

4. Business arising from the Minutes

- *Update to Area Municipalities and follow up (Sarah Hamulecki)*
 - Sarah is continuing to pursue endorsement of the Inclusion Charter with Tillsonburg, Norwich, East Zorra-Tavistock and Blandford-Blenheim (all other Area Municipalities have endorsed). East Zorra-Tavistock and Norwich Councils have requested a staff report to better understand the implementation of the charter. Sarah will be sending a follow-up letter to the above Municipalities.
 - Sarah attended a recent Area Municipality Clerks meeting and provided an update on the Safe and Well Oxford Steering Committee. Going forward, an update from the Safe and Well Oxford Steering Committee will become a standing agenda item on future Area Municipality Clerk meeting agendas.

5. Action Coalition Updates (Round Table):

- *Oxford Housing Action Collaborative (Kelly Black)*
 - Have not met since the last Steering Committee meeting; next meeting is September 25, 2024.
 - Focus will be how to revitalize the table and improve the impact to the community (i.e. terms of reference, purpose, governance structure, etc.).
 - The County will provide more administrative support so that table members can increase participation during meetings.
 - Kelly will provide support through the transition, with the intent that others will eventually take over.
 - Initiatives still ongoing: addiction prevention sub-committee, supportive housing.
 - Marcus inquired about grant funding. Kelly will consider.
- *Oxford Mental Health and Addictions Action Coalition (Randy Peltz)*
 - OMHAAC held meeting September 24, 2024.
 - Priority areas: harm reduction (harm reduction kits), homeless addiction recovery.
 - Will be sending letters to the Premier and Ministers to advocate for a Provincial strategy around alcohol addiction.
 - Agencies are coming together on behalf of Oxford Sexual Assault Services.
 - The Committee discussed the HART Hub. Oxford Ontario Health Team will be submitting an application for HART funding (report to County Council October 9, 2024).
- *Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Action Coalition (Ayesha Sajid)*
 - At the last meeting, the Director from Woodstock Hospital sought feedback on their 3-year Strategic Plan.
 - Frequency of meetings was discussed; decided to continue with monthly

- meetings, except for the months of December, July and August.
- Another member has offered internal support for minute taking. Julie will continue to attend as she is able to.
- Ayesha will be presenting draft action plan at the next meeting.
- Domestic Abuse Response Team (*Diane Harris*)
 - Soft launch of emergency protocol for Human Trafficking (HT) has taken place. While it went well, there is still some work to do. Main constraint is lack of an HT or Sexual Assault (SA) specialist / clinic in the County (which Woodstock should have given its size).
 - Woodstock Police has one dedicated IPV / HT staff, with a second staff planned for 2025. OPP has two similar positions that they are recruiting for.
 - The committee discussed further advocating for a SA centre within Oxford County. Following a delegation at AMO, Sarah anticipates additional follow-up meetings with the Solicitor General, during which the need for an SA centre can be discussed.
 - Sarah, Randy, Diane, Marcus and Rod will have a separate meeting to discuss further.

6. Next Steps & New Business:

- a. Website Update & Communication Plan – ongoing (*Sarah Hamulecki*)
 - Sarah is continuing to work on sourcing photos. Photographer that was lined up for the Indigenous Youth event did not work out.
 - Considering the following opportunities for photos: Solidarity Walk in Ingersoll, Tillsonburg BIA, Purple Benches, Take Back the Night, Youth photography competition.
- b. Grant Funding Model/Criteria – ongoing (*Sarah Hamulecki*)
 - The new Grants Program Policy was adopted by County Council on September 11. Under this policy, the public will be invited to submit applications, which would then be screened by County Purchasing staff. Applications connected to Safe and Well Oxford would be reviewed and considered by the Steering Committee to determine alignment with objectives. County Review Committee would then review and put forth recommendations to Council through the annual budget process.
 - 2025 grant funding amount will be based on 2023 amount. There is no set amount specifically allocated to Safe and Well Oxford initiatives. Sarah will follow up with Lynn Buchner on timing for 2025 submissions. Committee may need to consider a separate meeting to review applications. Feedback regarding the process to be passed along to Sarah so that improvements can be made for future years.
- c. Update: Steering Committee Co-Lead (*Sarah Hamulecki*)

- Julie is stepping back from her role on the Steering Committee due to time and workload capacity. Amy Humphries, City of Woodstock Clerk, has volunteered to replace Julie. Sarah will work on orienting Amy to the Committee.
- d. Summit (*Sarah Hamulecki*)
- Summit is scheduled for November 1. Save the Date has been sent out. Marcus and Sarah suggested the idea of doing a moderated panel approach (3 panel members if possible). Intent is to initiate conversation by asking targeted questions. The Committee was supportive of this idea.
 - Suggested questions: What is working? What do you see as barriers? How are you incorporating indigenous communities? How are you engaging with youth? How did you get there? What were some of your hurdles? What were some of your wins?
 - Next steps: send possible questions to Sarah. Sarah will source panel participants.
 - Committee suggested to invite CAOs, Clerks and Mayors. Pending numbers, can then open it up to a certain number of people per Municipality (Bernia Martin suggested proportionate to each Municipality's Council quorum). Sarah will consider further.
 - Food, sound and visual accessibility are being finalized.
 - Marcus requested that OPP and Woodstock Police be present at the Summit.
- e. Letters Received – ongoing (*Sarah Hamulecki*)
- City of Woodstock – Letter and Resolution Re: Funding for Encampment Clean-up: The Committee discussed the letter from the City and acknowledged the ongoing and rising concern of encampments within the Community.
 - Marcus mentioned that this is another example of how Safe and Well Oxford and its initiatives can reduce the amount of money Municipalities would need to spend on encampment clean ups in the future.
 - Bernia added that SWO efforts extend beyond just clean-up costs; police, fire, phone calls etc. Important to be aware of these issues. If Municipalities had the support from other levels of government, they wouldn't have to shoulder these costs.
 - Kelly noted that the Province has started something related to encampment camps; suggested that this be brought up during the next meeting with Ernie Hardeman.
 - Funding Request from OMHAAC – Planet Youth Funding Proposal: It was generally agreed that this is a good initiative and a good investment. Sarah is not aware of any funding requests from the other Safe and Well Oxford Action

