

TOWN OF SIDNEY
MINUTES OF EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

July 21st, 2021 10:00AM

PRESENT: W. Maxwell, B. Mikkelsen, T. O’Keeffe, B. Robinson, A. Hicik, C. Newcomb, R. Humble, W. Conley, B. DeMaere, P. Wills

ABSENT: J. Joe, M. Harman, S. Nelson, S. Jones,

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by The Chair, seconded by A. Hicik, that the Agenda of the Emergency Planning Committee Meeting of July 21st, 2021 be adopted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Small changes and updates to the attendance list. Moved by all The Chair, seconded by P. Wills, that the Minutes of the Emergency Planning Committee Meeting of June 16th, 2021 be adopted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

5. OLD BUSINESS

a) Senior Care Facilities Update

B. Mikkelsen said that everything was doing well and nothing to report.

b) UBCM Grant Application for Evacuation Route Planning

B. Mikkelsen said that Evacuation Route Planning is well-underway.

c) Mary Winspear Centre COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic

B. Mikkelsen said there is nothing new to report. Everything is doing well.

d) Update on Sidewalk Café/ Off-Street Parking Outdoor Seating Permit Applications

B. Mikkelsen asked B. DeMaere to speak to this. B. DeMaere said that there haven't been any new applications.

e) Town of Sidney Reopening

B. Mikkelsen said that it was a success and praised all those involved in the restart. There will be continued progress on this topic moving forward as more restrictions open up.

f) EPC Emergency Management Tasks/Goals

B. Mikkelsen said that there hasn't been a lot of headway on the UNDRR application but it will be discussed soon. The emergency drinking water has had some progress and next meeting B. Mikkelsen will bring a plan forward.

6. NEW BUSINESS**a) HRVA Refresh**

B. Mikkelsen stated that this is what we base our emergency response planning on and focuses on the hazards risk and vulnerabilities of the town. This gets updated every three years with the last update being in 2018. The risk profile has been changing and the budget needs to be looked at. Hopefully this will be done by the end of the year.

b) Cooling Centers

B. Mikkelsen said there weren't many plans to turn to on the South Island when it comes to heat waves. The heat wave hit British Columbia very hard and Sidney wants to be proactive by having a plan in place by the end of the month with the help of a consultant. The main point is standing up an EOC Level 1 24 hours ahead of high temperature of 35 degrees. Partners to help will be Beacon Community Services, Emergency Management BC and other sites as well as PEMO. It will be solely for the Town of Sidney. Councilor O'Keefe asked about the amount of call volume with regards to heat. B. Mikkelsen said there were some calls related to heat exposure but the Town of Sidney didn't have a large intake of calls. Councilor O'Keefe asked is The Saanich Peninsula Alert System could be used during these large heat events. B. Mikkelsen said that the Saanich Peninsula Alert would be used and we could use other partners to help drive vulnerable persons to cooling centers. B. Mikkelsen said the main population of vulnerability is the elderly living alone. R. Humble mentioned the letter from Island Health that was attached to the agenda and how the heat event has made things progress much quicker to wildland and mental health issues. There must be a level of education for the community. Adaptation planning is something that needs to be added. B. Mikkelsen agrees and everybody should be prepared. A. Hicik said that finance needs to be included in the conversations on where people could go for resources. B.

Mikkelsen agrees and said that cooling centers weren't set up until half-way through the heat wave. C. Newcomb asked if we are incorporating any planning for residents of North Saanich. B. Mikkelsen said that no one would be turned away but there aren't a lot of the vulnerable population living in North Saanich. A. Hicik mentioned that PEMO would be useful in keeping the municipalities together as it is a shared service. B. Mikkelsen agrees. C. Newcomb asked if Kira could join the conversations. B. Mikkelsen agrees and she will be notified. B. DeMaere asked if the CRD is partner in the planning. B. Mikkelsen said there are a lot of conversations but the Town of Sidney needs to care for itself before joining the CRD. Esquimalt is the other municipality that is working quickly on this type of planning. Councilor O'Keefe asked how many people took advantage of the Shoal Center cooling area during the heat wave and what company put in misters for the Mary Winspear. B. Mikkelsen said that VIHA asked for misters for the COVID-19 vaccination clinic. B. Mikkelsen does not know how many people went to the cooling center at the Shoal.

7. **ROUNDTABLE**

- c) B. Mikkelsen said that Engine 1 with a crew of four firefighters were deployed to aid in the wildfire suppression at 100 Mile for five days. BC declared a State of Emergency due to the wildfire situation. Sidney Fire has not been asked to provide equipment or crews since that announcement but are prepared to help if needed.
- d) B. DeMaere had a meeting with the CRD and the Saanich Peninsula Water Commission about the water supply system out of Sooke to the peninsula and the two projects it will start. There will also be a technical working group that will be reaching out to various departments to bring on staff to discuss post disaster water supply. This will start hopefully the end of September. B. Mikkelsen asked what the projects will entail. B. DeMaere said there are two project the first is regarding linking Bear Hill reservoir to Mt Newton and Dean Park area. The second is a replacement of about 4 kilometers of existing A/C mains from McTavish to Mills. B. Mikkelsen asked if there was any discussion regarding adding hardened blue hydrants in Sidney. B. DeMaere said that will probably come from the working group. B. Mikkelsen said that is excellent. A. Hicik asked if any departments have a tender near Sidney. B. Mikkelsen said that North Saanich does but it won't work well on an uneven road after a disaster event. A. Hicik said that this should be used through the PEMO agreement. C. Newcomb said that there should be some general policy inclusion that may need a decade or two. B. Mikkelsen said that is a great idea.

8. **NEXT MEETING**

10:00am, August 18th, 2021 via Zoom.

Committee will continue to meet monthly during the COVID-19 pandemic until the committee agrees to resume to the regularly scheduled quarterly meetings.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by The Chair, seconded by P. Wills, that the meeting adjourn at 10:42am.

MOTION CARRIED

CHAIR

DRAFT