



WRPCPC Minutes

March 11, 2016

Luther Village on the Park

139 Father David Bauer Drive, Waterloo

Present: Angela Vanderheyden, Barry Cull, Bryan Larkin, Chris Cowie, Carolyn Albrecht, Cathy Harrington, Courtney Didier, Denise Squire, Don Roth, Derek Haime, Douglas Bartholomew-Saunders, Helen Jowett, Irene O'Toole, Jane Mitchell, Jennifer Mains, Joe-Ann McComb, John Shewchuk, Kathy Payette, Liz Vitek, Mark Poland, Marla Pender, Michael Beazely, Pari Karem, Peter Ringrose, Sharon Ward-Zeller, Shayne Turner, Trisha Robinson, Tom Galloway

Regrets: Alison Scott, Andrew Jackson, Bill Wilson, Doug Thiel, Felix Munger, Mark Pancer, Peter Rubenschuh, Sharlene Sedgwick-Walsh

Staff: Christiane Sadeler, Dianne Heise, Mary Anna Allen, Tracy Jasmins

1. Welcome and introductions:

The WRCPC members and guests were welcomed and introductions were made.

2. Approval of Agenda:

Moved by Shayne Turner and seconded by Don Roth. Carried

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest: None

4. Approval of Minutes of February 19, 2016:

Moved by Jane Mitchell and seconded by Bryan Larkin. Carried

4.1 Other Business

4.1.1 Provincial Consultation

A provincial consultation with the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Service is tentatively scheduled for April 7, 2016. The staff will

suggest to also inviting the Minister to the meeting of WRCPC on April 8, 2016. Christiane will keep the CP Council updated as to when this consultation will take place.

5. Approval of Smart Update (consent agenda):

Moved by Courtney Didier as amended and seconded by Sharon Ward-Zeller.
Carried

As part of **the Canadian Municipal Network's** municipal exchange some members of the WRCPC met with delegates from the city of Winnipeg on March 4, 2016.

The Winnipeg delegates were impressed with the work of the WRCPC and the crime prevention web and network in Waterloo Region. They were especially interested in the arms-length nature of the Council's office. Delegates also enjoyed meeting Chief Larkin and Deputy Chief Thaler to learn more about WRPS's community relationships. The WRCPC will be invited to Winnipeg at some point to learn about their work.

Deputy Chief David Thorne of the Winnipeg Police was unable to participate in the municipal exchange but sent a staff representative. Based that staff's report, Deputy Chief David Thorne along with the Assistant Commissioner from the RCMP headquarters in Manitoba would like to visit the WRPS to look at how the WRPS works and interacts with the different stakeholders around the Council table and to also look at some of the work that is happening in the community.

Good Samaritan Law:

Christiane thanked Mark Poland, Angela Vanderheyden, and Doug Thiel for their willingness to review the draft legislation for the proposed Good Samaritan Law. The legislation is being brought forward by MP Ron McKinnon, MP for Coquitlam-Port Coquitlam, B.C. as a Private Member's Bill. WRCPC staff will continue to follow-up with his office on the progress of this effort. Ron McKinnon became aware of the report [Saving Lives: Barriers to Calling 911](#) through a Toronto Star article about overdose death. This WRCPC report was adopted by Council in 2012 and, among other actions, recommends the Good Samaritan Law as one way to prevent overdose deaths.

Coalition of Muslim Women Award Recognition Dinner - Honouring Women that Inspire:

Fauzia Mazhar from the Coalition of Muslim Women invited the WRCPD members to attend the **Coalition of Muslim Women Award Recognition Dinner** that is being held on March 19, 2016. Some funds are available through the WRCPD office for the purchase of tickets. Council members are encouraged to contact the WRCPD office if interested in attending.

6. Regional Strategic Plan:

Douglas Bartholomew-Saunders provided an overview of the final version the Region of Waterloo strategic plan.

With each new term of Council, the Councillors engage with the staff and community through focus groups and online surveys to provide input to the Region's strategic plan. Regional Council takes this information and develops focus areas.

There are five strategic areas of focus with a number of objectives for each:

- 1) Thriving Economy
- 2) Sustainable Transportation
- 3) Environment and Sustainable growth
- 4) Health, Safe and Inclusive Communities
- 5) Responsive and Engaging Government Services

The areas of focus are clearly linked to the revised vision of the Region: **“Waterloo Region a community where people matter and ideas grow”**. The feedback from across the community was that there needed to be a focus on people within the region. As well respondents and participants raised the notion that the Region as an innovative growth area needed to embrace that growth. Ideas start here, grow here and then often move to other areas of the country. Aligned to each of the five strategic objectives the staff define departmental plans that have actions that will ensure that these particular items are fulfilled by the end of the four year mandate. Summaries of the Plan were made available to the WRCPD. Please click here [Strategic Plan 2015-2018](#) for a full version of the Plan.

The use of social media tools e.g. Strat Chat for the consultations contributed to the success in engaging communities, organizations and the municipalities.

All staff reports to Committee or Council must include a strategic objective.

Under Healthy, Safe and Inclusive communities 4.5 reads: “to enhance community safety and crime prevention”. Within that the WRPCPC is committed to two areas:

- 1) Youth Engagement and
- 2) Attention to marginalized populations

7. WRPS Crime Rates and Calls for Service in Waterloo Region:

Deputy Chief Kevin Thaler elaborated on the overview provided at the previous council meeting about calls for services to police (presentation handout attached).

It was recommended at the Council meeting on February 19, 2016 to carry forward the discussion about how to divert some of the Police Calls for Service for non-policing matters to other opportunities in the community since the current volume of demands on police is not sustainable in the longer term. The goal is to dig deeper into the issue and use collective wisdom to strategize about solutions.

Tom Galloway explained that in Ontario Police Service Boards provide civilian oversight for governance and policies related to the Police Services Act. One of the key items police boards oversee are the resources for police services. For the last number of years the Waterloo Region Police Services Board has increasingly becoming concerned about the volume of Calls for Service. While generally crime rates are down the calls for services to police have gone up 6% a year for the last three years. There is no direct relationship between crime rates and the increased calls for service.

The board has asked staff to review the calls for service to try to identify where the increases are taking place. Some of the calls for service have been identified as not being a core function of the police. Each call for service on average takes about one hour of service.

Chief Larkin shared that WRPS is also in the process of doing an organizational review to try to better manage some of these aspects. The crime rates are declining but the gravity and severity of the crimes are not and such crimes require significant resources. The judicial expectations have also increased and require much more police investigative capacity.

The overall question arises if there are mitigating strategies that would allow police to move resources and/or potentially funding upstream so it does not get to the point where they alone have to manage them?

Kevin Thaler presented the top ten citizen calls for service from 2010 to 2015. These calls include:

- 1) Compassionate to Locate
- 2) Bylaw Complaint
- 3) Domestic Dispute
- 4) Theft Under \$5000
- 5) Motor Vehicle Collision - Property Damage
- 6) Unwanted Person
- 7) Driving Complaint
- 8) Alarm
- 9) Sick/Injured Person
- 10) Routine Detail.

Other significant calls for service are missing persons, mental health, and fires (Please see handout attached). Kevin provided overviews and contexts for each of these call categories.

The WRCPC members participated in small group discussion exercises to strategize about things that the community can do to proactively support WRPS in reducing these calls. The focus groups discussion notes will be made available at the next Council meeting on April 8, 2016.

The Council was asked to consider the following in their discussions:

- What are some of the things that could change within the community such that we don't over-use police for non-policing matters?
- What are some of the things that we have already in place that are not being utilized?
- What can we collectively do to get on top of that issue?
- Based on the detailed police data that was shared please pick one or two categories and consider how as a community we can handle this situation differently. What is happening within the community context that leads to an overreliance on Police?

Each group was then asked to present back one "low hanging fruit" for the plenary discussion.

8. Truth and Reconciliation Commission Presentation:

Derek Haime presented the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls for Action and the 94 recommendations. Please see presentation attached.

WRCPC Comments:

A [report](#) by Howard Sapers about the over-representation of the indigenous community in correctional institutions was mentioned.

There may be an opportunity to connect with the Family & Children's Services group that is already looking at the healing process for child welfare as part of its strategic plan.

Kathy Payette shared that funding from the Hallman Foundation was provided to Lutherwood for FASD, which as an issue, features prominently in the TRC recommendations.

Derek made the following recommendation:

That the WRCPC authorize the establishment of a sub-committee to develop potential options as to how the WRCPC may help to implement the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's calls to action.

The Council agreed by consensus to establish a working group and asked for volunteers to participate on the working group with the first task being the development of a Terms of Reference. The volunteers participating on this working group and assisting with the development of the Terms of Reference are as follows: Angela Vanderheyden, Barry Cull, Derek Haime, Irene O'Toole, Liz Vitek and Friends of Crime Prevention - Maureen Trask and Jonathan English. Kathy Payette will also recommend a staff member from Lutherwood to join the group.

The working group will bring forward the draft Terms of Reference to the WRCPC for approval in the near future.

9. Health Canada Feedback re Naloxone - Michael Beazely

Waterloo Region Drugs Strategy brought forward a request for the WRCPC to support the drafting of a letter to Health Canada Rx Drug Status Committee requesting that Naloxone be removed from the prescription drug list. The purpose for this is that it would remove the barrier of making more readily available.

Michael Beazely, on behalf of the WRIDS, moved that the WRCPC support a letter to the Health Canada Rx Drug Status Committee requesting that Naloxone be removed from the prescription drug list.

Seconded by Jane Mitchell. Carried.

It was suggested to send a copy of the final letter to the local MPs.

10. Other Business:

11. Adjournment: Moved by John Shewchuk. Carried at 11:31a.m.