Minutes
Community Recovery Task Force

Meeting Date: May 27, 2020
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 9:02 a.m. with Councillor Peter Bordignon and Councillor Sampson present.

Non-voting advisory participants present were Melissa Goldmintz-Shah, Andrew Siegwart, Carolyn Letourneau, Cathy Innes, Sarah Filion, George Matamoros, Diane Anderson, Derek Hammond, Paul Pinchbeck, Mark Woodburn, Steve Simon, Gillian Fairley, and Melissa Twist. Reverend Dr. Grayhame Bowcott joined the meeting following the call to order.

Town staff present were Chief Administrative Officer Shawn Everitt, Director of Finance and IT Services Ruth Prince, Director of Community Services Ruth Prince, and Manager of Communications and Economic Development Tim Hendry.

Regrets were sent by advisory participants Dr. Sabrina Saunders, Tim Newton, Lisa Burechails, Shawn McKinlay, and Tom Kennedy.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Rob Sampson  Seconded by: Peter Bordignon

THAT the Agenda of May 27, 2020 be approved as circulated, including any additions to the Agenda, being Item E.1.1 Hoteling and Short-Term Accommodations, 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 Task Force Strategic Priorities – Mayor Alar Soever

Mayor Alar Soever reviewed with the Task Force the various Strategic Priorities identified, and confirmed the progress of each. Strategic Priority 1 is a focus on local business support through training and coaching, re-opening support, community marketing and promotion and local business financial support. Strategic Priority 2 is a focus on municipal services and support and community initiatives.

Task Force feedback regarding the Strategic Priorities included:

- Consideration of open space allowances for restaurants and bars to expand onto sidewalks, open areas to facilitate and promote physical distancing
  - Manager of Communications and Economic Development providing a staff report to Council on this matter – Barrie Business Improvement Area has developed a similar initiative that can be reviewed
- Focus on community marketing – mobilize residents to support local businesses
- Several businesses do not fit neatly into the re-opening/phased categories put forward by the Province of Ontario and require guidance to know when they can re-open
  - Mayor Soever and Councillor Sampson to bring this enquiry to Minister Lisa McLeod
- Director of Community Services Ryan Gibbons developing protocols for sanitization of regular touch points and washrooms, and looking into reserving portable washrooms and hand washing stations
- Andrew Siegwart will share space marking and traffic management strategies under development by Blue Mountain Village Association for the Task Force’s information

C.2 Updates from Task Force Advisory Participants

Mayor Soever requested updates from Task Force Advisory Participants.

- Reverend Dr. Grayhame Bowcott noted the Villages Meal Program, offered in conjunction with Beaver Valley Outreach and Rotary, with support from small businesses, is currently serving 16 families
- Meal Delivery program serves an average of 35 residents/week
• Beaver Valley Outreach has delivered meals to Grey County Housing in The Blue Mountains
• The Thornbury-Clarksburg Rotary is developing a “Stay at Home” Gala with ticket sales underway
  o Rotary currently seeking silent auction donation items
• The Thornbury-Clarksburg Rotary donated to Georgian Bay Community School to enable the school to develop its 2020 yearbook, and provided support to the Meaford Hospital Foundation, and has put aside $10,000 for COVID-19 relief

D. Correspondence

D.1 James Meddings, President, Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario
Re: Regional Recovery Relief Fund

For Task Force information

Gillian Fairley of the Centre for Business and Economic Development clarified the following:

• Sole proprietors apply for the Regional Recovery Relief Fund through the Centre for Business and Economic Development
• The loan is $40,000 total, but $10,000 is forgivable if paid back in a certain timeframe
• If businesses require additional funding beyond the $40,000, application is made directly through the Federal Economic Development Agency

E. New and Unfinished Business

E.1 Additions to the Agenda

E.1.1 Hoteling and Short-Term Accommodations

Councillor Peter Bordignon noted there have been questions from the Short-Term Accommodation community about taking reservations for July and August 2020 with consideration for maximum gathering guidelines. Andrew Siegwart noted he would confirm whether the Village is accepting reservations for that timeframe and emphasized the need to ensure a very forgiving cancellation policy. Andrew confirmed Blue Mountain Village Association is seeking Provincial guidance regarding operation of Short-Term Accommodation units during COVID-19 and the recovery phase and will share the information, once received.
E.2 Items Identified for Discussion at the Next Meeting

- Mayor Soever made a Notice of Motion at Grey County Council regarding a letter from the Mayors of Grey County to show support for local and seasonal residents
  - Executive Assistant Committees of Council to provide the Notice of Motion and the letter of support provided by Blue Mountain Village Association to members of the Task Force

F. Notice of Meeting Dates

June 10, 2020

G. Adjournment

Moved by: Rob Potter  Seconded by: Peter Bordignon

THAT the Community Recovery Task Force does now adjourn at 10:14 a.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair, Carried.