



TOWN OF HINTON
Community Engagement & Advisory Committee
Committee Room
January 4, 2017

PRESENT: Don Harrison, JoAnn Race, Shirley Caputo, Kathy Rees, Garth Griffiths, Albert Ostashek, Jan Vassbotn, Fiona Murray-Galbraith, Sharon Meredith, Jailin Bertolin, Ron McKay, Christian Weik

ABSENT: Doug Heine

SECRETARY: Wendy Anderson, Administrative Assistant

ORDER

Chairman Garth Griffiths called the Regular Meeting of the Community Engagement & Advisory Committee ("CEAC") to order. The time was 11:42 a.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

McKAY - That the agenda for the CEAC meeting of January 4, 2017 be adopted as amended with the removal of the delegation from the Canadian Coal Association.

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Canadian Coal Association

Due to family reasons, Robin Campbell was unable to attend the meeting.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

REES - That the CEAC minutes of March 9, 2016 and December 7, 2016 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

ACTION ITEMS

1. Homelessness in the Community: Request from Council

At the December 13, 2016, Standing Committee meeting there was consensus by Council to direct CEAC to create a task committee to research the issue of homelessness in Hinton and bring a report back to Council in March, 2017 (Standing Committee).

- Shirley reported that the Hinton Employment Learning Place (HELP) is organizing a committee to address homelessness in the community with Ashley Grzybowski, English Language Learning Coordinator, being the lead on the project. The group is in the process of creating a committee and have applied for grant funding for facility renovation upgrades.
- Albert reported that Council would like to find out if some of the social services organizations are working together or not. Council would like to see if there is duplication in services, would like to have some questions answered (Attachment #1) and identify the level of homelessness.

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There was consensus on the following actions:

- That CEAC create a task committee to address the request from Council for information regarding homelessness in the community. A formal report will be provided to Council. The committee will comprise of: Fiona, Doug, Jailin, Don, JoAnn and Shirley.
- That the task committee look into what HELP is doing to address homelessness. JoAnn and Don have a meeting scheduled with Ashley to discuss the program as well as the lunch bag program.
- **That Ashley be invited to attend the March meeting as part of the Hinton Adult Learning Society delegation.**

2. Community Connection Team Reports

Recreation & Culture:

- Jan heard over the Christmas break that people were frustrated that the Rec. Centre and Library were closed on the New Year's Day and Boxing Day stat holidays.
- The disc golf club is running into issues. Jan has discussed this with the Mayor who was to set up a meeting with Planning. The group has begun work but will need volunteers.
- Garth suggested that we come up with ways to encourage people to go out and do things. He indicated that we have not gotten serious about tourism; when we do the types of businesses Jasper has will come, which will provide activities and night time entertainment options.
- Kathy suggested that the Town of Hinton hire one full time person that is dedicated to the non-profit groups to provide the administrative duties including grant writing, etc. She stressed that volunteers don't have time for administrative duties.
- Jailin suggested that maps or a brochure for the Beaver Boardwalk be available (located on signs at the boardwalk). Albert indicated that the Communications group is working on a comprehensive package. Albert to follow up and provide an update to the group.
- Lots of great feedback on the skating at Maxwell Lake.
- Hinton Nordic Club looking for volunteers February 24 and 25th for the biathlon.
- Go Girl Conference is also looking for volunteers

Education, Wellness & Social Supports:

- Fiona reported that they received funding for dialysis in Hinton on Friday (amount has not yet been determined).
- The Turkey Drive was a record year for receiving donations.
- Have heard a lot about seniors housing recently.
- Jailin attended a leadership conversation facilitated by Brad McComb yesterday on Women in Leadership and the room was full.

Governance & Partnerships:

- Elections for Council will be in October, members need to encourage people to run.

Economy

- JoAnn went out and talked to businesses recently. There are a great many that aren't aware of CEAC and what they stand for. Don and JoAnn will be doing walkabouts with Natalie Charlton, Executive Director of the Hinton & District Chamber of Commerce. Four dates have been set up with Natalie: January 9, 10, 18 and 23rd to let people know

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what CEAC is about. There are managers of food industry businesses that are willing to attend a CEAC meeting.

- Destination marketing fees were discussed. The money collected stays in the community and is used for tourism marketing as well as different projects within the community. HREDC has started work on this initiative. **The group would like this item as an agenda item at a future meeting.** Albert suggested that when doing the business visits, the destination marketing fee is an item that can be discussed.
- With the free park passes in 2017, overflow will affect Hinton.
- 2017 Visitors Guide is now available.
- December was not a bad month for most businesses in Hinton. In general, 2016 was fairly good; there has been activity in the business sector.

Natural & Built Environments:

- Feedback was received that the lights at the Green Square and the hospital were good this year. Some felt that they could have done better. It was suggested that the highway poles be addressed so they look similar to what is being done in Edson. Albert indicated that Council has authorized additional money for the Green Square which will include electrical outlets being installed and more lighting for Christmas 2017.
- Museum is looking for volunteers
- People are asking for a status report on Neighbourlink after the fire in December. Kathy reported they will be looking at starting up again in the New Year.
- Jailin spoke to the group about the new HEY 211 service.
- Jailin provided an update that she spoke to the Greenhouse Society members about composting household waste. They may be interested in partnering; however, there are challenges that would need to be addressed.
- **The group discussed communicating the purpose of CEAC with the public. Garth suggested advertising which would include a photo of the group as well as what the group does and member contact information.**

2. Review and Update Delegation Invitation List

There was consensus to schedule the following delegations for upcoming meetings:

- February as listed on the Delegation Invitation List
- March – include Ashley Grzybowski with Hinton Adult Learning Society (Candace Pambrun / Deanna Fuller)
- April – Robin Campbell (Garth to invite)
- May – Grocery Store Managers (Don will invite)

INFORMATION ITEMS

Next meeting is scheduled for February 8, 2017.

CEAC Members would like to be notified when the CEAC website is updated.

The group discussed a tracking system or status report which lists the accomplishments and projects they are working on or have completed.

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ADJOURNMENT

McKAY - That the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED

The time was 1:06 p.m.



Chairman



Secretary

CEAC Report on Homelessness in Hinton Requested by Hinton Town Council

Key questions to be addressed in report:

- How many homeless people are there in Hinton?
 - Are there seasonal adjustment for these numbers?
 - What is the demographic breakdown for this group? Sex, age, etc...
- Are the basic needs of Hinton's homeless adequately addressed by current social service institutions in Hinton?
- What social services need to be expanded or initiated to adequately address these basic needs?
- Suggested next steps? i.e.: Initiate a social services committee made up of social service groups (government, private, & not for profit) to address this issue. Lobby other levels of government for funding to start a social service organization specifically to deal with homelessness. Etc., etc., etc...
- Other relevant questions, issues, concerns?

Deliverables:

- Formal report from CEAC to Hinton Town Council in March 2017 (exact date to be announced).

End Goals:

- This report will potentially be used to create a formal homelessness strategy in Hinton.

Potential Resources:

- Edson Friendship Centre has been doing a lot of work on homelessness in their area:
Address: 5023 3 Ave, Edson, AB T7E 1X7, Canada
Phone: +1 780-723-5494
- Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness: <http://caeh.ca/>
They have a campaign called 20,000 homes which may offer some insight as well:
<http://www.20khomes.ca/>
- Hinton Family and Community Support Services: <http://www.hinton.ca/283/Family-and-Community-Support-Services>
- Bridges: <http://www.bridgeshinton.org/>
- Others...