

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 28th, 2024
10:00 a.m.
Oxford County Administration Building
Room 129

1. Call the Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Marcus Ryan at 10:04 a.m. and a quorum was present.

Attendees:

Marcus Ryan, Bernia Martin, Randy Peltz, Rod Wilkinson, Rafal Schubert, Amy Maddess, Tina Diamond, Ayesha Sajid, Sarah Hamulecki, Amy Humphries

2. Review of Agenda for meeting of October 28, 2024

Resolution No. 1 Moved by: Randy Peltz

Seconded by: Tina Diamond

RESOLVED that the agenda for the Safe and Well Oxford Steering Committee meeting of October 28, 2024, be approved.

DISPOSITON: Motion Carried

3. Review of Minutes of September 24, 2024, meeting

Resolution No. 2 Moved by: Bernia Martin

Seconded by: Randy Peltz

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Safe and Well Oxford Steering Committee meeting of September 24, 2024, be approved as

presented.

DISPOSITON: Motion Carried

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.
 - Sarah sent a follow-up letter to Tillsonburg and Blandford-Blenheim requesting endorsement of the Charter. Tillsonburg will not be endorsing until a staff report has been presented to Council. No response has been received from Blandford-Blenheim.
 - East Zorra-Tavistock is presenting a report to Council on November 19.
 Norwich considered a report on October 22. Norwich deferred a decision and discussed the possibility of establishing its own inclusion charter. Sarah and Warden Ryan plan to propose a meeting with the Norwich CAO for further discussion.
 - Warden Ryan commented that it could be problematic for a single comprehensive Safe and Well Oxford Plan if a municipality adopts a separate charter. The wording in the Plan regarding the Inclusion Charter was reviewed and determined that one Charter is meant to be created for all area municipalities.
 - It was discussed that some large private sector companies are drawing back on DEI initiatives. The Action Coalition Charter addresses many of the concerns other companies are dealing with. It was suggested that clarification on what the Charter does and does not cover would be helpful.
- Grant Funding Model/Criteria (Sarah)
 - The Grants deadline was October 15. 16 applications were received, 7 of which broadly fit within the Safe and Well Oxford mandate. Other application themes were Food Insecurity and Seniors. A preliminary review of applications has taken place, leaving 2-3 applications for SWO to consider. Most applications cover operational costs, which are not generally covered by the policy, deeming many applications ineligible by County staff. The Steering Committee approved Sarah reviewing the applications on behalf of SWO given the tight timeline for grant approvals as she would not be recommending approval or denial, but rather commenting on alignment.
 - Randy commented that he found the policy criteria to be vague and without specific scope. The policy does not specifically state that ongoing operational costs are not eligible. Warden Ryan commented that it was intentionally

broad to allow for a variety of applications. A review of the Policy is scheduled before the 2026 County Budget.

- Summit Planning and Agenda Update (Sarah)
 - Panel members are confirmed 4 speakers from 3 other CSWB Plans Preplanned questions will be answered by each.
 - Action Coalition updates will be presented on placemats at each table.
 - A group exercise will take place to help inform the next Plan.
 - Wrap up may include a discussion regarding the Grant Policy.
 - Screens have been purchased and audio experts have been engaged based on feedback from last year and the inability to see and hear the presentations.
 - Attendance response is lower than expected. If the spaces are not filled by mid-week, the Committee will be advised to extend the invitation for open spaces accordingly.

5. Action Coalition Updates (Round Table):

- Oxford Housing Action Collaborative (Randy Peltz)
 - The Committee has been paused until the Housing and Homelessness plan is complete.
- Oxford Mental Health and Addictions Action Coalition (Randy Peltz)
 - No update.
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Action Coalition (Ayesha Sajid)
 - The DEI Action Plan will be developed by Ayesha and then input will be sought from community stakeholders. The first draft is planned for November.
 - DEI Action Coalition Webpage is being developed for the Safe and Well Oxford website, including possible training opportunities and resources.
- Domestic Abuse Resource Team (Amy Maddess)
 - Working on Femicide Prevention through the Leadership Table applied for a grant for \$1.2 million over 3 years to fund the development of the Table
 - 16 days of activism planning is underway for November/December

6. Next Steps & New Business:

- a. Website Update & Communication Plan ongoing (Sarah Hamulecki)
 - The Communications team will attend the Summit to take photos.
 - Bernia commented that Duane Kumala-Thomas, Operations Manager for the Downtown Woodstock BIA, might have some photos. Amy to provide contact.

- Amy advised that arrangements are being made for the City of Woodstock to start putting SWO Steering Committee agendas and meetings on the website.
- b. Health in All Policies Update (Sarah Hamulecki)
 - It was requested that other municipalities work with SWPH as a trial to use the information to roll it out to municipalities. Zorra and Ingersoll will meet with SWPH and Sarah to get more information.
- c. Suggested Resolution from Warden Ryan
 - Warden Ryan presented the suggested resolution as listed on the agenda recommending that all nine municipal partners create policies allowing Safe and Well Oxford partners to use under-utilized spaces at no cost, to deliver services consistent with the Safe and Well Oxford Plan.
 - Bernia suggested that there be consultation with CAOs or Clerks first to determine if there is opportunity for the area municipalities to support, availability, cost etc. The Committee can then decide whether to move forward depending on the response. Warden Ryan will prepare a letter for area municipal CAOs inquiring as to the availability of space and opportunities to support.
- 7. Upcoming Meeting Dates Oxford County Administration Building Room 129:
 - Friday, November 1st, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. (Safe and Well Oxford Summit Oxford Centre Hall)
 - Monday, December 2nd, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.
 - Monthly meeting dates for 2025 will be proposed at the December meeting.
 - Randy Peltz suggested that Peter Heywood, Co-Chair of OMHAAC, be the representative on the Safe & Well Steering Committee moving forward. He will advise the group if that change is forthcoming.

8. Adjournment

Resolution No. 3 Moved by: Randy Peltz

Seconded by: Bernia Martin

RESOLVED that the Safe and Well Oxford Steering Committee

meeting adjourn at 11:10 a.m.

DISPOSITON: Motion Carried