

Engage and Inform Committee Meeting Minutes Wednesday, June 3rd, 2026

Members Present: Councillor Paul Buchner (Chair), Mayor David Mayberry, Deb Riley, Tabitha Kosmal

Staff Present: Denny Giles, Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk
Deb Fidler, Administrative Assistant – Legislative Services,
Corporate Communications and Records Management

Regrets: Jen Thomson

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m. by Chair Paul Buchner, and a quorum was present.

Approval of the Agenda

Resolution No. 1 Moved by Deb Riley
Seconded by Tabitha Kosmal

RESOLVED that the agenda for the June 3rd, 2026, Engage & Inform committee meeting be approved, as amended.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Approval of the Minutes

Resolution No. 2 Moved by Tabitha Kosmal
Seconded by Deb Riley

RESOLVED that the regular minutes of the May 6th, 2026, Engage & Inform committee meeting be approved.

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

Delegations and Appointments

Business Arising from the Minutes

Township Fare

Tentative date has been made for May 29, 2027.

Invitations should be distributed as soon as possible, as many vendors book events up to a year in advance. If the event continues to grow, larger venue options should be explored which Mayor Mayberry will investigate.

Consider creating a children's activity area to help draw in more families.

Hall Board Event Funding

Council members were previously asked to inform their respective hall boards that up to \$1,000 is available to support community events. It was noted that some boards were unaware of the funding opportunity and were uncertain about the process for accessing the funds.

The committee discussed that reimbursement requires the submission of an invoice or proof of expense. Denny will consult with the Finance Department to clarify the funding process. He will also send a reminder email to Council members, requesting that they ensure their hall boards are aware of the available funding and the process for accessing it.

Tree Planting for Valerie Durston

The Committee discussed planting a commemorative tree in honour of former Councillor Valerie Durston. Sugar maple was recommended as the preferred tree species, and it was noted that purple was one of Councillor Durston's favourite colours. Denny will prepare a report to Council for consideration.

Resolution No. 4 Moved by Tabitha Kosmal
Seconded by Mayor David Mayberry

RESOLVED that the Clerk bring forward a report recommending that Council plant a commemorative tree in honour of former Councillor Valerie Durston, and that Council investigate an appropriate location, tree species, and commemorative features, including an engraved stone.

DISPOSITON: Motion Carried

Correspondence

Discussion Items

Crossroads Villages Project

Mayor Mayberry prepared a rough draft on Hagel's Corners. Committee members reviewed the draft and discussed what information may still be missing and what content could be removed. Suggestions included adding a hand-drawn map to identify key locations and incorporating historical and current photographs.

There has been limited interest from residents in providing stories and historical information. Deb Riley noted that many elderly residents who possess local knowledge do not have access to the internet, which may be limiting participation.

To encourage community involvement, information about the project will be included in the July SWOX Talks newsletter mailout. The project could also be promoted through Ox on the Run and Deb Fidler will reach out to them.

Hike for Hunger & Health

The Hike for Hunger & Health event is scheduled for October 17 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Trillium Woods.

Committee members agreed that additional advertising is needed, including placing signs throughout the community approximately one week prior to the event.

Mayor Mayberry will contact the Food Hub in Ingersoll to assist with promoting the initiative. He will also reach out to the Lions Club to determine whether they would be available to participate and provide a barbecue for participants.

Engage and Inform Committee 2026 Budget

The committee budget is currently sitting at approximately \$1700.

Standing Items

Review of SWOX 2030 Action Item List

1. Social Responsibility
2. Communication
3. Active Living
4. Safety & Security

New Business

Legacy Document

The committee discussed preparing a one-page legacy document summarizing its work over the past four years. The document will outline key initiatives, successes, challenges, and lessons learned to assist the incoming Council in understanding future opportunities and potential obstacles. It will include a review of all events and projects undertaken, noting outcomes such as the discontinuation of the geocaching initiative. Each committee member will prepare a list of activities that worked well and those that did not. Submissions are due by the first week of August.

ReuseApalooZaha

The ReuseApalooZahā event will be held at the Lions Pavilion in Sweaburg on Saturday, September 26, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Mayor Mayberry will contact the event organizer to secure a table for the Engage & Inform Committee. Information regarding voting procedures will be available at the committee's booth.

Adjournment

Resolution No. 5 Moved by David Mayberry
Seconded by Tabitha Kosmal

RESOLVED that there being no further business, the Engage and Inform Committee adjourn at 2:35 p.m. to meet again on September 9th, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.

DISPOSITON: Motion Carried