COUNTY OF HURON CLERKS WORKING GROUP RELATING TO
BILL 175 – SAFER ONTARIO ACT, 2018 - COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2019 AT 9 AM

CENTRAL HURON COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Present: Janice Hallahan, Clerk/Planning/HR Coordinator, Town of Goderich
          Michaela Johnston, H&S and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, Town of Goderich
          Chandra Alexandra, Clerk, Municipality of Bluewater
          Cst. Scott Root, OPP
          Trevor Seip, Police Services Board Representative, Township of North Huron
          Carson Lamb, Clerk, Township of North Huron
          Amanda Piskorski, Administrative Assistant to the CAO, Township of North Huron
          Tricia Thompson, Municipality of Huron East
          Brad Knight, CAO/Clerk, Municipality of Huron East
          Marg Anderson, Police Services Board Representative, Municipality of Central Huron
          Brenda MacIsaac, Clerk, Municipality of Central Huron
          Tyler Sager, Deputy Clerk, Municipality of Central Huron
          Justin Finkbeiner, Administrative Assistant to Clerk, Municipality of South Huron
          Rebekah Msuya-Collison, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk, Municipality of South Huron

Regrets: Jim Dietrich, Police Services Board, South Huron

1. Welcome everyone to the Inaugural meeting of this Working Group
   • Janice Hallahan welcomed everyone and self-introductions were made

2. Brief discussion on the Canadian Municipal Network on Crime Prevention Workshop - Wednesday, October 9, 2019
   • Some of the attendees attended this workshop last week and agreed it was informative and provided good feedback regarding the roles/processes community organizations were taking in this process
   • There is a deadline of December 2020 for each municipality to finalize their plan
   • Every municipality in the Province is at varying stages of the process
   • Halton was noted as being ahead of the game, while London is about ½ done

3. Development of Terms of Reference for Committee – broad outreach strategy initially
   ❖ Goals/Objectives of the Working Group
     o It was noted that we are not recreating the wheel, nor do we want to
     o There are organizations already out there that are gathering and processing the information required to prepare a evidence based Plan
     o There are a number of organizations within Huron County we can utilize
       • Ie. Huron County Youth Justice and the Substance Misuse Group
• Situation Table – Joanna Van Mierlo, OPP sits on this; meets weekly in Seaforth.
  Members include:
  ▪ OPP
  ▪ Huron Women’s Shelter
  ▪ Victim Services
  ▪ CAS
  ▪ Optimism Place
  ▪ Stratford Shelter
  ▪ Choices for Change

  o We have gathered to create a generic template that can be taken back to each
    Municipality, where a public process will be undertaken to gather further information
    specific to that municipality’s wants and needs
  o Each municipality will have their own Advisory Group (Situation Table) to tailor the
    generic template to meet that municipality’s specific needs
  o This Working Group is all about collaborating with agency partners also sitting at the
    table
  o Although there are a lot of agency partners we should collaborate with, not all members
    would have to attend every meeting, depending on the topic to be discussed

Terms of Reference
  o Draft of London, Ontario’s Terms of Reference was reviewed
  o Noted that once the plan is adopted, it is to be reviewed on an ongoing basis. It will
    very much be a ‘live document’ to be reviewed by the Advisory Committee continuously
    by sitting down and looking after their mandate
  o Noted we should add reference to MFIPPA
  o Suggested we move a responsibility of the Chair “Finds replacements for members who
    discontinue participation” to the responsibilities of the Coordinator

Data Sharing Agreements
  o Discussed that a Data Sharing Agreement may be required between our Working Group
    and various agencies:
    • This agreement should be fair to agencies and our group. Should identify exactly
      what kind of information we are looking for, when we will ask for it, and how we will
      use it. This way each agency can allocate time and resources to compiling that
      information on, for example, a yearly basis
    • The more structured we can be at gathering information, the more useful it will be
      to us
  o Some agencies will not require Data Sharing Agreements
    • OPP provide each municipality with monthly reports
    • DART provides domestic assault reports for Huron County
    • Canadian Government databases can be accessed including Statistics Canada
    • Huron-Perth Social Research Group has statistics relevant to our group
    • There are a lot of statistics we can utilize to give us information to formulate an
      evidence based approach
  o A protocol for data sharing should also be developed
We have a lot of resources we can call upon including Halton Region and Kenora, Ontario who have already adopted their plans and are now reviewing them.

**Goal:** This working group is to create a generic template. Then each municipality uploads their priorities into the template.

- Workshop last week stressed that it doesn’t have to be a long list of priorities; 2 – 3 items to start with is ok; i.e. Mental health, housing, transportation.
- Mental health is a national concern, not just a municipal concern – probably affecting each municipality here.
- Other priorities, depending on the community, may include social isolation (seniors).
- Community engagement and Advisory Group will ultimately determine the 2-3 items on the list of priorities for each municipality.
- Question arose – What is Community Engagement? How is it defined? Is it defined?
  - It is not defined as the best approach may differ in each community.
    - Road signs advertising events
    - Town hall meetings
    - Surveys (on-line and paper)
    - Physically attending places where people are, i.e.:
      - McKay (Senior’s) Centre
      - pottery nights
      - schools
      - different organizations
      - community groups

- This plan places a huge emphasis on being community driven.

**Work Plan and timelines to complete the work (i.e. Gant Chart, Excel Spreadsheet, Table, etc.)**

- We have 14 months (end of December 2020) for Council to adopt a plan.
- It is important to know how long at the municipal level we will need to finalize the plans as all the community engagement will happen at that time.
- It will take a lot of resource time and is therefore important to form part of the 2020 budget discussion.
- Summer is not the best time to start doing community engagement.

4. **Bill 175 requires a Council member or municipal staff member from each municipality on the Advisory Committee (i.e. appointment by-law)**
   - It is imperative to start speaking with Council members about the Plan and that a member of Council or staff need to be appointed to the Committee.
   - Most likely the people around the table today will be on the Committee.

5. **Advisory Committee composition – Who are the agencies at the table (OPP, Health Unit, DART, Victim Services, Choices for Change, School Boards, CAS, Hospitals, Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), etc.)?**
   - The agencies at the table will, for the most part, be the same across all municipalities in Huron County.
• One of the requirements is that “a member of the police service board OR the Detachment Commander” sit on each municipality’s committee
  o this is difficult if not impossible for each Huron County municipality
  o Detachment Commander is stretched thinly as it is
  o There are 4 municipalities that do not have police service boards

• Proposed that we have one joint plan across all Huron County communities
  o That way the Joint Plan committee can meet with the Advisory Group at the table frequently, or as necessary, without being burdensome – it would be difficult for the agencies to attend 8 different meetings a month (one for each municipality)
  o In addition, municipalities are very porous and interdependent
  o Each Municipality can then upload their own concerns into the joint plan and have a separate Advisory Committee or local Situation Table to address their community’s unique concern(s)

• Proposed agencies to sit on Joint Advisory Group:
  o Hospitals – each municipality to contact their own hospital or regional alliance
  o United Way – Trevor Seip, North Huron to contact
  o Mental Health Crisis Worker – there is going to be one riding with an officer in Huron County; they will be well apprised of the mental health issues in our area
    ▪ Huron County has more than double Perth County calls re mental health
    ▪ This person would be a good resource to sit on our Committee
  o BetaMarsh – Michaela Johnston, Goderich to contact
  o County Social Services – Erin Schooley in particular – Michaela Johnston to contact
  o Huron County Health Unit – Michaela Johnston to contact
  o Rural Response for Health Children – Brenda Maclsaac, Central Huron to contact
  o Children’s Aid Society – Michaela Johnston to contact
  o Tanner Steffler Foundation – Brad Knight to contact
  o Victim Services – Brad Knight to contact
  o OPP – the Detachment Commander, Rob Scott, and Dave Sinko are very stretched. This may be more Police Board driven and simply relay information.

• Concern raised to ensure agencies sitting around the table are not duplicated and that they cover all legislated requirements; want more hands-on, community driven and based groups than federal associations

6. Retrieving information from Advisory Group partners (i.e. OPP Clearance Rates, PSB monthly/annual reports, Health Unit reports, Domestic Assault Response Team’s (DART) statistics, risk-driven tracking database (RTD), Statistics Canada, Canadian Index of Well-Being reports, etc.)
  • Refer to discussion and notes in #5 above.

7. 2020 Budget figure
  • To be considered by each municipality as this plan will be resource driven

8. Value-Based Community Consultation/Engagement (Qualitative Data)
  ❖ Develop a Communication Plan - Inclusive approach (i.e. on-line survey, public meeting in each community, etc.)
    o Draft communication plan to be prepared by Rebekah Msuya-Collison, South Huron and circulated prior to next meeting for review and discussion at next meeting
- Focus on the Future by immobilizing the community in creating a social movement (i.e. Friends of Crime Prevention)
- Making the connection between community safety and community vitality
- All Voices Matter!!!!
- Wisdom of the Community

9. Frequency of meetings – Schedule future meeting dates
   - This group will meet on November 13th, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Council Chambers, Central Huron
   - Noted we may need to meet more frequently at onset, and less frequently later on
   - Noted we should get work plan approved by Councils and appointment of Committee Member prior to next meeting
   - Noted we should also have representation from those municipalities not present today, at the next meeting; Trevor and Dwanye Evans will discuss our plan with Howick and Morris-Turnberry. Janice and Michaela to discuss with ACW.

   Proposed Agenda for November 13, 2019
   - Feedback from Councils
   - Appoint a Chairperson
   - Review and finalize draft communication plan
   - Draft general plan
   - Review and finalize draft data sharing agreement
   - Review and finalize revised Terms of reference
   - Have participation confirmed by various agencies – then put them on notice for the following meeting(s)

10. Adjournment
    Adjourned at 11:13 a.m.