

## **Municipality of the District of Lunenburg**

### **Minutes of a Meeting of Policy & Strategy Committee**

Via Microsoft Teams & In-Person at 10 Allée Champlain Drive, Cookville

**Tuesday, April 20, 2021 – 9:00 a.m.**

#### **Attendance:**

Deputy Mayor Martin Bell, District 2, Chair  
Councillor Kacy DeLong, District 8, Vice-Chair  
Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson, via Teams  
Councillor Leitha Haysom, District 1  
Councillor Wendy Oickle, District 3  
Councillor Pam Hubley, District 4  
Councillor Cathy Moore, District 5  
Councillor Sandra Statton, District 6  
Councillor Michelle Greek, District 7  
Councillor Reid Whynot, District 9  
Councillor Chasidy Veinotte, District 10

#### **Staff:**

Tom MacEwan, Chief Administrative Officer  
Alex Dumaresq, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Sherry Conrad, Municipal Clerk  
Joanne Powers, Executive Assistant

#### **Via Microsoft Teams**

Sarah Kucharski, Communications Officer  
Jeff Merrill, Director of Planning & Development Services  
Darren Shupe, Senior Planner  
Byung Jun Kang, Planner  
Bill Schurman, Director of Recreation Services  
Elana Wentzell, Director of Finance  
Dave Waters, Director of Business Development, Tourism & Infrastructure

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Deputy Mayor Bell called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and began by acknowledging that the meeting was held in Mi'kma'ki, the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

### **2. ANNOUNCEMENTS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, RECOGNITION**

Councillor Oickle recognized and thanked those that supported the Hebbville Bike Project. Grade 3 and 4 students at Hebbville Academy applied for an Uplift Grant through Nova Scotia Health. They received 25 bikes of which 24 were purchased with the \$5,000 grant money and the other was purchased with money donated to them from the Bridgewater & Area Lions Club. Michelin generously provided the helmets.

### **3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Moved by Councillor Moore, seconded by Councillor Whynot that the Agenda be approved as circulated. Carried unanimously.**

### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of March 16, 2021**

**Moved by Councillor Hubley, seconded by Councillor DeLong that the Minutes of the March 16, 2021 Policy & Strategy Committee meeting be approved as circulated. Carried unanimously.**

### **5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES - NIL**

### **9. MAYOR'S/DEPUTY MAYOR'S/COUNCILLORS' MATTERS**

#### **9.4 Update from Bridgewater & Area Chamber of Commerce (Councillor Haysom)**

Councillor Haysom provided an update from the Bridgewater & Area Chamber of Commerce (BACC). She reported that the Chamber:

- Continues to meet monthly;
- Has numerous very active committees;
- Offers a number of online courses, including an HR course that she has enrolled in; and,
- Has a Municipal Governance Committee that meets regularly to encourage dialogue between the municipal units and members – Darren Shupe, Senior Planner, recently presented MODL2040 to the Chamber.

#### **9.5 Update from South Shore Regional Library Board (Councillor Greek)**

Councillor Greek reported that five Board Members participated in diversity training offered through the Province. At a recent Board meeting, they received an update concerning a social media incident that took place in March. The South Shore Regional Library Facebook page reposted an opinion piece from the National Post with the intention to engage in a conversation about intellectual freedom and a follow-up to Freedom to Read week. Unfortunately, the public saw this as being racist. Troy Myers, CEO & Chief Librarian, apologized to the Board and explained it was not meant to be racist but a way to start a conversation about the right to read. He also met with the Town of Bridgewater's Anti-Racism Task Force, to discuss steps to repair the damage created. The library's book collection will be reviewed to ensure it is diverse and inclusive.

Councillor Greek reported that the building of the new bookmobile was coming along and the South Shore Library had secured a \$10,000 grant for the accessible lift from the Community Accessibility Program, and a \$50,000 grant for technology from the Library Innovation Fund.

#### **9.2 Initiate a MODL Resilience & Environmental Champion Award (Councillor DeLong)**

Councillor DeLong reported on an item that was discussed by the Sustainability Committee. She brought forward the idea to initiate a MODL Resilience & Environmental Champion Award. The award could recognize residents that are making meaningful contributions toward community climate mitigation.

**Moved by Councillor DeLong, seconded by Councillor Haysom that the Policy & Strategy Committee refers the initiation of a MODL Resilience and Environmental Champion Award to the Sustainability Committee for inclusion in their action plan.**

Suggestions included a business community award, an award for different age groups for children, and possibly encouraging climate fairs, similar to science fairs in schools.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

## **6. PRESENTATIONS**

### **6.1 Flourish Family Well-Being Society – Chris Andrews, Coordinator**

Chris Andrews, Coordinator of Flourish Family Well-Being Society, and Charles Ley, Board Member, were in attendance via Teams. Ms. Andrews provided a PowerPoint presentation (included in the agenda package). She highlighted the purpose of their presentation:

1. Inform Council of their history and mission
2. Highlight the older adult membership and opportunities for healthy aging activities
3. Promote the Tablet Project
4. Welcome everyone to their new facility at 678 LaHave Street, Bridgewater
5. Enlist support for much needed healthy recreation and sustainable programs

Ms. Andrews covered the following topics as part of her presentation:

- Flourish Background and Purpose
- Flourish Board and Purpose
- Inspiration and Mission
- Flourish Emblem & New Home
- Flourish 5 “HELPS” for Healthy Aging
- Tablet Project, Community Partners and Cyber Seniors
- Membership and Activities

In response to a request, Ms. Andrews advised that brochures are just getting printed and she will distribute to Council once they are ready.

Ms. Andrews and the Flourish Project Team were congratulated for the tremendous amount of effort put into setting up the Family Well-Being Society which will serve the 55+ community in the area.

Ms. Andrews and Mr. Ley left the meeting.

### 9.3 Housing Needs Assessment (Councillor DeLong)

Councillor DeLong reported that during a recent South Shore Housing Action Coalition (SSHAC) meeting, it was discussed that the Town of Bridgewater had earmarked money to do a housing needs survey and they were wondering if other municipal units would be interested in doing the same.

It was noted that at a recent meeting of all the Lunenburg County municipal units' Mayors, Deputy Mayors and CAOs, there was no interest, at that time, to pursue putting together a joint survey. This was partly due to the fact that there will be a lot of information gathered on the issue of affordable housing with it being a census year, the upcoming Nova Scotia Commission on Housing's Report due out in June, and with MODL2040 planning.

A discussion was held, and it was noted that this is a regional issue. Staff were directed to arrange a workshop to provide further information on the housing needs of the area and arrange for guest speakers to be present at the workshop. Staff to determine the timeframe based on staff availability and what resources we have available.

### 9.1 Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) (Councillors Oickle & Haysom)

Both Councillors Oickle and Haysom were in favour of writing a letter to the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities and the Provincial Government supporting the Extended Producer Responsibility Program (EPR) for Printed Paper and Packaging (PPP).

**Moved by Councillor Oickle, seconded by Councillor Whynot that the Policy & Strategy Committee recommends to Council that Municipal Council write a letter to the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities and the Provincial Government in support of the Extended Producer Responsibility Program for Printed Paper and Packaging (EPR for PPP). Carried unanimously.**

### 6.2 Lunenburg County Pickleball Park – Jared Uhlman and Wayne Thorburne

Jared Uhlman and Wayne Thorburne were in attendance through Teams, and provided a PowerPoint presentation, entitled, "Lunenburg County Pickleball Park" (included in the agenda package).

Mr. Uhlman discussed the following topics:

- What is Pickleball?
- Fastest Growing Sport
- Why So Popular?
- Pickleball in Nova Scotia
- Perfect for Lunenburg County
- Popularity Among Older Adults
- Social Connection
- Pickleball Park Proposal

Mr. Uhlman noted that there are 250 regular participants in Lunenburg County, and they have outgrown the local facilities, hence, the need for outdoor courts. They would like to build six outdoor courts at a cost in the \$250,000 range. This would allow play to occur all day long and would bring people to the area.

Mr. Uhlman suggested that MODL could partner with the Town of Bridgewater to build the outdoor courts. Mr. Thorburne advised that they would be presenting this proposal to the Council of the Town of Bridgewater and spoke of a partnership between the Town of Bridgewater and the Municipality on this project. It was agreed that staff could meet with the members after that meeting to discuss the proposal further.

Mr. Uhlman and Mr. Thorburne left the meeting.

- 7. REFERRALS FROM COUNCIL - NIL**
- 8. STAFF REPORTS - NIL**
- 10. ADDED ITEMS - NIL**
- 11. IN CAMERA - NIL**
- 12. NEXT MEETING – May 18, 2021 – 9:00 a.m.**
- 13. ADJOURNMENT**

**There being no further business at 10:55 a.m., it was moved by Councillor Veinotte, seconded by Councillor Whynot that the meeting adjourn. Carried.**