PRESENT: Councillor B. Bratina (Chair), J. Hawker, M. Pocius, K. Drewitt, B. Goodman

ABSENT: Councillor M. McCarthy
L. Petrou

ALSO PRESENT: M. Field, R. Morello, B. Smith, A. Winning – Public Works
R. Marini, M. Marini, L. Browett M. Fortunato – Planning and Economic Development
D. Reid – Councillor’s Office
A. Rawlings – Clerk’s Office

THE TASK FORCE ON CLEANLINESS AND SECURITY IN THE DOWNTOWN CORE PRESENTS REPORT 10-001 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. **Funding for the Downtown Ambassador Programme**

That the Task Force supports the Downtown Ambassador Programme and requests that the funding for the continuation of the Ambassador Programme into the Fall be included in the Planning and Economic Development 2010 budget.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:

(a) The meeting was called to order at 1:35 pm by Councillor Bratina.

(b) **Changes to the Agenda (Item 2)**

There were no changes to the agenda.

On a Motion, (K. Drewitt/J. Hawker), the agenda was approved as presented.
(c) **Declarations of Interest (Item 3)**

There were none.

(d) **Minutes of Previous Meetings (Item 4)**

(M. Pocius/K. Drewitt)

That the minutes of the meeting of October 30, 2009 be approved.

(e) **PRESENTATIONS**

(i) **New Focus on Downtown Cleanliness – Blair Smith, Manager of Waste Collection, Public Works (Item 5.1)**

Blair Smith provided an overview of his handout. Copies were provided to the group.

Committee members asked a number of questions, and staff responded as follows:

- Public Works staff does street sweeping and sidewalk washing
- Details of sidewalk poster kiosks being finalized, will be implemented as pilot projects in some Downtown BIA Areas, prototype has been designed
- 2004 Budget Enhancements are being worked on, some of staff working in Downtown were part-time, will now be full-time
- three FTE’s now working all year, seven days a week, providing two passes Downtown
- service area for Downtown sweeping includes King and Main, “as requires street sweeping” has no specific definition, but staff will accept requests from BIA’s, intent is to do better
- where Council approved new litter containers, to be emptied twice daily, at a cost of $115,000, some containers are emptied more often
- will come back pre-2011 Budget in October, to discuss what future requirements are
- new containers for litter, with locked lids are not yet available, are being manufactured
- Anne Winning is new contact for work formerly carried out by Ramona Maharaj
- Vacuum sweeper to clean sidewalks, should be on road by 4:30 am
- Will check whether his staff cleaning the sidewalks are reporting sidewalk cracks, faults, etc.
- Dwayne ext 4289, cell 905-973-1985, is staffer to call for street cleaning problems
- No sidewalk flushing, just power sweeping now.
Councillor Bratina expressed concerns respecting need to re-focus City efforts in Downtown, issues of cleanliness and security are still holding City back, overall need to work together, use budget and get Downtown to look presentable

On a Motion (Pocius/Hawker), Committee received the presentation.

(ii) **Downtown Ambassador Programme 2010-02-23**

Maria Fortunato, Tourism Hamilton, gave an overview of the programme. Copies of her handout were provided to the Task Force.

Chair Bratina asked if Maria Fortunato could make this presentation at COW, and introduce the Downtown Ambassadors.

Chair Bratina advised that the current Economic Development and Planning recommendations to the 2010 Budget Process did not include the continuation of the programme into the Fall.

Committee approved a Motion to support the continuation of the Ambassador Programme into the Fall (see Item 1).

Chair Bratina requested that staff and participants in the Ambassador Programme present a wrap-up to the Committee.

(f) **Updates from Last Meeting/Other Business**

(i) **Lighting Study Update – Mike Field (Item 6.1)**

Mike Field gave an update respecting the Lighting Study. A draft of the report received, staff now working on it, expected that a second meeting with Task Force will be arranged in late March, 2010.

Chair Bratina requested an update on the Lister Block.

Ron Marini noted that he would request staff to get information on the streetscape and email to Kathy Drewitt and Mary Pocius.

(ii) **Hess village Community Liaison Committee – update (Bob) (Item 6.2)**

Donna Reid provided an update.

Proposed new by-law regulations for nightclubs explained.
(iii) Update on Downtown Stakeholders Group (Item 6.3)

Chair Bratina noted that this group seems to mirror the work and operations of the Task Force. He added that he would talk to the City Manager about this then e-mail the group.

Kathy Drewitt gave an overview of the article on this group that she saw in The Spectator. Suggested that social services representatives should attend this Task Force, but that they really should.

Chair Bratina confirmed he would report back after talking to Chris Murray.

The Chair then noted that he intended to invite the new Police Chief, Glen DeCaire, to address the Task Force.

The Clerk was asked to work on this, with the understanding that the Chief is very busy and should be invited for a 5 or 10 minute slot.

(g) Other Business

Chair Bratina thanked John Hawker for his notes, and suggested that the Clerk review the information provided and look at putting the appropriate items on the next Agenda.

Brian Goodman gave an update on the Stinson Condo, and noted that Harry Stinson is close to getting 50% sold.

Ron Marini noted that, while there had been no new residential conversions in the Downtown in 2009, there had been $100m of construction dollars in the area, including the Library, Farmers’ Market, and City Hall, all of which support the Downtown Structure.

Chair Bratina agreed, noting the hope for future development including the Education Centre, Otis at Main/Bay/George, the possibility of a Mohawk presence in the Downtown, and the expected GO Station at James Street.

(h) Adjournment

On a motion (Pocius/ Goodman), the meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Councillor Bob Bratina, Chair

Alexandra Rawlings
Co-ordinator
February 5, 2010