

Windsor, Ontario November 5, 2013

A meeting of the **Housing Advisory Committee** is held this day commencing at 9:00 o'clock a.m. in the Board Room, 1266 McDougall, there being present the following members:

Marina Clemens, Chairperson
Councillor Ed Sleiman
Anna Angelidis
Bill Bijl
Frank Duralia
John Elliott
Dave Foley
Steve Govette
Elayne Isaacs
Heather McNamara
Cheryl Porter
Paul Renaud
Jim Steele
Linda Wilson

Regrets received from:

Gary McNamara

Also present are the following resource personnel:

Chris Aspila, Policy Planning
Judith Binder, CMHC
Tricia Brisebois, Manager, Residential Support Services
Debbie Cercone, Executive Director of Housing & Children's Services
Rob Oleynik, Program Coordinator, Housing & Children's Services
Karen Kadour, Committee Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairperson calls the meeting to order at 9:00 o'clock a.m. and the Committee considers the Agenda being Schedule "A" **attached** hereto, matters which are dealt with as follows:

2. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT

None disclosed.

3. **MINUTES**

Moved by Councillor Sleiman, seconded by F. Duralia,
That the minutes of the Housing Advisory Committee at its meeting held
September 19, 2013 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.
Carried.

4. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

4.1 **Windsor-Essex 10 Year Housing & Homelessness Plan**

The presentation entitled “Windsor-Essex Housing and Homelessness Plan –
Presentation to the Social Development, Health and Culture Standing Committee –
November 6, 2013 prepared by SHS Consulting” is **attached** as Appendix “A”. D.
Cerone provides the highlights of the presentation as follows:

- Housing Services Act requires Service Managers to prepare 10-year Plans
- Purpose is to provide a comprehensive approach to delivering a system of housing and homelessness service
- Accessing the right housing and services is complicated. There is a lack of awareness of available services and a lack of coordination among the services provided.
- Housing supports are limited and are not always appropriate for what the person needs. Mental illness, substance abuse/addictions, and physical and developmental disabilities are all risk factors to homelessness. Key stakeholders noted that adequate supports are not available to many of the individuals with these challenges.
- In 2012, 392 people from the City and 127 people from the County received emergency hotel assistance.
- There are 2,300 to 2,400 households waiting to be housed in social housing at any given time.
- Strategies include – implement coordinated access to housing and homelessness services; establish information sharing platform and establish practice of coordinated discharge planning.
- In terms of rental housing the following strategies are provided – review social housing eligibility policies; review financial assistance for homeowners renovation and repair eligibility policies; establish policies to support secondary suites; increase households receiving rental assistance; conduct a rationalization assessment of the social housing stock and investigate opportunities to bring rental housing in poor condition into compliance with standards.

D. Cercone advises there are no “family shelters”. Rather, families are generally accommodated at local hotels then on to housing units and eligibility is determined if the family will be housed in a rent supp unit or geared to income housing.

The Chair indicates seven members of HAC participated in the process of developing the 10 Year Housing & Homelessness Plan.

R. Oleynik states it is the role of HAC to monitor implementation of the 10 Year Housing & Homelessness Plan.

J. Binder advises the Plan is a “quality of life expectation”; Windsor-Essex County is an intrinsic blend of what the City/County needs to build a healthy community. She notes this plan is “people centred”. She states the measurement of the 10 Year Plan looks at the quality of life and income changes.

J. Elliott leaves the meeting at 10:00 o’clock a.m.

4.2 Secondary Suites

C. Aspila provides the following salient points of discussion as it relates to secondary suites:

- Recommendation through Official Plan to review secondary suites
- Province of Ontario is the official authority for the allowance of secondary suites
- Residents in the University of Windsor area have concerns relating to secondary suites in that area. Planning has consulted every municipality with post secondary institutions.
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- Meeting to be convened with Planning, By-law Enforcement, University of Windsor and area residents
- Preliminary discussions have been held with the Province. No timeline as to when a municipality adopts a by-law relating to secondary suites
- Problem exists relating to unlicensed lodging homes

J. Binder indicates some municipalities, i.e. City of London does not allow secondary suites in the area surrounding a university which becomes a human rights issue. She volunteers to contribute to a brainstorming session in 2014 regarding secondary suites.

The Chairperson suggests the secondary suite issue be listed as an agenda item in 2014.

4.3 Updates from HAC

D. Cercone advises National Housing Day will be held on December 6 , 2013 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Other Place. She notes the 10 Year Housing & Homelessness Plan will be launched at this event.

5. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held in February 2014. The date and location to be determined.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 10:24 o'clock a.m.

CHAIRPERSON

COMMITTEE COORDINATOR