



Minutes

Community Services Committee

March 18, 2026, 5:30 p.m.

City Hall - 808 2nd Avenue East - Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Melanie Middlebro'
Vice Chair Marion Koepke
Councillor Travis Dodd (via video)
Member Connie Ede
Member Morgan Kemick (via video)
Councillor Suneet Kukreja (via video)
Member Lance Thurston

MEMBERS

ABSENT/REGRETS: Member Aly Bousfield-Bastedo
Member Royden Thomson

STAFF PRESENT: Tim Simmonds, City Manager
Pam Coulter, Director of Community Services
Sabine Robart, Manager of Planning and Heritage
Jacklyn Iezzi, Senior Planner
Andrew O'Leary, Facilities Booking Coordinator
Christina McLean, Committee and Executive Support Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Middlebro' called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. CALL FOR ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

There was no additional business.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.a Minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on February 18, 2026

CS-250318-001

Moved by Member Ede

"THAT the Community Services Committee approves the minutes of the meeting held on February 18, 2026."

Carried.

5. DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- 5.a Deputation from Owen Sound Minor Baseball Re: "Swing for the Fences" Campaign - Baseball Diamond Refurbishment Partnership

Jesse Edmunds of Owen Sound Minor Baseball provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Swing for the Fences Campaign, highlighting the operations of the organization and facility usage.

In response to a question from Committee, Mr. Edmunds noted that approximately 70-80% of players are from within Owen Sound and added that participants from outside of the City pay the non-resident minor sport fee.

- 5.b Deputation from Jaret Koop of the Georgian Bay Folk Society Re: In-Kind Support for Summerfolk Music & Crafts Festival

Jaret Koop of the Georgian Bay Folk Society provided a PowerPoint presentation respecting in-kind support for the Summerfolk Music & Crafts Festival, highlighting the Society's history and the economic impact the organization has on the area.

In response to a question from Committee, Mr. Koop noted that there are many returning sponsors which provide a mix of both financial and in-kind support.

In response to a question from Committee, the Director of Community Services noted that the City has had agreements to provide in-kind support for other organizations or festivals previously.

CS-260318-002

Moved by Member Thurston

"THAT in consideration of the deputation from the Georgian Bay Folk Society on March 18, 2026 respecting in-kind support for the Summerfolk Music & Crafts Festival, the Community Services Committee recommends that City Council approve providing in-kind support in the form of waiving park rental fees for the 2026 Festival."

Carried.

- 5.c Presentation from the Senior Planner Re: Community Improvement Plan (CIP) Programs - 2025 Wrap Up

The Senior Planner provided a PowerPoint presentation respecting a 2025 wrap up of Community Improvement Plan Programs.

6. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no questions or comments from the public.

7. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR WHICH DIRECTION IS REQUIRED

There were no correspondence items presented for consideration.

8. REPORTS OF CITY STAFF

8.a Parks and Open Space

8.a.1 Report CS-26-018 from the Director of Community Services Re: Donation by the Tyson Downs Association of an Outdoor Automatic External Defibrillator

The Director of Community Services provided an overview of the report.

CS-260318-003

Moved by Vice Chair Koepke

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CS-26-018 respecting the donation of an outdoor Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) by the Tyson Downs Association, the Community Services Committee recommends that City Council:

- 1. Accept the donation of an outdoor cabinet and AED along with 8 years of monitoring;**
- 2. Approve the proposed location at the Harrison Park Inn exterior wall for installation of the unit;**
- 3. Approve other locations, including City Hall and Kelso Beach at Nawash Park (subject to technical confirmation) for installation of future units; and**
- 4. Direct staff to support the efforts of the Tyson Downs Association through communication, education, and awareness."**

Carried.

8.b Planning and Heritage

8.b.1 Report CS-26-013 from the Senior Planner Re: Draft Sidewalk Patio Guidelines

The Senior Planner provided a PowerPoint presentation respecting the draft Sidewalk Patio Guidelines.

In response to a question from Committee, the Director of Community Services noted that if there is not significant feedback from Committee, the

recommendation report and proposed by-law could go directly to the April 27, 2026 Regular Council meeting.

In response to a question from Committee, Ms. Iezzi noted that the delegation of authority as outlined in the report was implemented in 2021.

In response to a question from Committee, Ms. Iezzi noted that while the Ontario Traffic Council (OTC) guidelines are not statutory requirements, they were developed by experts in the field and are considered as best practice. She added that the City's insurer indicated that these guidelines should be followed.

In response to a question from Committee, Ms. Iezzi noted that the main changes from the 2011 guidelines include changes to requirements for patios located within on-street parking areas, the addition of an application window, and changes to the design guidelines to provide parameters on the appearances of patio platforms and fencing.

In response to a question from Committee, Ms. Iezzi noted that a business is permitted to occupy a maximum of two (2) on street parking spaces, but that there is not an overall maximum in regards to occupied parking spaces for the entire River District.

CS-260318-004

Moved by Vice Chair Koepke

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CS-26-013 respecting the draft Street Furniture and Sidewalk Patio Guidelines, the Community Services Committee recommends that City Council direct staff to:

- 1. Consult with the Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee and River District business owners with previous patio approvals on the draft guidelines; and**
- 2. Bring forward a report including input received from stakeholders and a draft sidewalk patio by-law for consideration to the April 27, 2026 Regular Council Meeting."**

Carried.

- 8.b.2 Report CS-26-021 from the Senior Planner Re: Application for Brownfield Financial Incentive - 1043 and 1057 3rd Ave E (St Clare Place)

The Senior Planner provided an overview of the report.

In response to a question from Committee, the Director of Community Services noted that this CIP program focuses on offering incentive to remediate brownfield sites in the River District and harbour area. She added that the program anticipates that future tax revenue collected from the completed project will offset any incentive provided.

In response to a question from Committee, Ms. Iezzi noted that there have been approximately 8 or 9 brownfield tax incentives approved through this program. She added that while total eligible properties is unknown, it is likely that any redevelopment of lands surrounding the harbour will benefit from this program in future years.

In response to a question from Committee, Ms. Iezzi noted that the agreement between the applicant and the City will outline the specific payment schedule.

CS-260318-005

Moved by Councillor Dodd

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CS-26-021 respecting an application to the City's Brownfield Financial Tax Incentive Program by Lutheran Social Services for environmental remediation work completed at 1043 and 1057 3rd Avenue East, the Community Services Committee recommends that City Council:

- 1. Approve the application, subject to the conditions outlined in Schedule 'B';**
- 2. Direct staff to bring forward by-laws upon first re-assessment of the property by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation to:**
 - a. Cancel municipal taxes, to a maximum upset limit of \$398,252.87, pursuant to Section 365 (1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*; and**
 - b. Authorize a Financial Incentive Program Agreement between the City and the property owner;**
- 3. Direct staff to issue notice to the County of Grey of the cancellation of municipal taxes and request that the County pass a by-law to provide similar cancellation of taxes levied for upper-tier purposes pursuant to Section 365(2) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*; and**
- 4. Direct staff to submit an application for matching education property tax assistance to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Municipal Services Division)."**

Carried.

8.c Arena Operations

None.

8.d Building

None.

8.e Community and Business Development

None.

8.f Facility Bookings and Community Programs

None.

8.g Tourism, Culture and Events

None.

9. MATTERS POSTPONED

There were no matters postponed.

10. MOTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE WAS PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

There were no motions for which notice was previously given.

11. CORRESPONDENCE PROVIDED FOR INFORMATION

11.a Memorandum from the Chief Building Official and Manager of Planning and Heritage Re: Development Update

The Manager of Planning and Heritage provided an overview of the February 2026 Development Update, highlighting planning applications and recent construction projects underway.

11.b Webpage from Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (Ontario.ca)

CS-250318-006

Moved by Member Thurston

"THAT in consideration of correspondence provided for information purposes listed on the March 18, 2026 Community Services Committee agenda, the Community Services Committee recommends that City Council receive Items 11.a and 11.b for information purposes."

Carried.

12. DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

There was no additional business.

13. NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no notices of motion.

14. RESOLUTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

CS-260318-007

Moved by Vice Chair Koepke

"THAT the Community Services Committee now move into Closed Session to consider one matter regarding personal matters about identifiable individuals respecting Volunteer of the Year, Senior of the Year, and Youth Volunteer of the Year nominations."

Carried.

The Community Services Committee moved into the Closed Session at 6:58 p.m.

15. REPORTING OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Chair Middlebro' advised that the Community Services Committee returned to the open session at 7:22 p.m.

All Committee and staff members listed above were present except for the Manager of Planning and Heritage and Senior Planner.

Chair Middlebro' advised that during the Closed Session, the Community Services Committee discussed one matter regarding personal matters about identifiable individuals respecting Volunteer of the Year, Youth Volunteer of the Year, and Senior Volunteer of the Year nominations, and direction was provided to staff.

16. ADJOURNMENT

The business contained on the agenda having been completed, Chair Middlebro' adjourned the meeting at 7:23 p.m.