

TOWN OF SIDNEY
MINUTES OF EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

September 16th, 2020 10:00AM

PRESENT: R. Humble; Chief Mikkelsen; Councillor S. Duncan; J. Joe; W. Maxwell; Deputy Fire Chief Harman; B. Robinson; B. DeMaere; D. Barner;

ABSENT: Councillor P. Wainwright; Staff Sergeant Conley; Sergeant Cook; A. Hicik; C. Newcomb; S. Nelson; S. Jones; L. Witzer;

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chief Mikkelsen, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02.

2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Donna Barner, seconded by Deputy Chief Harman, that the Agenda of the Emergency Planning Committee Meeting of September 16th, 2020 be adopted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Randy Humble, seconded by Andrew Hicik, that the Minutes of the Emergency Planning Committee Meeting of June 17th, 2020 be adopted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

5. OLD BUSINESS

a. Making Cities Resilient Campaign

Chief Mikkelsen provided background; in 2014 Town was the subject of a report produced by Royal Roads to assess our disaster resiliency. Report identified short and long term fixes, which emergency management staff have been implementing. Chief Mikkelsen and Donna Barner are working on the comprehensive application process to move from a Participating City to a Role Model City. This has been identified in strategic planning and will also be in the OCP.

b. COVID-19 After Action Review

i. Background information: COVID-19 EOC Activation Conclusions & Insights Report

Intent of report was to provide Council with an overview on lessons learned from the Town's EOC set up, and to garner approval for public input on the Town's response efforts.

Chief Mikkelsen reported that Town of Sidney face masks for Fire Department members, Town staff, and Council have arrived. Will continue to follow the direction of the Provincial Health Officer regarding mask use.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Senior Care Facilities Update

Emergency Management staff have prioritized communicating with and supporting senior care facilities on a frequent basis throughout pandemic. Hosted a Zoom Meeting yesterday in which facilities shared concerns around visiting procedures. Facilities are considering formalizing their concern to Island Health. Committee discussed the need for a balanced approach; and that each individual facility will have its own specific circumstances on balancing physical health versus mental health. Facilities have plans in place for if there is a COVID-19 case in their buildings. Furthermore, have offered to one another to assist with food services and isolation needs. Emergency Management staff have also offered PPE supplies as necessary.

b. COVID-19 Response Survey

i. Background information: Town of Sidney COVID-19 EOC Response Survey
Survey is on the Town's website and has been shared through various media channels. Staff will utilize feedback captured to adapt future response efforts as necessary.

c. Meet Your Street

i. Background information: Meet Your Street overview

Donna Barner provided a brief overview of the Town's new initiative, Meet Your Street. This program is intended to offer support through ideas, resources, and guidance to bring neighbours together. Results of the EOC Residents Survey indicated there is a concern for mental health wellness in our community, and this program is intended to assist with relieving those concerns and bring communities together during a time of isolation.

7. ROUNDTABLE

Randy Humble suggested meetings move from quarterly to monthly. Pandemic conference calls are still occurring, and EPC meetings could be a communication point for staff in replacement of the EOC. Chief Mikkelsen agreed with monthly meetings; no objections were made. Donna Barner will schedule for monthly meetings moving forward.

Chief Mikkelsen reported that the Provincial Health Officer has rescinded the original memorandum from March 25, 2020 that restricted First Responder response. The Fire Department will return to their usual response model with COVID precautions such as PPE requirements.

8. NEXT MEETING

10:00am, October 21, 2020 via Zoom.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chair adjourned meeting at 10:36am.



CHAIR

Action Items:

June 2020	Making Cities Resilient Campaign	D. Barner
September 2020	Schedule monthly EPC Meetings	D. Barner