

D.  Correspondence

D.1  Diane Anderson, Thornbury-Clarksburg Rotary
Re: Rotary Community Grant

For Task Force information

E.  New and Unfinished Business

E.1  Additions to the Agenda

E.1.1  Grey County Request re: COVID-19 Economic Recovery

- Emphasis on e-commerce for business continuity
- Moving to virtual festivals and performances
- Adaptation of services and business to support health and safety, including managing capacity
- Consideration for bulk buying of Personal Protective Equipment for use by businesses throughout The Blue Mountains

E.2  Items Identified for Discussion at the Next Meeting

- Timeline for various small businesses to open with adaptive practices (i.e. boutique gym open by appointment – could it be opened prior to larger-scale gyms and fitness centres?)

F.  Notice of Meeting Dates

Week of May 25, 2020 – bi-weekly meetings being scheduled moving forward

G.  Adjournment

Moved by: Rob Sampson  Seconded by: Peter Bordignon

THAT the Community Recovery Task Force does now adjourn at 11:44 a.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair, Carried.