

Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core Task Force Report 17-002

1:00 p.m. Thursday, March 9, 2017 Room 264, City Hall

Present: Councillor J. Farr (Chair)

Councillor C. Collins

S. Braithwaite (Vice Chair)

K. Jarvi, J. Maurice, T Potocic and S. Sutherland

Absent with S. Mirza – Maternity Leave

Regrets: C. Topp

Absent: L. Hess and B. Chug

THE CLEANLINESS AND SECURITY IN THE DOWNTOWN CORE TASK FORCE PRESENTS REPORT 17-002 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. Task Force Membership (Added Item 11.1)

That the Terms of Reference of the Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core Task Force, attached hereto as Appendix A, be amended by deleting "King Street West BIA" and "Main Street West Esplanade BIA" under the "Composition" section to read as follows:

Composition:

King Street West BIA
Main Street West Esplanade BIA

Downtown BIA
International Village BIA
James Street South Business District
James Street North Business Merchants
Ward 2 Councillor
One Additional Councillor
Three Community Representatives

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:

(a) VERBAL UPDATE FROM HAMILTON POLICE SERVICE (Item A)

Sgt. Gino Ciarmoli with the Hamilton Police Service provided the Task Force with an update on policing initiatives in the Downtown Core. The topic of marijuana dispensaries in the City was discussed and Sgt. Ciarmoli noted recent policing action in this area.

The Verbal Update from the Hamilton Police Service was received.

(b) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

The Committee Clerk advised that there were no changes to the agenda.

The agenda for the March 9, 2017 meeting of the Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core Task Force was approved, as presented.

Chair Farr welcomed Tim Potocic to the Task Force. Mr. Potocic will be representing the James Street North Merchants.

(c) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

(d) APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Item 3)

(i) February 9, 2017 (Item 3.1)

Lia Hess was not present at the February 9, 2017 meeting but she was noted as being in attendance in the minutes. The Committee Clerk will correct the minutes.

The Minutes of the February 9, 2017 Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core Task Force meeting were approved, as amended.

(e) CONSENT ITEMS (Item 5)

(i) Update from Peter Wobschall, Supervisor, Program Development, Policies and Programs, Public Works Department, regarding Graffiti on Private Utility Boxes (Item 5.1)

Mr. Peter Wobschall, Supervisor, Program Development, Policies and Programs, Public Works Department, provided the Task Force with an update respecting Graffiti on Private Utility Boxes.

A letter advising utility companies about removing graffiti on private utility boxes has been drafted. Staff has shared the letter with the Keep Hamilton Clean and Green Committee and they are supportive of the initiative. Staff is compiling a list of utility company contacts and will be sending the letters as soon as this list is completed. An update on this matter will be provided at a future meeting.

The Update from Peter Wobschall, Supervisor, Program Development, Policies and Programs, Public Works Department, regarding Graffiti on Private Utility Boxes was received.

(f) PRESENTATIONS (Item 7)

(i) Emily Walsh, Alleyway Coordinator, Downtown BIA and the International Village BIA, respecting the Up Your Alley Project (Item 7.1)

Ms. Emily Walsh, Alleyway Coordinator, Downtown BIA and the International Village BIA, addressed the Task Force respecting the Up Your Alley Project.

Ms. Walsh noted the successes of the project and discussed how issues such as litter and graffiti have been addressed through the clean ups.

The presentation from Emily Walsh, Alleyway Coordinator, Downtown BIA and the International Village BIA, respecting the Up Your Alley Project, was received.

(g) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 8)

(i) Verbal update on the Issue of Discarded Needles in Alleyways (Item 8.1)

Kelly Barnett, Community Liaison Coordinator, Municipal Law Enforcement, provided the Task Force with an update on the issue of Discarded Needles in Alleyways. She has confirmed with Public Health Services that a program is in place with the AIDS Network of Hamilton to dispose of discarded needles in alleyways. Complaints can be reported to 546-CITY and the disposal will be arranged.

The update on the Issue of Discarded Needles in Alleyways was received.

(ii) Litter Concerns in BIAs (Item 8.2)

The Task Force discussed issue of litter in BIAs. One concern was regarding how the spring weather is revealing litter that has accumulated over the winter. Concerns about the issue of litter also included the need for increased collection after storms as well an education campaign to encourage people to pick up their litter. Kelly Barnett, Community Liaison Coordinator, Municipal Law Enforcement will bring these concerns forward to the Environmental Services Division.

(iii) Marijuana Dispensaries (Item 8.3)

Monica Ciriello, Senior Project Manager, Licensing Section, provided the following information about marijuana dispensaries to the Task Force:

- 22 locations across the City have been identified as marijuana dispensaries (4 of them have been closed – 2 through MLE enforcement and 2 by the Hamilton Police)
- 2 property standards orders have been issued
- 8 licensing orders have been given out
- 5 sign orders have been given out (2 of the establishments involved have closed)
- 15 zoning violations have been given out
- 1 Provincial Offence Notice has been issued

The update from Monica Ciriello respecting marijuana dispensaries was received.

(h) GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS (Item 11)

(i) Task Force Membership (Added Item 11.1)

Concerns were expressed regarding Task Force members who have been absent from three or more consecutive meetings without providing the Committee Clerk with notice of their absence. It was noted that this has an impact on achieving quorum.

For disposition of this matter, refer to Item 1.

(i) ADJOURNMENT (Item 12)

There being no further business, the Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core Task Force adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor J. Farr, Chair Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core Task Force

Lauri Leduc Legislative Coordinator Office of the City Clerk