



## HEALTHY COMMUNITY NETWORK

### Minutes of Meeting

Thursday, April 18th, 2019 Town Hall Classroom

**PRESENT:** Nathan Wukasch  
Joel Simpson – Secretary  
Peter Willmott - Chair  
Sylvia Bray  
Irene Bell  
Fiona Ryner  
Tim North  
Vittoria Trainer  
Kendra Marr

**REGRETS:** Kevin Stevenson  
Greg Forbes  
Wesley Ferdis – Vice Chair  
Courtney O'Neill  
John Ferguson  
Donna Cutler  
Dan McCormack  
Ruth McArthur  
Andres McCormack

**1. CALL TO ORDER at 7:04 pm**

Not enough members present for a quorum however proceeded with meeting as scheduled.

**2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST – none**

**3. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA – addition of the opioid strategy to agenda.**

**4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: March 21, 2019**

**5. DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS :**

Tim North created a presentation on Dark Skies in Wasaga Beach. The goal is to explore the potential for having Wasaga become a dark sky community by limiting light pollution created commercially, residentially and municipally. This would require a presentation for Town Council however would like the support of the HCN to create initiatives, goals and education on how to proceed. There was no vote on whether or not to approve of this as an added goal is there was not enough members for quorum. Tim has agreed to present again in May.

**6. Matters Arising From The Minutes:**

- There was update on the smoke free beach initiative presented in March. Greg Forbes personally supports this initiative for provincial parks/beaches however this is required to go through head office for all provincial parks. It was discussed making Wasaga a pilot project which may have a more successful result for approval provincially.
- Andrea has drafted a communications strategy. **Action –** To be discussed at the May meeting.

- Peter prepared and sent a letter to 4 previous longstanding HCN members who have resigned thanking them for their service.

## 7. STANDING ITEMS – 2018 Goal Updates

### 1. Harold Culham Trail/Bike Friendly

The subcommittee has worked on the blazing of the 7 km Harold Culham multi-use trail over the past year, with the goal being a full loop. In 2015 the Town became a Bike Friendly community with a bronze designation. The HCN is working towards an increase designation of Silver through bike initiatives such as a community ride, bike valet services at Town events. **Action: Discussion to bring bike for group photo at May meeting for HCN.**

### 2. 10<sup>th</sup> Canoe Trip

This annual event has been very successful. The paddle route changes each year and is supported by Free Spirit Tours, NVCA (Scott Martin) and a local ecologist Dave Featherstone. Feedback would be for a shorter route this year. **Action: a self sustaining event at this time and will only require someone to send out email invitations.**

### 3. Community Garden/Art on the Fence

This project has been extremely successful over the years and there is always a waiting list for the 56 plots. The project is managed by the recreation department. HCN continues to support the community garden where it can.

### 4. Community Food Center/South Georgian Bay Food Champions Committee Support

The center continues to run the 6 week Food Fit Programs for residents. There is an upcoming program at the Wasaga Stars Arena in February. The group has been speaking with the County of Simcoe about the development of a garden at the Zoo Park affordable housing build location.

### 5. Support the Age Friendly Advisory Committee

Fiona attended the first AFC meeting. A new application/process for the Senior of Year Award has been developed and will be distributed to services clubs and community. The award will be handed out at the Seniors Expo.

**Action:** Motion for Fiona and Irene as an alternate to represent the HCN on the AFC committee. Moved/seconded– Peter/Sylvia. Carried

### 6. Communications Strategy to raise awareness for the HCN

Over the past year we have completed an update of the website, created a facebook page. We will need a member who is interested in updating the website and taking a lead on this issue. The committee has developed t-shirts, name tags, advertising banner with HCN logo, attendance at the wellness fair, Fall Hootenanny attendance, purchase of table promotion supplies. The committee has an annual budget of \$3000.

### 7. Wasaga Beach Provincial park Green Prescriptions Project

This initiative continues to move forward – partners include Ontario Parks, SMDHU, SGBCHC, HCN, Town of Wasaga Beach (Recreation Dept). The group is promoting the concept of spending time in nature to enhance health. John Fisher brought the topic from Healthy Parks Healthy People Day which runs across the province. The group has submitted an abstract for a conference “Healthy Parks Healthy People” in Ottawa in May 2019.

### 8. Nottawasaga Watershed Improvement Project

This group looks for opportunities on the watershed system and typically meet 3-4 times per year. Initiatives have included tree planting activities.

### **9. Walk Friendly Designation**

This designation was awarded in 2014 with a bronze level through Green Communities Canada. We did receive a feedback report at that time to increase the level of the designation. **Action:** to determine if this group is still in existence and look into proceeding to a silver level status.

### **10. Expand HCN presence at Public Events**

Need to consider some public events for 2019. Could potentially hand out some of our promotional items (lights, shirts). Have a bike valet present at all public events and determine if it is a lock and leave or if there is a person at the valet station supervising the area.

### **11. Advocate for complete streets and improved walkability/cycle safety**

John mentioned that the community policing committee is advocating to get the police incident reports on bike/skateboard incidents in the community.

Bike Safety education in the community – This was discussed with the Chair of the Community Policing Committee I 2018.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

- Discussion on the ban of single use packaging within the HCN and all other committees, subcommittees and advisory boards within the municipality. **Action** Peter and Kendra to create a report for submission to Council on this issue
- Peter advised members that Council has proclaimed June as Bike Month
- Members discussed a list of goals for 2019. **Action** Peter to circulate the list of goals including carryover goals from 2018 and new goals relating to Dark Sky Communities, Smoke Free Beaches and Food Security with a resolution asking members to endorse the 2019 list.
- Nathan updated members on initiatives to improve the Shore Lane Trail and aligning it with the Great Lakes Trail Project.
- Opioid strategy update. Presentation to council April 30th by health unit on the Simcoe Muskoka Opioid Strategy. Presentation will be at 7PM by Dr. Lisa Simon.

## **9. Date of Next Meeting: May 16, 2019 7-9pm**

## **10. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn at 8:55pm by Peter Willmott,**