

Citizens Pages in the Blue Mountains Review

Welcome to the Citizen's Pages

We hope this will be a regular insert into the BMR, our only regularly published print news media. It was inspired by the insert in last month's edition of the BMR which was funded by a couple of concerned citizens, and which was extremely well received.

The lack of coverage of our local government in the print media has resulted in many in the Town not being aware of what is happening in our Town.

To solve this problem, and to raise citizen awareness and hopefully participation in the community, the BMR has agreed to print this insert. The cost is being covered by an online crowd funding campaign. We are starting with 2 pages and hope to expand to 4, if funding allows. In future issues we hope to add material from local citizen's organisations, letters from citizens, as well as an interesting facts about our Town section.

If you like what you see and want to see it continue, please follow the link below and donate to keep us going. <https://www.gofundme.com/Citizens-Page-in-the-Blue-Mts-Review>

Donations can also be made to the Citizens Pages care of The Blue Mountains Review and be dropped off at Riverside Graphics in Clarksburg.

Town Council Roundup

Nov. 14th, Committee of the Whole

Council met to consider the Town's Workplace Harassment and Violence Program and received [staff report FAF.16.99](#). The entire report can be found on the Town website under Nov. 14, 2016

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE under Local Government/ Minutes and Agendas

Council directed that "Independent Mediation" be a part of the Dispute Resolution Process AND THAT staff be directed to revise the draft and bring a report back to the December 5 Committee of the Whole meeting, and THAT staff to engage the Town's Human Resources Lawyer to provide an opinion on including "Independent Mediation" AND THAT the Town's Human Resources solicitor provide any other suggested best practices to the policy.

Nov. 21st, Special Meeting of Council

Council received [Staff Report PDS.16.128 entitled "STA Licensing Program: Responsible Person Provisions Overview"](#) and reaffirmed a "zero

tolerance" policy with respect to the enforcement of the Noise By-law within residential neighborhoods with licensed STA premises and Staff was directed to provide Council with options for the delivery of By-law Enforcement services after normal business hours, including evenings and weekends Staff was also directed to continue the OPP and By-law Enforcement Pilot Project until Council has reviewed the delivery of By-law Enforcement services during the 2017 budget process.

Council also approved [Staff Report FAF.16.102 on Revisions to POL.COR.07.05 Purchasing of Goods & Services Policy](#) approving amendments to the

Purchasing of Goods & Services Policy which give staff more authority over spending by removing council from the tendering process for projects that are within the annually budgeted amounts. Councillor Seguin called for a recorded vote. Councillors Seguin and Gamble voted against the amendments.

Full versions of both reports can be found on the Town website under the tab for this meeting under Local Government/ Minutes and Agendas

Citizens at the

THE CORNER

CAFÉ & GRILL

Come out and meet people who are interested in what is going on in the Town, and what is before Council. All citizens are invited to drop in at the Community Room at Corner Café on Monday nights between 4 and 7 for some socializing and friendly discussion on the issues facing the Town and what is on the Council Agenda.

Come, meet new friends, listen, and have your say.

Rules: Be polite, respect other peoples opinions, and if you don't agree with them, just remember: They have the right to be wrong.

Know your businesses

This months business: The Corner Cafe

- 1.What year was the building now housing the Corner Café built? a) 1860 b) 1880 c) 1905
- 2.What was the name of the restaurant that operated there before the Corner Café?
- 3.What is the item on the menu which is a tribute to the history of the building? For answers see next page

This insert is brought to you as a public service to provide citizens information about issues facing their Town. It is funded by the citizens of the Town through online contributions. If you like this page and would like to keep it alive, please donate by following the link <https://www.gofundme.com/Citizens-Page-in-the-Blue-Mts-Review> To contact us with your letters, ideas, and suggested content please e-mail tbcitizens@gmail.com

Citizens Pages in the Blue Mountains Review

Library news

The following is a summary selected from the [Minutes of the Sept. 15th Blue Mountains Public Library Board Meeting](#)

Paul Wilson the acting Chair of VOCAL, questioned if there is any evidence that library services were needed in Craighleith, and said he would like to see the attendance records at the Depot. Mr. Wilson noted that the Library CEO is responsible for maintenance of the library, but noted that a recent staff report indicated little evidence of preventative maintenance.

Mr. Wilson then questioned why a document submitted to the Library Board following the March 8 restructuring outlining grievances staff had with the CEO was not taken more seriously.

Chair McKean noted that the Library restructuring has been discussed many times, and that there is information that cannot be shared with the public.

Kristin Schnelten noted that she was disbelieved at the dismissal of the library staff and noted that the Library Board should have done the right thing. Kristin noted that the community has changed, further noting it is not right for the Library Board to hold secret meetings.

Kristin noted that the Library Board should demonstrate its autonomy from the Town and should reach out to patrons for consultation before making decisions on important issues. Julia Hinds questioned how the library roof was allowed to fall into such a state of dis-repair, which is now costing the taxpayers \$300,000. Julia noted Director of Community Services Shawn Everitt confirmed that his department took over maintenance of the Library building in 2016, and prior to that time it was the responsibility of the Library Board and the CEO. Julia noted the Library Board is responsible for the CEO's actions. The full minutes can be found on the Town website under the tabs Local Government/ Minutes and Agendas under the Nov. 28, 2016 COUNCIL MEETING.

Breaking news

Councillor Seguin files for Judicial Review

Councillor Michael Seguin has filed for a judicial review of the sanctions imposed on him by the TBM Council in response to a complaint against him by the TBM CAO Troy Speck on behalf of himself and all town staff. When contacted by the Citizens Pages for comment, Councillor Seguin responded, "I am reluctant to comment at this time as the issue is before the courts. I will let the process take its course and I am confident that in the end the truth will come out and I will be vindicated." The NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO DIVISIONAL COURT FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW filed in ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE (DIVISIONAL COURT) in Barrie, Court File: 16-1512 includes the following statements:

- In or about May 2016, the Applicant was the subject of a complaint purportedly for breach of the town code of conduct (the Complaint"), filed by Mr. Troy Speck ("Speck"), Chief Administrator of the Town, which was filed on behalf of Speck and all Town Staff of the corporation of the Town;
- The Complaint did not include any allegations of breach of the *Human Rights Code*, the Town's harassment policy, or of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*, and the Applicant had no opportunity to address any such allegations in the course of responding to the Complaint;

The Notice claims:

- The Town erred by depriving the Applicant of procedural fairness and natural justice in the conduct of the Investigation, and in depriving the Applicant of his right to fully and fairly respond to the Complaint in an unbiased forum, in keeping with the obligations of the *Municipal Act* and the *Statutory Powers Procedure Act*;
- The Town committed an error of law and jurisdiction in purporting to adjudicate an alleged complaint of a breach of the Occupational Health and Safety Act and further erred by purporting to adjudicate such a complaint when no such complaint was made and where the Respondent was deprived of any opportunity to respond to such allegations;

We will have to wait to see how the Town responds.

Answers to know your businesses

1. 1880
2. Wong's Restaurant
3. "Wong Ton" Soup

This insert is brought to you as a public service to provide citizens information about issues facing their Town. It is funded by the citizens of the Town through online contributions. If you like this page and would like to keep it alive, please donate by following the link <https://www.gofundme.com/Citizens-Page-in-the-Blue-Mts-Review> To contact us with your letters, ideas, and suggested content please e-mail tbcitizens@gmail.com