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**TOWN OF SIDNEY**  
**MINUTES OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**  
**Monday, September 21, 2020**  
**Council Chambers**  
**6:00 p.m.**

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**PRESENT:** Chair: Councillor P. Wainwright  
Mayor C. McNeil-Smith and Councillor S. Garnett  
Councillors: S. Duncan, B. Fallot, T. O'Keeffe and C. Rintoul (*via electronically*)

**Staff:** R. Humble, Chief Administrative Officer  
A. Hicik, Director of Corporate Services  
A. Verhagen, Senior Manager of Current Planning  
S. Nelson, Corporate Officer

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair respectfully acknowledged that this evening's meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the WSÁNEĆ First Nations.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Moved by Mayor C. McNeil-Smith, seconded by Councillor S. Garnett, that the agenda be approved as presented.*

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**a. Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting - September 8, 2020**

Moved by Councillor S. Garnett, seconded by Mayor C. McNeil-Smith, that Minutes of the Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting of September 8, 2020, be adopted as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**5. PRESENTATIONS**

**a. Sidney Child Care Inventory & Action Plan - Final Report**

Greg Awai and Jane Worton, Queenswood Consulting Group, presented the Final Report for the Sidney Child Care Inventory & Action Plan, advising that the chronic shortage of daycare spaces is causing significant problems for young families on the Peninsula and in the surrounding municipalities - impacting quality of life, family budgets, and municipal economies. Ms. Worton advised of the following findings in Sidney:

- Demographics: 700 households with 1,045 children from 0-12
- Survey: 48 responses (7%); 65% had children in paid child care; 61% need care 5 days/week
- Child Care Spaces: 250 provided, only meets 42% of demand; 233 more spaces are needed
- parents with children under 5 are looking for care close to work; parents of school age children are wanting before and after school care close to school
- majority of child care facilities are located in north-east Sidney, there are no licensed facilities in north-west Sidney
- Town's bylaws and policies are well designed for home based businesses, but improvements could be made respecting child care facilities

Ms. Worton advised the report contains recommendations for the Town's consideration respecting bylaws and policies, partnership development, new space creation and advocacy.

Committee members had questions and discussion respecting the cost of child care and Provincial funding, attracting more child care educators, the School Districts' involvement and opportunities, advocacy, etc.

*Moved by Councillor S. Garnett, seconded by Councillor B. Fallot, that the Committee recommend to Council:*

1. *That the 2020 Sidney Child Care Inventory and Action Plan prepared by Queenswood Consulting Group be received;*
2. *That the recommended actions and implementation plan outlined in the staff report titled, "Sidney Child Care Inventory & Action Plan– Final Report", dated September 15, 2020, be adopted; and*
3. *That staff report back to Council following the adoption of a new Official Community Plan to provide an update on the implementation plan for the 2020 Sidney Child Care Action Plan.*

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**b. Annual Report from Sidney Event Advisory Group**

Ms. Morgan Shaw, Executive Director & Event Liaison/Facilitator of Sidney Business Improvement Area Society (SBIA), highlighted some of the events and activities that the Sidney Event Advisory Group (SEAG - includes 18 organizations) was involved in last year. She advised there are 50 annual events in the community that SEAG assists in enhancing, supporting and marketing. She stressed the significant benefit of the Group in collaborating and providing support to all members and working with others across the community to ensure the success of all Sidney events. With respect to the COVID-19 pandemic, Ms. Shaw noted 2020 has been a difficult year but that adjustments have and are being made to continue to provide events in the community.

*Moved by Mayor C. McNeil-Smith, seconded by Councillor S. Garnett, that the Committee recommend to Council that the 2019 Annual Report and the 2020 Update from the Sidney Event Advisory Group be received for information.*

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

6. **ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE**
7. **PARKS & INFRASTRUCTURE**
8. **PROTECTIVE SERVICES**
9. **DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING**
10. **OTHER BUSINESS**
11. **NEW BUSINESS**
12. **MOTION TO GO "IN-CAMERA" (closed meeting) - Not required.**
  
13. **ADJOURNMENT**

*Moved by Councillor S. Garnett, seconded by Mayor C. McNeil-Smith, that the meeting be adjourned at 7:08 p.m.*

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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CHAIR

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CORPORATE OFFICER