



## **Mayor's Task Force on Community Safety, Security & Wellbeing October 22, 2021 - Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees:** Mayor Dan Carter, Chair Bob Chapman, Fred Eismont, Dr. Peter Stoett, Cindy Malachowski, Sandra Black, Todd Wilson, Dave Saliba, Noel Coppins, Audrey Andrews, Kelly Brown, Frank Webster

**Guests:** Hannah Scott, Ontario Tech University

**Staff:** Tracy Adams, Brenda Jeffs, Kevin Alexander, Haik Beglarov, Shannon McFadyen

**Regrets:** Stephanie Skopyk, Matt Bowles, Steve Conaby

**Meeting Location:** Cisco Webex Meeting

**Time:** 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

### **1. Welcome**

Chair Chapman welcomed and thanked all Task Force members for joining.

### **2. Review and Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes from October 1, 2021 were reviewed and no changes were made.

### **3. Presentation on Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design ("CPTED")**

#### **Dr. Hannah Scott, Ontario Tech University**

Dr. Scott provided Task Force Members with a presentation on Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design ("CPTED"). The presentation highlighted various areas in downtown Oshawa that CPTED could be applied to and suggested different actions that could be taken. She expressed the importance of improving business front aesthetics and building maintenance which would contribute to feelings of safety.

Findings from a recent study were presented and Dr. Scott provided recommendations to improve Oshawa's downtown parking garages and streets to create a feeling of safe presence including:

- improved lighting;
- the importance of building maintenance;

- adding art and music;
- positive signage;
- renter friendly space;
- opening business windows;
- better building designs; and
- 2-way street designs.

Dr. Scott also illustrated the differences in graffiti around the downtown area, pointing out that creative art that is visually appealing creates a safe feeling for visitors and highlighted the need to keep the art fresh.

Dr. Scott closed her presentation inviting all Task Force Members on a CPTED walk around of the downtown area.

### **Chair Chapman**

Thanked Dr. Scott for the presentation and acknowledged that many of the recommendations are currently being worked on by City staff. In addition, City Corporate Security are CPTED trained and the City's Mural Policy is being expanded to encourage more murals and make it easier for them to be approved.

### **Peter Stoett, Ontario Tech University**

Expressed his approval for all ideas presented and hopes that the University can work with the City in getting more art up around the downtown area.

## **4. Update on City's actions**

### **Chair Chapman**

Briefly updated Task Force Members on recent efforts made by City Council on the Action Plan, including the continuation of holiday greenery/ wreath program, the banner program, brand identification for Downtown as well as putting money away for improvements and activities around the Tribute Communities Centre during convocation activities. Downtown activities such as Kars on King and the Troubadour series have been identified in the City's budget and will proceed in 2022 indicating that in the past the B.I.A. covered part of the costs as well as the City.

Indicated there was a good turnout of volunteers for the most recent Community Clean Up on October 16, 2021 noting there were quite a few high school students participating this year in exchange for their community service hours. Chair Chapman also shared that he found less garbage on October 16 than he did the last time he participated in the event attributing part of the improvement to the City's morning clean-up crews.

No Trespass signs are being provided to business owners who have requested them. In return for the signs, owners are being asked to sign off allowing DRPS authority under the Trespass to Property Act. Property owners are also asked to register their

security cameras with DRPS to assist in law enforcement activities. Chair Chapman also highlighted some CPTED improvements that were made to the John Street Bridge.

**Brenda Jeffs, Director, Municipal Law Enforcement and Licensing Services**

Provided a brief update on the day-to-day monitoring that City By-law officers have been conducting all of which have been coordinated with City Corporate Security and DRPS.

**5. Other business as brought up by Task Force Members**

**Cindy Malachowski, Lord Simcoe Place**

Raised some issues on behalf of local businesses regarding food trucks in the downtown area. Shared that the parking lot at Lord Simcoe Place will host a street hockey event for the community and welcomed any suggestions from City staff in event organizing.

**Chair Chapman**

Clarified the difference between food truck food delivery versus food distribution in the downtown area noting that City staff are aware of issues and by-law officers are monitoring the situation. Provided City resources that can be utilized when planning the street hockey event, including the City website and community events calendar.

**Fred Eismont, Resident**

Gathering feedback before November 17, for Oshawa's Centennial Celebrations to be held in 2024 in order to move to the next phase of the planning process.

**Kelly Brown, Region of Durham - Primary Care Outreach Program**

Expressed her appreciation on the collaborations between DRPS and City By-law officers surrounding incidents that recently took place. Provided a brief update on the type of drug that is being seen causing recent overdoses.

**Frank Webster, Region of Durham – Primary Care Outreach Program**

Reiterated his appreciation for the collaborations taking place and noted how remarkable it is to see everyone working together to make a difference.

**Mayor Carter**

Requested that information relating to drug use or a change in drug use be shared with DRPS, City Corporate Security and MLE.

Mayor Carter provided an update on several items including: the proposed Convocation Ceremony/Celebration in June 2022 at the Tribute Communities Centre that would involve the City's post-secondary education partners as well as local businesses; advised that over 40 local businesses have signed up and are benefitting from the City's

Cleanup Program; and advised that he has requested for another meeting with the Premier of Ontario, the Deputy Premier of Ontario and Ontario Minister of Health, and the Prime Minister to discuss the national opioid crisis. Mayor Carter is also working with Regional staff to coordinate an Opioid Summit that would include healthcare providers, post-secondary education experts and law enforcement.

Expressed his appreciation for everything that has resulted from this Taskforce.

**Sandra Black, OCSS55+**

Relayed positive feedback received from Frances Newman, CEO of the Oshawa Public Libraries and Lauren Gould, CEO of the Robert McLaughlin Gallery, regarding the construction of the fence at the back of the Gallery.

**Audrey Andrews – Region of Durham**

The Region's Community Safety and Well Being Plan will go to Committee in November.

**6. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on November 19, 2021.