Safe & Well Oxford Steering Committee Minutes July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023



### STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

### Monday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Oxford County Administration Building (Council Chamber)

### 1. Call the Meeting to Order (11:00 a.m.)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Marcus Ryan at 11:00 a.m. and a quorum was present. (Regrets: Tina Diamond, Kelly Black)

### 2. Review of Agenda for meeting of July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023

Resolution No. 1 Moved by: Bernia Wheaton Seconded by: Randy Peltz

> RESOLVED that the agenda for the Safe and Well Oxford Steering Committee meeting of July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 be approved.

**DISPOSITON:** Motion Carried

#### 3. Review of Minutes of June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting

Resolution No. 2 Moved by: Bernia Wheaton Seconded by: Sarah Hamulecki

> RESOLVED that the minutes of the Safe and Well Oxford Steering Committee meeting of June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 be approved as presented.

**DISPOSITON:** Motion Carried

### 4. Next Steps:

### a. Safe and Well Oxford Summary – goals and objectives review in relation to presentations from June 19<sup>th</sup> meeting

Sarah Hamulecki provided the committee with her comments to relation to the information that the Committee received at the last meeting from Domestic Abuse Services Oxford, Southwestern Public Health and Social Planning Council Oxford in connection with the Safe and Well Oxford goals and objectives.

# b. Additional invitations/presentations to Safe and Well Oxford – which organizations to invite?

The Committee suggested that three additional stakeholders be invited to the meeting Safe and Well Oxford meeting in September, as follows:

- Domestic Abuse Response Team
- Youth Wellness Hub
- Operation Sharing

The Committee asked that this item be added as a standing item to agendas moving forward. This provides the committee with an opportunity to connect with stakeholders to learn more about their own priorities and challenges and how Safe and Well Oxford may be able to work with them to address these challenges.

## c. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion – draft Terms of Reference (attached) i. Importance of Pronouns

Ayesha Sajid provided the Committee with an update regarding the establishment of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Action Coalition. She advised that the Terms of Reference were nearing completion and that she and Sarah had interviewed several candidates for appointment to the Committee. She will provide the Committee with a further report and update once the committee composition has been finalized and first meeting date has been confirmed.

Discussion took place regarding this initiative and the importance of promoting education and awareness in this regarding to senior leaders within the County. Goals and objectives of Safe and Well Oxford in relation to DEI focus on promoting education and awareness and it was suggested that local municipalities be engaged in this dialogue.

### d. County Council Resolution re: Ingamo Homes (July 12<sup>th</sup>)

The Committee discussed a delegation received by County Council by Ingamo Homes at the July 12<sup>th</sup> County Council meeting. The request was referred by County Council to the Safe and Well Oxford Steering Committee for consideration.

The committee discussed that matter in relation to intimate partner violence directly fall within the mandate of Safe and Well Oxford key priority areas of mental health and housing.

Resolution No. 3 Moved by: Bernia Wheaton Seconded by: Sarah Hamulecki

RESOLVED THAT the Safe and Well Oxford Steering Committee support the requests made by Ingamo Homes in relation to intimate partner violence and sexual assault presented to County Council on July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and that the Committee send correspondence to all Oxford municipalities to seek their support of the requests made by Ingamo Homes in relation to intimate partner violence and that their requests be incorporated into the Safe and Well Oxford Plan, as follows:

- 1. To push the Province of Ontario to official recognize intimate partner violence as an epidemic;
- 2. That an epidemic of intimate partner violence be declared at the federal level;
- 3. Advocate for femicide to be added as a term to the Criminal Code of Canada;
- 4. Advocating to the provincial and federal government to provide the appropriate supports necessary to address the epidemic;
- 5. That this request be circulated to all municipalities within Ontario.

#### DISPOSITON: Motion Carried

The Committee discussed and acknowledged that intimate partner violence fits directly within the goals and objective of the Safe and Well Oxford Plan. It was suggested that Sarah Hamulecki and Diane Harris meet to discuss the asks detailed above, how they see themselves within the Safe and Well Oxford Plan and how to address and acknowledge these needs and priorities locally within Oxford. Diane Harris will be invited to the next Safe and Well Oxford Committee meeting to speak with the group on behalf of DART.

Discussion also took place regarding the challenges that individuals face in

relation to sexual assault. Forensic and follow-up care; individuals have to go to London for this support and treatment.

Additionally, laws in Canada surrounding immigration make it very challenging for an immigrant facing assault at home by their partner to leave. More public education and awareness is needed in this regard.

- e. City of Woodstock Notice of Motion re: consumption and treatment services
  - i. Letter of support re: consumption and treatment services in Woodstock

The Committee discussed that the proposed motion has resulted in a significant amount of response from the committee both in support of and opposed to a potential consumption and treatment facility in Woodstock. The notice of motion has since been withdrawn.

The Committee suggested that a letter of support be sent to Southwestern Public Health on behalf of the Committee in support of the continuation of the consultation process and exploration of a site within the City of Woodstock. Sarah Hamulecki will reach out to them to see if a representative would be willing to come to speak with the Committee about the next phase of the project (site consideration).

#### 5. Next Meeting Date:

Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Oxford County Administration Building

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:24 p.m.