

Town and Gown Advisory Committee

Minutes

Thursday, January 30, 2020

Ante Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall

Members:

Brody Longmuir, Donna Delvecchio, Rick Kennedy, Bilal Khan, Bradley Clarke, Tom Price

Regrets:

Patricia MacDonald, Leanne Gagnon

Staff Liaison:

Marco Marino

1. **Call meeting to order (Chair)**

Meeting called to order by Chair Longmuir at 5:06pm

2. **Recognition of Traditional Territories**

We meet today on the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples, many of whom continue to live and work here today. Acknowledging this is a reminder that our great standard of living is directly related to the resources and friendship of Indigenous people.

3. **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**

There were none.

4. **Motion to approve agenda**

Moved by: Donna Delvecchio

Seconded by: Rick Kennedy

That the agenda for the Town and Gown Advisory Committee meeting of January 30, 2020 be approved.

Carried

5. **Motion to approve the minutes of the July 25, 2019 Meeting of the Committee**

Moved by: Bilal Khan

Seconded by: Tom Price

That the minutes of the Town and Gown Advisory Committee held July 25, 2019 be approved.

Carried

6. Discussion of External Partnerships and New Initiatives

Community BBQ –

- Brock cares event, had a hand full of residents attend, over 600 hamburgers, hot dogs etc. distributed by Zehrs to students, administrators, citizens. Good first step in establishing good community partners. Bilal indicated that given the timing constraints in putting this event together that it went very well. Top Price, said it was great to engage, connections were great. Brad indicated, we are already into planning for the next brock cares September 12, with 750-800 volunteers, ideal if this event happens on the same day as the Thorold event, as the model they are mapping out would be to have the bbq be the kick off point, and having new types of activities for the students (Ex. "Beautification opportunities, clean city committee, graffiti committee) as there is a challenge in expanding this initiative quickly as it tends to overwhelm the smaller agencies that they work with. With larger resources we can get entire neighborhoods involved with the students, this would create the energy surrounding community cares. You would then also have hundreds of people/students going out into the community to do good service. Hoping to partner with both cities and would love to line this event up with Niagara College as well.

Donna – could we have both town and gowns work together to do this on the 12th. Thorold Town and Gown – budget potential

Moved by: Bradley Clarke

Seconded by: Donna Delvecchio

That the Town and Gown Comm. Chair and the staff liaison look to have communication with community partners to work towards the establishment of a second annual community BBQ on September 12, 2020, and to have open communication with Niagara College and the Thorold Town and Gown committee about coordinating efforts on this initiative.

Carried

Comments:

Rick – Didn't hear much about the BBQ throughout the neighborhoods, how much communication was provided, I think we could do more and make it more public about what was transpiring. Can we do more to communicate?

Brody – Aiming for more local students, there were not a lot of residents that were local, the best part about this event is that you are saying welcome to the community and thank you for supporting the community, and we are there as a resource to those people.

Bradley – We should be looking at engaging the residents in helping to identify service initiatives that are near and dear to their heart.

Moved by: Donna Delveccio
Seconded by: Rick Kennedy

Have the staff liaison review options with communications staff at the City of St. Catharines to project specific messaging leading up to certain times/events of the year ex. St. Patrick's Day, on the city website and or other social media collateral.

Carried

New Business:

Collaboration:

We should look into a shared meeting with all the regional Town and Gowns (4), Glendale Task Force, Thorold Town and Gown, Welland Town and Gown and tackle a larger issue such as Mental Health – Potentially host a Town Hall at Brock – or in partnership with Niagara College. Not looking at altering the mission of this committee, but a slight departure from what this committee was established for, however partnerships are very much a mandate within the terms of reference, and by leveraging our resources and building these relationships it will add to the validity of the committee.

Bradley - Identifying at some point the opportunity to bring everyone all together to talk about something bigger - Mental or Food Insecurity is something to look into.

Budget – Perhaps put in a Formal Budget Request to the Pillar Committee Chair

Communications and Meeting Schedule:

We should look into coordinating our meeting schedules with that of the other Town and Gowns in the Region, so that at some point we can host a joint meeting with minimal scheduling conflicts.

Moved by: Tom Kennedy
Seconded by: Bradley Clarke

That the Town and Gown Advisory Committee move to quarterly meetings, that fall in line with the schedule of other town and gowns throughout the region - January, April, August and November of 2020.

Carried

St. Patrick's Day:

Bradley – St. Patrick's Day, Regional Police, Fire Services, elected officials, February 12 Strategy Meeting, falls on a weekday this year, so they anticipate a downward trend, and will continue to downplay Jacobson as a destination point. Bring it down to a number further below than last year. For enforcement all will be looking to City By – Law and Niagara Regional Police.

Rick - Have we surveyed the neighbours that live in the area to gauge what the changes have been?

Are the incidents down? How do we get that message out?.

7. **Date of next meeting**

April, TBD

8. **Motion to Adjourn**

Moved by: Bilal Khan

Seconded by: Tom Price

That this meeting of the Town and Gown Advisory Committee be adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Carried