

Stratford Economic Response & Recovery Task Force

AGENDA

August 6, 2020

Zoom Video Conference

Present: Joani Gerber, Janis Auster, Joelle Lewis, Jeff Orr, Mike Pullen, Rob Russell, Joan Thomson, Zac Gribble

Regrets: Julia Merritt, Elke Bidner, Rebecca Scott

Purpose

Incorporating immediate and long-term actions to support local industry, small business and the workforce across all sectors during the COVID-19 pandemic response and eventual recovery.

J. Gerber:

- Continuing conversations on how to shift the committees. HRT will remain intact.
- Most of the money has been allocated.
- Potential for additional funding, but currently waiting.

Z. Gribble:

- Starting to look at what 2021 will look like and how to keep the motivation going.
- Moving forward with piazza idea and working to make potential new liquor bylaws worthwhile.

J. Lewis:

- Joelle and Julia still preparing new variation of BIC group
 - Larger pandemic planning in rural communities
 - multipurpose approach layered around engagement
 - Communications focused for longer term sustainable
 - Request for consultant

J. Thompson:

- Currently 3 active surveys from various groups (City, University of Guelph) including mandatory municipal data collection for vulnerable populations to identify gaps. Multiple surveys causing some confusion. We won't do the Guelph one if it runs concurrent with Stratford's surveys.
- Joelle: BIC to look at what information surveys are already collecting and see what information we can use and adjust proposal.
- Zac: Recommended Lisa Grogain in Stratford, have sister offices in Uk, etc. What is the best practice roadmap? Overlap doing this already, probably. Zac to connect Joelle and Lisa.
- Looked at Alberta and other areas who have gone through things before.
- Joani to send an email to other committee members regarding that this is what is happening as a community recommend support for the surveys.

J. Thomas:

- Things are moving along into recovery. City hall opening to public as of 8/10.
- A lot of concerns re: bussing and schools.
- Working on recreational facility reopenings. (50 people maximum for the venue entirety)
- Council meeting Monday: liquor in public spacing, parking rates, etc.
- Not preparing to end emergency declaration at this time.

R. Russell:

- Things moving along downtown.
- Parking: recommendation to return to paid parking and 1 meter hood for restaurants who don't have patio extentions.

R. Russell, Z. Gribble, J. Gerber to look forward to Sept/Oct business plan for 2021 including future use of boardwalks before they are picked up and ahead of next year.

