

District of Metchosin

Minutes

**Healthy Community Advisory Select Committee Meeting
Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.
Council Chamber, Municipal Hall**

Present: Councillor Sharie Epp, Shari Rourke (Chair), Ted White, Jim MacPherson, Jane Hammond, Shannon Carman (recorder), Fire Chief Stephanie Dunlop, Deirdre Chettleburgh

Regrets: Peter Havers, Sarah Anthony, Chris Pratt

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m.

1. Agenda, Additions and Approval

To accommodate Chief Dunlop's schedule the agenda was amended to:

- move 6b to 6a
- move 6c to 6b
- move 6f to 6c
- move 6a to 6d
- move 6d to 6e
- delete 6e (Pioneer Museum)
- move 6g to 6f
- add permanently 5c as Councillor Update
- add permanently Committee Reports as 7
- shift New Business to 8, Correspondence to 9, and Adjournment to 10

Moved and Seconded by Ted W. and Jim M. to approve the agenda amended.

Carried

2. Presentations

Deirdre Chettleburgh introduced herself as the liaison to the Seniors Resource Centre. She will be keeping HCASC updated on SRC's activities.

3. Public Participation

Bev Bacon spoke in support of the Dark Skies agenda item and commented that if people knew more about how much artificial light affects wildlife and their health, they might be more motivated to turn off their lights.

4. Adoption of Minutes

Moved and Seconded by Councillor Epp and Jane H. that the Committee approve the minutes of the Healthy Community Advisory Select Committee meeting held on August 22, 2023.

Carried

5. Receipt of Minutes

- a) Public Works and Protective Services Committee, July 17, 2023
- b) Public Works and Protective Services Committee, June 12, 2023

Moved and Seconded by Shari R. and Ted W. to receive the Public Works and Protective Services Minutes from June 12 and July 17, 2023.

Carried

c) Councillor Update

- Councillor Epp recently attended an event in Victoria on Extreme Heat and spoke about the many initiatives from Metchosin/Chief Dunlop. Most of the initiatives being discussed at the event were already being enacted in Metchosin. Councillor Epp asked Chief Dunlop if there were any heat measures in place specifically for infants and pregnant mothers in Metchosin. Chief Dunlop - nothing specifically, other than making families aware of the amenities already in place.
- Stakeholder meetings recently took place with Emergency Services, the Community Hall, Community House, Beecher Bay, Rocky Point Depot, Pearson College, and other local organizations, speaking about ways to support each other in emergency situations. Talked about the potential of a volunteer group that could get municipal insurance to plow resident's driveways in the winter? Big challenge with it being on private property, rather than municipal land.

Councillor Epp to speak with the CAO about possibilities - maybe a waiver signed by the resident receiving the plowing could cover some of it? Ted W. suggested spreading the insurance out over a few parties. Even a group providing salt containers would be helpful.

Shari R. to clarify with private company insurers on third party liability and where the pushback was from with local government insurance underwriting.

- ICBC has some remaining funding allocated to Metchosin, for any projects to be completed by the end of March 2024. The crosswalk at Matheson Lake/Galloping Goose or a crosswalk from Old Metchosin School/Broken Paddle have been identified as possibilities.
- Deadline for accessibility grant from SPARC, up to \$25,000. Noted that it would be good for HCASC to make some recommendations on where the priority spots are for upgrade, if the grant were received.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

a) Poverty Reduction Subcommittee

Poverty Reduction - \$30,000 for an assessment and plan - approved and needs to be done (RFP). **Subcommittee will meet next week.** Re: Complete Communities Grant - \$150,000 - Chief Dunlop will meet with the CAO to review the application.

b) Health and Safety Training Opportunities

100 Naloxone kits have been sourced for training, but they are on backorder. When they arrive, True Line Contracting will be the first group to run through the training.

An article for the Muse on the topic will be written when the kits start to arrive. Re: other training sessions, Tuesday night Community Health and Safety information sessions could start up again at the Fire Hall, perhaps in Jan 2024. Mental health training through the Red Cross and Dark Skies sessions were mentioned as possibilities.

c) 2023 Next Generation 911 Funding

Funding is earmarked for education on the new 911 system coming online that will allow for technologies like FaceTime and video calls to dispatch; however, no education materials have been provided yet, and not much information about how they should be using the funds generally. **Councilor Epp will try to find out more information via CREST.**

d) Dark Sky

Ted W. would like to change the title of this issue to Artificial Lights At Night (ALAN). The real issue is how the lights affect humans and wildlife; the “dark sky” title is only in reference to astronomy, and light pollution obscuring the stars. Ted W. proposed the creation of a subcommittee on this topic - a survey of lighting in Metchosis (intensity, colour) was suggested as a task, as well as possibly joining the International Dark Skies Organization. Discussion around whether it would be better to have a subcommittee of HCASC members or a working group that allowed members of the public to take part; liaising with MEASC was also mentioned. **Ted to speak with Tina at the District office on the topic.**

e) Metchosis Census Data

The package provides a large amount of information - Shari R. suggested we take time to go through it over the coming month and send her any of our observations and thoughts. Jim M. noted that a lot of the statistics are not specifically for Metchosis, and wondered why some were from the wider CRD, and some from the Sooke area? **Suggestion to ask the CAO if more specific data is available for Metchosis.**

Shannon C. noted that the Village Square from 2018 was Metchosis specific and includes some overlap of the queries. Jim M suggested putting together our own survey, for Metchosis-specific data we'd like to see - i.e., how many Metchosis residents have physical handicaps? An example given of a mother and handicapped daughter that Jim never really sees going out, as there are so few places that accommodate their needs. Shari R. - **is it possible to find out how many residents have been issued a handicap sign? And if so, is there a way to find out what kind of disability they received the sign for?** Jim M. noted that as our senior population grows, we need to focus on accessibility. Councilor Epp - BC Healthy Communities may have some grants coming out around that topic.

f) Committee Contact Information

Jim M. has a new email that needs to be updated at the municipal office. Shannon C. to reach out to Tina to get contact information circulated internally.

7. New Business

a) Metchosis Village Square Update

Shannon C. gave a verbal update, with a short background on the project to date and that she has been in contact with Councilor Shukin in recent months on the topic of planning in the Village Core. Councilor Shukin wanted to wait until the summer was over to assess the parking situation in the Village, and what could be possible in terms of planning.

Shannon C. to speak with Councilor Shukin.

8. Correspondence: None

9. Adjournment and Next Meeting Date

The meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.