



Minutes

**Virtual Meeting, Petawawa ON
June 1, 2021**

Present:

Cindy Sell
Portia Hoffman Strang
Theresa Sabourin
William Grandy
Val Hyska
Laura Hanek
Christina McFadden

Regrets:

Richard McNish

Also Present:

Christine Mitchell

Welcome and Introductions

Val Hyska, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:02 am.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Theresa Sabourin

Seconded by Laura Hanek

That the agenda for the June 1, 2021 virtual meeting of PBAN be approved as circulated.

Carried

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by William Grandy

Seconded by Cindy Sell

That the minutes of May 4, 2021, be approved.

Carried

Old Business

1. Business Grants and Programs

Christine reported that an e-news document was created and circulated on May 23rd.

- **Google My Business 101:** Through the Service Concierge partnership with specific support from Laurentian Valley we are able to offer a Google My Business 101 workshop FREE for area businesses. Workshop dates are May 31st and June 2nd.
- **Destination Bike – Welcoming Cyclists to the Ottawa Valley.** To learn more about this program a webinar will be hosted on June 16th.
- **RRRF Funding:** This funding, available through Renfrew County Community Futures Development Corporation has received top up financing which eligible businesses can apply for. Details of this program are available on the [RCFDC website](#). Applications open until June 30th.
- **Ontario Tourism and Travel Small Business Support Grant:** This funding program is open until July 9th. Please visit the [Ontario Government website](#) for more details and to apply.

2. Community Improvement Plan (CIP)

Christine reported that the community and business surveys for the CIP had closed and that the consultants of WSP were working on completing the CIP Background report with intention to bring information to Council at the June 14th meeting. Information about the CIP results of each outcome will be shared on the municipal website on the [Community Improvement Plan \(CIP\) - The Town of Petawawa](#) page.

3. Staycation Petawawa Program

We have been holding the launch of this program due to the continuing restrictions resulting from the pandemic, however with businesses entering Phase 1 we will move to launch this program on July 5th and allow for participation until July 24th. The media sponsor for this program is Pure Country 96.7. All the details of the [Staycation Petawawa Program](#) are available on the municipal website. It is a shop local, shop Petawawa initiative that is designed to encourage people to start engaging in-person shopping with our business community.

4. Chamber of Commerce Rapid Antigen Screening Kit Program

As a follow up to our last meeting and discussion on this Rapid Antigen Screening Kit Program, the surveys have been completed and there does seem to be a wide variety of interest across Renfrew County for this program. The Upper Ottawa Valley Chamber will be working with the Arnprior and Renfrew Chambers to roll out the program for local businesses. More information sessions are anticipated.

5. Petawawa Seasonal Pop Up Container Market

Following up on the discussion from last month, Christine was pleased to report that the following businesses and organizations have generously come forward as sponsors of the Petawawa Pop Up Container Market; Hyska's Your Independent Grocer, The Rotary Club of Petawawa, PMFRC Employment Services and Western Financial Group. Additional sponsorship opportunities and information about this new market is available on the [municipal website](#). We have had to cancel the traditional Civic Centre Days events but have received approval by the Renfrew County and District Health Unit to proceed with opening our Pop Up Container Market as these independent units provide a safe and structured retail opportunity for artists, artisans, small businesses and community groups to showcase and sell their products. The Pop Up Container Market will open June 18th.

New Business

1. County of Renfrew (County Road 51) Rehabilitation

The County of Renfrew has sent out notice to businesses along Petawawa Boulevard from Doran and Mohns intersection to the bridge to notify them of upcoming rehabilitation work that is expected to last six weeks starting May 31st. The County has engaged H&H Construction as their project contractor.

2. Business Sector Waste Management

Val requested that we add this item to the agenda to get a better understanding of waste management options for local business owners. Christine provided details on the municipal program for small scale business needs and advised all businesses to discuss with their landlords the options available to them including curbside services. For larger businesses, such as Hyska's the issues and complexity of the need are much greater. Christine will connect with the Ottawa Valley Waste Recovery Centre and with the Director of Public Works to set up a specific meeting with Hyska's and would be available for any other businesses that need assistance in this area.

Correspondence

No correspondence was received.

Information (Business Openings/Milestones/Celebrations)

- Valley Creations will open at 1162 Victoria Street on June 18th. Valley Creations works with more than 75 local and Canadian producers including the products the owner creates herself.
- End of the Leash Pet Boutique officially opened at 3067 Petawawa Blvd. for curbside services on May 28th.
- McDougall Insurance & Financial has opened an office in Petawawa at 1024 Victoria St. A formal grand opening ceremony will occur in July, gathering restrictions permitting.
- Wendy's building is undergoing a renovation to refresh the fast food chain.
- The owner of the commercial building at 1 Doran Rd. has submitted site plan application documentation to develop a restaurant at this location. Documents are on circulation for review.
- The Country Cupboard celebrated their 25th anniversary in May. Cheryl did an online celebration due to the stay at home orders in effect at the time. An article of the celebration is available at shopPetawawa.ca.
- On June 25th a section of the CN rail trail will come under new ownership. This is a significant concern for the ATV club who rely on that secondary trail for network connectivity since the City of Pembroke and Township of Laurentian Valley do not allow ATV access to the County owned Algonquin Trail, at this time. The ATV club is hosting webinars to have open discussions with businesses and interested community members have been shared on social media and posted to the events page on the municipal website.

Events

Town of Petawawa has partnered with local businesses to create a \$1000 prize giveaway for one Petawawa resident for Canada Day. An online registration is all that one needs to complete to be entered into this draw. Prize includes a BBQ from Rona, beverages from Dog House Brewing Company Ltd., grill items from Burnt Bridge Quality Meats, décor from The Country Cupboard, games from Looking Glass Toys and Games and virtual musical from Adam Fieldhouse.

Staycation Petawawa program, which was delayed twice due to pandemic restrictions, will proceed from July 5th to July 24th. Our media sponsor is Pure Country 96.7. All the details of the promotion and how hyper-local participants can get involved are available on the municipal website.

The Upper Ottawa River Race and Paddle Festival has been cancelled for 2021. A new Doggy Paddle one day event taking place at Petawawa Point will happen instead on August 21st. This event will be a fundraiser for the OSPCA.

September 16 - 18th a new series of events will be organized, with musical entertainment, craft beer, local foods and a food truck alley type theme. Attendance limits for each event (4 total) will be capped at 100 participants to ensure safety and compliance with pandemic protocols.

October will see the return of the Petawawa Ramble and Pumpkin Folks festival for its third year.

Round Table

William spoke about resuming operations at The Shed during the pandemic restrictions and with the construction occurring on Petawawa Blvd. Bill has successfully implemented a pager system for guests that is really working well. Bill reported that Door Dash is aggressively trying to gain The Shed as a client but Bill is concerned about maintaining the quality of the product with this delivery model. Bill commented on the wonderful beautification, trees and lighting projects that have been developing along Petawawa Blvd.

Christina indicated that all employment services were still being delivered in a virtual format and that many employers had employment opportunities. A lack of job seekers continues to be an issue. Christina also discussed the OSPCA Sweat for Pets event at the end of June.

Cindy reported that there were a number of military postings and that between January – April this year to last there is a 117% increase in home sales and that prices have risen 34%. The average home sale exceeds \$415,284 and Petawawa continues to have lower taxes than surrounding communities.

Laura reported that she has been very busy with her graphic design contracts. Laura is looking forward to a reprieve when business tapers off in the summer. Laura also shared that she and her husband are expecting their first child.

Portia indicated that her salon and spa remains closed due to pandemic restrictions. The building remains available for sale but that they are making modifications to the main floor to continue to serve clients. Portia reported that much of the Pontiac has opened and so she has been busy with her family business, Brauwerk Hoffman.

Theresa thanked William for his kind remarks of the beautification efforts on Petawawa Blvd. and thanked Treena Lemay a former longtime Councillor for her spearheading of the tree program. Theresa reported that the Town would be celebrating its 25th Anniversary next year and indicated some of the celebration plans would soon be announced.

Val reported that the garden centre business has been brisk and that supply of items like soil has been challenging. Val reported on the Rotary International 7th area of service pillar which will focus on the environment. A plan for tree plantings are anticipated with support from the Town and the County along Petawawa Blvd.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned to the call of the Chair at 10:54 am.