



#### 4. Business Arising from the Minutes

- *Metrics – update from Southwestern Public Health – more information to follow to fill in some missing information in relation to overall feelings of safety and well-being within the Community (Sarah Hamulecki)*

Sarah advised that she has some sample indicators for metrics in relation to gender-based violence. She will discuss further with Mike and Rod in advance of delegations to area municipalities which will begin on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

- *Update to Area Municipalities – delegation requests have been made for May/June, 2024 (Sarah Hamulecki)*

Delegations to area Councils will begin June 4<sup>th</sup>. She will discuss history of Safe and Well Oxford Plan – Oxford is leading this on behalf of area municipalities. Will be sharing some of the metrics that the Committee will be using to measure implementation. The Inclusion Charter will be presented, area Councils will be asked to adopt the Inclusion Charter and to move forward with action as recommended in the plan in collaboration with the DEI Action Coalition. The update will also include information regarding projects and priorities through to the end of the year going into 2025.

- Virtual Meetings

- Role of the public? Recording meetings?

The Committee agree that meetings would follow the same rules of procedure as Council in relation to delegations and public participation at meetings (by delegation request and motion of the Committee).

#### 5. Action Coalition Updates (Round Table)

- Oxford Housing Action Collaborative (Kelly Black)
  - Kelly Black provided an update for the Committee and advised that OHAC is continuing to look at renovation by-laws in other municipalities (Hamilton) as something to consider for Oxford.
- Oxford Mental Health & Addictions Network
  - Situation Table Steering Committee – 2023 Annual Trend Report (presentation attached) (Sarah Irwin)
    - Reviewed the purpose and methodology of the Oxford Situation Table and roles of various organizations – consists of 18 organizations within Oxford.

- It was noted the MHEART has been very helpful in reducing risk. There are a lot of organizations within the County providing harm reduction.
  - She reviewed the originating, lead and advising agencies within Oxford in 2023.
  - Top five Community Safety and Wellbeing high level risk priorities:
    - Criminal Involvement, see presentation...
  - 47% of situations presented concluded with the client(s) connected to services following a situation table intervention.
  - Are there enough MHEART resources in Oxford? How can we help have enough resources – workers come from CMHA. There is a need for more workers. Ministry has put out grant cycle to hire some more for Oxford. OPP is working with CMHA to get additional funding for Oxford. Data to support this would be helpful to show local results. More predictable funding is needed.
  - Concern in this community now that if Sarah's position does not continue to be funded, this would be a significant loss to the community – we need to make sure that this position continues to be funded (CHC). Provide Chairperson, data collection and separate individuals that are representative at the table.
  - Service organizations are working very well together in Oxford; however, the need is high and many of the needs and demand for services are not accurately reflected in the annual report. Organizations cannot wait for meetings so they are connecting with various agencies to support individuals.
  - It was discussed if there was potential for the Situation Table to make preventative recommendations.
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Action Coalition (Ayesha Sajid)
  - Draft DEI Action Coalition Meeting Minutes, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024
    - The Committee is meeting again this afternoon. The Committee will be reviewing the DEI rubric. It is designed to support the Inclusion Charter.
  - Proposed By-law re: Protests (referred from County Council)
    - The committee were provided with a copy of the proposed by-law as presented to County Council. County Council referred the matter to the Safe and Well Oxford Steering Committee for their review and comment.
    - The Committee shared the following comments:
 

The Safe and Well Oxford Steering Committee is committed to upholding the values of diversity and inclusion as outlined in the Safe and Well Oxford Community Safety and Well-being Plan. It is

important that the Committee ensures that various positions and viewpoints on matters affecting our community are respected and accommodated. It is the opinion of the Committee that passing a proposed by-law in relation to protests may not be the most effective course of action moving forward. The Committee is of the opinion that fostering open communication and collaboration with Oxford OPP and Woodstock Police Services is crucial. Working together with these organizations, as well as engaging with and supporting community groups and stakeholders, will help us develop a safety plan tailored to upcoming local events.

The Committee noted that there are existing provincial and federal legislations, such as the Trespass to Property Act, the Ontario Human Rights Code, the Criminal Code of Canada, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the Occupational Health and Safety Act, which provide a framework for addressing issues related to protests and overall public safety in our community. Municipal by-laws should be considered within the context of these boarder legal frameworks, understanding that they do not supersede the rights and protections provided by higher levels of legislation.

As employers, all municipalities within Oxford County have a responsibility to ensure a safe and inclusive workplace for all staff members. This includes taking proactive measures to prevent violence, discrimination and harassment in all facilities and promote a safe working environment in all municipally owned facilities. The Committee recognizes the importance of maintaining order and safety around all events taking place within municipal facilities. The Committee believes that alternative approaches, such as collaboration, relationship building, and leveraging existing legislation, will offer more effective and sustainable solutions.

- Julie will circulate draft wording to summarize the Committee's comments for the Committee to review and consider at their next meeting in June.

Resolution No. 2

Moved by: Kelly Black

Seconded by: Sarah Hamulecki

RESOLVED that the Safe and Well Oxford Steering Committee defer the finalization of the Committee's comment on this matter to their next meeting scheduled on June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

DISPOSITON: Motion Carried

- Domestic Abuse Response Team (Diane Harris)
  - Looking at DART becoming an Action Coalition – has fourth femicide prevention series – this work is still ongoing. No further update at this time.

6. Next Steps:

a. Website Update & Communication Plan – ongoing

- i. potential graphic option for the SWO brand

Sarha and Ayesha will continue to explore options for graphics for the Safe and Well website and ongoing communications.

b. Grant Funding Model/Criteria – ongoing

7. Upcoming Meeting Dates – Oxford County Administration Building – Room 129:

Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Monday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Monday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. (Safe and Well Oxford Summit)

Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

8. Adjournment (12:00 noon)

Resolution No. 3

Moved by: Bernia Martin

Seconded by: Kelly Black

RESOLVED that the Safe and Well Oxford Steering Committee meeting adjourn at 12:19 p.m. to meet again on Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

DISPOSITON: Motion Carried