



Wood Buffalo Recovery Committee

Jubilee Centre Council Chamber
9909 Franklin Avenue, Fort McMurray

Wednesday, January 11, 2017
6:00 p.m.

Agenda

In Camera (4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.)

Procedural Matters

(in camera pursuant to section 24 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*)

Call To Order

Adoption of Agenda

Minutes of Previous Meetings

1. Minutes of Wood Buffalo Recovery Committee Meeting - December 7, 2016

Presentations

2. C. Beaver, Fort McMurray Early Years Coalition re: Childcare and Early Learning Post Wildfire
3. E. O'Neill, Operations Manager, Recovery Task Force re: Rebuild Plan

New and Unfinished Business

4. Sub-Committee Reports
5. Wildfire Recovery Team Update
6. Roundtable

Adjournment

Unapproved Minutes of a Meeting of the Wood Buffalo Recovery Committee held in the Council Chamber at the Municipal Offices in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Wednesday, December 07, 2016, commencing at 6:00 p.m.

Present: J. Bancarz, Chair
K. Fleury
S. Germain, Councillor
M. Giles
K. Jenkins
K. McGrath, Councillor
A. Vinni, Councillor

Absent: M. Farrington

Administration: D. Woodworth, Recovery Team Lead
A. Rogers, Senior Legislative Officer
D. Soucy, Legislative Officer

Call To Order

Chair J. Bancarz called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. and sent regrets on behalf of M. Farrington.

Adoption of Agenda

Moved by M. Giles that the agenda be amended by deleting Item #4, Kim Rizzi re: Holiday Committee and that the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes of Previous Meetings

1. Minutes of Wood Buffalo Recovery Committee Meeting - November 23, 2016

Moved by K. Fleury that the minutes of the Wood Buffalo Recovery Committee meeting held on November 23, 2016 be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Presentations

2. Kevin Grogan, General Manager, Vista Ridge re: The Recovery of Vista Ridge
(6:09 p.m. – 6:27 p.m.)

Kevin Grogan, General Manager, Vista Ridge, summarized and presented a video of the fire damage and recovery of the amenities at Vista Ridge. Mr. Grogan was also commended for his dedication and diligence in ensuring that residents of the Municipality will continue to have access to the first-class recreational amenities that they have always enjoyed at Vista Ridge.

3. EcoYOLO re: Go Green
(6:28 p.m. – 6:36 p.m.)

Marlien Bruwer, Krish Shah, Chintan Desai, and Rafiu Mostafa, students at École McTavish Junior High Public School, provided an overview of their Go Green initiative.

4. Kim Rizzi re: Holiday Committee

This item was removed from the agenda.

5. Kelly Hansen, Recovery Task Force, and Amanda Haitas, Manager, Development Integration and Research, Economic Development re: RMWB Small Business Workforce Support Program Update

- and -

6. Kelly Hansen, Recovery Task Force, and Amanda Haitas, Manager, Development Integration and Research, Economic Development re: Builder's Expo Update
(6:37 p.m. – 6:50 p.m.)

Kelly Hansen, Recovery Task Force, and Amanda Haitas, Manager, Development Integration and Research, Economic Development, provided an update on the Small Business Workforce Support Program and the recent Builder's Expo.

Exit and Return

Councillor K. McGrath exited the Chamber at 6:45 p.m. and returned at 6:47 p.m.

7. Sarah Murrant, Manager, Stakeholder Engagement re: Here for You
(6:51 p.m. – 6:58 p.m.)

Sarah Murrant, Manager, Stakeholder Engagement, presented an update on the Here for You initiative.

8. Tanya MacAulay, Manager, Supply Chain Management re: SCM/RFP RMWB Process

As there was no one in attendance to speak to this item, the Chair indicated that it would be re-scheduled for another date in the New Year.

New and Unfinished Business

9. Sub-Committee Reports
(7:00 p.m. – 7:05 p.m.)

K. Jenkins, Chair of the Rebuild Sub-Committee, provided an update on the initiatives of the sub-committee including the on-going development of the rebuild plan.

M. Giles, Chair of the Economy and Mitigate Sub-Committees, provided an update on the initiatives of the sub-committees; including medium-term growth and the Clearwater highway discussions.

10. Wildfire Recovery Team Update

(7:05 p.m. – 7:43 p.m.)

Dana Woodworth, Recovery Team Leader, spoke to the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo rebuild plan, the Canadian Red Cross support, the filling of vacancies within the Task Force, and the complexity of the Waterways rebuild and flood mitigation strategy required under the Disaster Recovery Program (DRP).

Point of Order

Councillor A. Vinni called a point of order indicating that the agenda should have been amended to include the flood mitigation strategy. Chair J. Bancarz ruled that the item would be considered as business arising from the Wildfire Recovery Team Update.

Moved by A. Vinni that the following be recommended to Council for approval:

That Administration be directed to develop a long-term flood mitigation strategy for recommendation to Council that accomplishes the following:

- (a) Ensures that residents within flood hazard areas will be fully eligible for Disaster Recovery Program (DRP) funding for future flood events;
- (b) Allows the encumbrances (development agreement and restrictive covenant) currently being required as conditions of approval to re-develop fire damaged properties in the flood hazard areas to be discharged from all affected land titles as soon as the flood mitigation strategy is fully implemented; and
- (c) That there will be no Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo buyout of any or all properties within the flood hazard areas as a flood mitigation strategy.

Jim Rogers, resident, spoke in support of the recommendation, but expressed dissatisfaction with the last-minute addition to the agenda, indicating that better efforts should be made to ensure residents are informed of such matters.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Exit and Return

Councillor K. McGrath exited the Chamber at 7:18 p.m. and returned at 7:21 p.m.

A request was made for Administration to postpone the December 8, 2016 Here for You session until after the December 13, 2016 Council meeting to allow for consideration of the proposed flood mitigation strategy. Sarah Murrant, Manager, Stakeholder Relations, agreed to postpone the upcoming session to December 14, 2016 or later, and ensure the public was aware of the change.

Moved by A. Vinni that the Chair request that the Mayor, through Administration, put the flood mitigation strategy on the December 8, 2016 Agenda Review for Council's purview to have it on the December 13, 2016 Council meeting agenda.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. Wood Buffalo Recovery Committee 2017 Meeting Schedule
(7:44 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.)

Moved by A. Vinni that beginning in January 2017, Wood Buffalo Recovery Committee Meetings be held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, commencing at 6:00 p.m. excluding statutory holidays and scheduled recess periods.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Adjournment

As all scheduled business matters had been concluded, Chair J. Bancarz declared the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Chair

Chief Legislative Officer



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EARLY YEARS
COALITION**

2016

Childcare Needs Assessment

Introduction to EYC

The Early Years coalition serves as an advisory group to Early Childhood Coalitions of Alberta. They are committed to providing an on-going structure for sharing of information resource building and creating stronger connections among the early years stakeholders in the community. The coalition works to bring awareness and education to the community at large on the importance of the early years.

Vision Statement:

A community of united voices empowering children and families to ensure healthy child development & knowledge for children, parents, caregivers, teachers, and community through an adaptable and progressive child focused network.



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*Needs Assessment November 2016

Mission:

To ensure healthy child development knowledge for children, parents, caregivers, teachers and community.

Goals:

- Incorporate the priorities of the coalition into the everyday work of the membership.
- To deliver key messages in our community that relate to the 5 developmental areas of the child:
 - Physical Health & Well-being
 - Social Competence
 - Emotional Competence
 - Language and thinking Skills
 - Communication skills & General Knowledge

Needs Assessment rationale

In May 2016 the entire population, 80,000 people, were evacuated from the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo due an out of control wildfire, 2700 structures burnt. A state of emergency lasted over 5 months and a gradual reentry was staggered over a period of months starting in June. Multiple areas of town were drastically affected with many homes lost to fire. After reentry many childcare providers faced a changed situation as they dealt with loss of staff, loss of families in programs, as well as some dealing with loss of center. In November 2015 a subcommittee of the Early Years coalition met to assemble local data to inform decision makers about the status of childcare in the community of Fort McMurray. This needs assessment was identified during this subcommittee meeting.



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Methodology

Licensed childcare facilities and daycares were connected with and asked to answer a short survey.. Centers were approached by members of the Early Years coalition and then all information was collated into one document.

http://asset.rmwb.ca/files/RMWB-Re-entry-Timeline_Print.pdf

Nine Centers were approached in total. Two centers were unable to contribute at this time and presently Northlands School board does not provide Out of School care. (centers in blue were unable to contribute at this time):

- The YMCA, connected to the Public School Board
- Fort McMurray Catholic School Board
- Wheaton Penney Childcare Centre
- Children 1st Childcare Centre
- Child Development Day homes
- Fort McMurray Montessori Academy
- The Boys and Girls club
- Northlands School district



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Needs Assessment findings

Centre vacancies

Five childcare providers were able to provide information. These five providers represent 57 centers (Including childcare centers and day homes) In total there were 126 vacancies in all of the child care center.

Waitlist

Currently there is waitlist for all centers, and all of them are extensive. Generally speaking there is a much higher need for childcare for children under 19 months. In Fort McMurray there are over 522 children waitlisted as of this Needs Assessment. 231 of those waitlisted are under 19 months.



Staff vacancies

At the time of the survey there were 23 staff vacancies from the five childcare providers. Every center expressed a challenge in finding qualified staff to fill vacancies.

The stories

Centers

“Two Out of School Care programs were closed due to the wildfire. This affected 55 childcare spaces that have had to be redistributed to serve community, including one that is currently running out of a library space.”

“We had 2 staff not return, combined with the closure of 2 programs we hired 2 new full time staff.”



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“We could use about 3 more staff but we are having a very hard time finding qualified workers.”

“Some of our employees are not coming back because they themselves cannot afford childcare, especially if they have multiple children.”

“We lost the majority of our staff to the fire”

“We lost good staff to the fire”

“We get resumes from fast food workers, about 10/100 have ECE qualifications.”

“Huge demand for care for younger children. We can’t meet those needs”

“We can’t meet need for care for younger children because the ratios are low and we can’t make money on that age group.”

“We had a center that would be able to care for 66 children be unable to open. We would need 10-11 staff to operate”

“We struggle to find staff on non-instructional Fridays as we operate for 12 hours and we typically only operate 7 hours a day.”



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Day home

Infant/toddler spaces – I find it has always come to personal preference in a DH. We have a lot of immigrant/ESL DH providers and I find that parents are reluctant to use these providers due to language not being the first language or sad to say the cultural barrier. Even though we tell the parents that the child care the DH providers provides is very nurturing and quality they will choose another option.

Preschool spot - - these are spots are open due to transportation to and from epp/ecdp. or most children will attend DC centers to assist preparing children for school we find. Again, the cultural barrier.

DH providers most of our DH's came back to re-open only about 5 didn't return or closed for other reasons. We are continuing to re-open more homes and are seeing a child care need for January 2016 with infants / mother's returning to work.



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Rebuild Guidance Document

Presentation to Wood Buffalo Recovery Committee

January 11th, 2017



Intent & Agenda

- Brief the Committee on the Rebuild Guidance Document for information purposes only
- Rebuild Guidance Document Preparation
- What the Rebuild Guidance Document does

Rebuild Guidance Document Preparation

- Three months work by the Rebuild Sub-Committee, Wood Buffalo Recovery Task Force and Administration
- Based on best practices
- Discussions on Lessons Learned from Slave Lake

What the Rebuild Guidance Document does

- Based on a Decentralized Regulatory Model
- Sets the conditions for Coordination
- Achieves the intent of the Rebuild Pillar: Safe, Efficient and Compliant

Questions?