



Minutes of Homelessness Task Force

March 20, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

Electronic and In-Person Participation - Homelessness Task Force

The Corporation of the Town of Orangeville

(Chair and Secretary at Town Hall - 87 Broadway)

Orangeville, Ontario

Members Present: Councillor Andrews
T. Carter
E. Dunn
E. Goodyear
Councillor Sherwood

Members Absent: R. Alvarez
T. Grabb

Staff Present: T. Barry, Executive Assistant, Community Services
H. Savage, General Manager, Community Services

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

2. Disclosures of (Direct or Indirect) Pecuniary Interest

None

3. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

2024-003

Moved By Councillor Sherwood

That the minutes of the following meeting are approved: February 21, 2024

4. Presentations

4.1 Inspector Michael Di Pasquale

Inspector Di Pasquale sent his regrets, but is available for the next meeting. T. Barry to send calendar invite and agenda for April meeting.

5. Items for Discussion and Reports

5.1 Out of the Cold Update

Chair J. Andrews discussed that the push for this program is ongoing, and that he met with Pastor Gordon of Compass Community Church and it was a positive meeting. During the discussion, Pastor Gordon mentioned that there is a monthly pastoral meeting with the community faith-based leaders, including some that have not been advised of this potential program. Chair J. Andrews has requested to be invited to the next meeting and E. Goodyear has expressed interest to attend as well.

Discussed that we may have a potential location (The Door) but further discussions with the Board is required. A site visit would also be needed for safety but we are awaiting confirmation from the parties involved for the site visit.

A list of questions has been prepared and finalized to present to the faith-based leaders so that they are aware of what is involved in this program.

5.2 Homelessness Task Force Committee Dissolution Work Plan and Suggested Recommendations to Council

After further discussions with the senior leadership team at the Town of Orangeville and the Mayor about the dissolution of the Homelessness Task Force, it was agreed that the committee should be with the County. Mayor Post drafted a motion to the County about this, and the motion was endorsed and passed.

There are opportunities for current members to be on the new task force, but the individuals do have to re-apply.

H. Savage advised that the committee does not have to produce a Council Report, but will attend as a delegation to provide recommendations to Council outlining what we have accomplished and what County committee should be doing.

The following are items to include in the delegation presentation:

1. Where we have been
 2. What we have accomplished - men's shelter; Out of the Cold; motel program information (criteria/thresholds)
 3. Recommendations - continue support for Out of the Cold; include all recommendations from previous task force; recommend that all of the information collected since the committee's inception will go to the new County task force;
 4. Recommend that the task force be dissolved and look at the development of Terms of Reference for an Affordable Housing Committee and recruitment for members;
- T. Barry to facilitate the delegation and the format of presentation which the committee is aiming for the April 29 meeting.

6. Correspondence

Chair J. Andrews handed out a newspaper article from the CBC titled "For many in B.C. finding a rental has become a full-time job, competition is fierce"

7. Announcements

7.1 Men's Shelter Update

E. Dunn provided a brief update on the Men's Shelter. She advised that they housed 6 individuals and 1 moved into a care facility. Currently they have ten residents with one coming in March 21. The Shelter is still hosting the Sunday and Monday all day programs which are going very well, with the potential of funding to carry through to April and to hopefully add additional days.

7.2 Motel Program Follow Up

Committee requested further information to be clarified on the motel program and H. Savage sent the request to A. McGregor. A. McGregor did respond to the follow up questions and replied she could not provide a lot of information due to privacy issues, but said she would speak to her team and provide us with some feedback.

E. Goodyear questioned what the privacy issue was, and that providing information on the criteria for the hotel room is not private.

H. Savage expressed that A. McGregor does have rules and protocol that she needs to uphold. Even with the information she may provide, we still are restricted on what we can do.

T. Carter said we should be calling them out to get the criteria for the hotel program, and that information is not considered private.

7.3 Christopher Graham

Christopher Graham attended the meeting as a member of the public, but agreed to speak to the committee about his lived experience being unhoused. During the discussion with the committee, he recommended that the new committee seek consultation from those with lived experience;

8. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is April 17, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 pm