

A meeting of the **Social Development, Health and Culture Standing Committee** is held this day commencing at 9:00 o'clock a.m. in Council Chambers there being present the following members:

Councillor Maghnieh (Chair)  
Councillor Halberstadt  
Councillor Hatfield  
Councillor Jones  
Councillor Sleiman

*Also present are the following from Administration:*

Ronna Warsh, Community Development and Health Commissioner and  
Corporate Leader Social Development, Health, Recreation and Culture  
Debbie Cercone, Executive Director, Housing & Children's Services  
Lucie Lombardo, Executive Director of Long Term Care & Administrator of  
Huron Lodge  
Jan Wilson, Executive Director, Recreation & Culture  
Catherine Masterson, Manager of Cultural Affairs  
Rob Oleynik, Coordinator Administration & Development, Housing & Children's  
Services  
Wendi Eizenga, Executive Initiatives Coordinator Community Development and  
Health Services  
Kathy Kehl, Executive Administrative Assistant  
Agatha Armstrong, Deputy City Clerk

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting is called to order at 9:03 o'clock a.m.

2. **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof**

None disclosed.

3. **Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by Councillor Sleiman, seconded by Councillor Hatfield,  
That the minutes of the meeting of the Social Development, Health &  
Culture Standing Committee held October 12, 2011 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.  
Carried.

4. **REQUEST FOR DEFERRALS, REFERRALS OR WITHDRAWALS**

None requested.

5. **COMMUNICATION**

Moved by Councillor Hatfield, seconded by Councillor Jones,  
**THAT** the update from the City of Windsor 1812 Team dated December 14, 2011 entitled "Update on City Involvement with Bicentennial of the War of 1812 Commemoration" **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Hatfield, seconded by Councillor Jones,  
**THAT** the Terms of Reference of the Family Aquatic & Library Complex – Recreation Operations Facilities Team dated October 25, 2011 **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried.

6. **PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

**Adam Vasey, Director, Pathway to Potential, presentation on their future direction and highlighting their progress to date**

Adam Vasey, Director of Pathway to Potential appears before the committee to provide details of their 2012 action plan, stating that the objective for 2012 will focus on removing barriers in the following three areas; Income, Education and Literacy, Employment and Training, and concludes by stating that Pathway to Potential will continue to employ a comprehensive approach to poverty reduction by playing a supportive role in the following areas; Affordable Housing, Food Security, Transportation, Childcare and Early Learning.

The salient points of discussion relating to the Pathway to Potential 2012 Action Plan are as follows:

- Pathway to Potential is a community-based collaborative strategy for reducing poverty and ensuring social and economic well-being for the residents of Windsor and Essex County.
- Funding is shared between the City of Windsor and Essex County.
- Administration works with the province to secure investments that will assist with poverty.
- Poverty results from barriers to social and economic resources that prevent well-being and access to opportunities in the community.
- There is a provincial campaign to reduce child poverty by 25% over the next 5 years.

- 17% of families are living in poverty.
- 38,000 people living below the poverty line.

**Jim Steel, CEO, Windsor Essex Community Housing Corporation**

Jim Steel, CEO of Windsor Essex Community Housing Corporation appears before the Committee to provide an update regarding their accomplishments for 2011, outlining; Our People; Our Partnerships; and Our Customers.

**Item 3 Food Security Initiative: Community Garden Expansion Strategy**

**Steve Green, Ford City Community Garden**

Steve Green, Ford City Community Garden appears before the committee to speak in support of the administrative recommendation to proceed with a Food Security Initiative in the form of a Community Garden Expansion Strategy, stating community gardens promote a sense of community and creates a safe environment.

**Michele Legere, Food Matters Windsor Essex County**

Michele Legere, Food Matters Windsor Essex County appears before the committee to speak in support of the administrative recommendation to proceed with a Food Security Initiative in the form of a Community Garden Expansion Strategy, stating that community gardens help build community's, and concludes by stating that gardens are a great education tool for children.

**Adam Vasey, Director of Pathway to Potential and Tom Lucier**

Adam Vasey, Director of Pathway to Potential and Tom Lucier appear before the committee to speak in support of the administrative recommendation to proceed with a Food Security Initiative in the form of a Community Garden Expansion Strategy, stating that community gardens assist food banks within the community, and concludes by stating that community gardens support the sense of community.

The salient points of discussion relating to the Community Garden Expansion Strategy are as follows

- Numerous community partners in Windsor and Essex County have been working collaboratively to address food security issues.
- The recommendation focuses the development and implementation of a Community Garden Expansion Strategy, designed toward providing fresh,

nutritious produce to people who cannot afford to purchase/access it themselves.

- Community gardens can reap a positive group identity and valuable tools for creating community.
- There are currently areas in the City and Essex County where community gardening is occurring.
- With Council's approval, the funding for the Community Garden Expansion Strategy would be flowed to community garden expansion initiatives via a grant application process.

Moved by Councillor Sleiman, seconded by Councillor Halberstadt,

**THAT** City Council **AUTHORIZE** Administration to proceed with a Food Security Initiative in the form of a Community Garden Expansion Strategy, with a maximum of \$100,000 in one-time funding for this strategy to be drawn from the Provincial Unconditional Grant, and;

**THAT** City Council **AUTHORIZE** Administration to develop a plan to allocate the provincial funds to support various community garden expansion projects in the City of Windsor and County of Essex, and;

**THAT** City Council **AUTHORIZE** the Community Development and Health Commissioner to enter into agreements with community agencies in the provision of community garden expansion strategies related to poverty reduction and food security for residents of Windsor and Essex County under Provincial Unconditional Grant funding, contingent upon availability of funds and satisfactory in form to the City Solicitor in technical content to the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Service and financial content to the Chief Financial Officer or designate; and;

**THAT** City Council **SUPPORT** in principle the development of a Food Charter for Windsor-Essex County that will guide decision-making about the food system in our region; with the understanding that the final Food Charter will be presented to Council for endorsement at a future date.

Carried.

**Business Plan and Financial Request for 2012 Budget Deliberations –  
Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee**

**Jonathon Liedtke, member of Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee**

Jonathon Liedtke, member of the Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee to provided details of the committees Business Plan and Financial request for 2012 budget deliberations

Moved by Councillor Hatfield, seconded by Councillor Jones,  
**THAT** the Business Plan and Financial Request for 2012 Budget Deliberations (Projected Allocation of Funds for 2012) for the Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee **BE REFERRED** to the 2012 budget deliberations.  
Carried.

**Business Plan and Financial Request for 2012 Budget Deliberations – Seniors Advisory Committee**

**Larry Duffield, Chair, Seniors Advisory Committee**

Larry Duffield, Chair of the Seniors Advisory Committee appears before the committee and is available for questions regarding the business plan and financial request for the 2012 budget deliberations.

Moved by Councillor Sleiman, seconded by Councillor Jones,  
**THAT** the Business Plan and Financial Request for 2012 Budget Deliberations for the Seniors Advisory Committee **BE REFERRED** to the 2012 budget deliberations.  
Carried.

**New Horizons for Seniors 2011 for the Seniors Advisory Committee**

Moved by Councillor Halberstadt, seconded by Councillor Jones,  
**THAT** Council **CONFIRM AND RATIFY** the withdrawal of the 2011 application/agreement to the New Horizons for Seniors Program by the Seniors Program by the Seniors Advisory Committee, and  
**THAT** the request of the Seniors Advisory Committee to resubmit the application in 2012 **BE APPROVED**, and further  
**THAT** the Community Development and Health Commissioner and the City Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to sign the application/agreement.  
Carried.

7. **COMMITTEE MATTERS**

**Business Plan and Financial Request for 2012 Budget Deliberations – Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee**

Moved by Councillor Hatfield, seconded by Councillor Jones,  
**THAT** the Business Plan and Financial Request for 2012 Budget Deliberations for the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee **BE REFERRED** to the 2012 budget deliberations.  
Carried.

**Minutes of the Board of Directors, Willistead Manor Inc. meeting held June 9, 2011**

Moved by Councillor Hatfield, seconded by Councillor Jones,  
**THAT** the minutes of the Board of Directors, Willistead Manor Inc. meeting held June 9, 2011 **BE RECEIVED** for information.  
Carried.

**Minutes of the Executive Committee & Board of Directors, Willistead Manor Inc. meeting held October 13, 2011**

Moved by Councillor Jones, seconded by Councillor Hatfield,  
**THAT** the minutes of the Executive Committee Board of Directors and the Board of Directors, Willistead Manor Inc. meeting held October 13, 2011 **BE RECEIVED** for information.  
Carried.

**Minutes of the Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee meeting held September 27, 2011**

Moved by Councillor Hatfield, seconded by Councillor Jones,  
**THAT** the minutes of the Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee meeting held September 27, 2011 **BE RECEIVED** for information.  
Carried.

**Minutes of the Housing Advisory Committee meeting held September 29, 2011**

Moved by Councillor Hatfield, seconded by Councillor Jones,  
**THAT** the minutes of the Housing Advisory Committee meeting held September 29, 2011 **BE RECEIVED** for information.  
Carried.

8. **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

**Item 2 Update – Polonia Park 5085 South National Street, Windsor Ontario, Polish Canadian Association Centre of Windsor, Request Ministerial Consent for Mortgage Re-Financing Arrangements**

The salient points of discussion relating to the re-financing arrangements for Polonia Park are as follows:

- Polonia Park began to experience vacancy rate challenges in 2007
- As the economy deteriorated Polonia Park vacancies persisted, creating sustained financial difficulty over the last few years including arrears in property taxes.
- Three mortgages on the Polonia Park development totaling \$5.395M
- The solution was to increase the first mortgage at renewal by approximately \$1M to meet debt obligations
- The group requested assistance from the City as Service Manager to secure additional mortgage funds and/or financial assistance in the form of mortgage loan re-amortization to address financial pressures.
- The Ministry will not consider a request for Ministerial Consent unless the Service Manager supports re-financing proposals.
- CMHC declined to consider mortgage insurance to re-finance Polonia Park for a second time.
- Housing Services has requested the Ministry to ask the CMHC Direct Lending Branch to consider renewing the first mortgage on February 1, 2012 under the new re-financed terms.

Moved by Councillor Halberstadt, seconded by Councillor Sleiman,

**THAT** the report of the Executive Director of Housing and Children Services dated September 30, 2011 entitled “Update – Polonia Park 5085 South National Street, Windsor Ontario, Polish Canadian Association Centre of Windsor, Request Ministerial Consent for Mortgage Re-Financing Arrangements” **BE RECEIVED** for information; and further

**THAT** the Mayor **BE REQUESTED** to review the matter and assist with possible solutions to the re-financing arrangements.

Carried.

9. **ADJOURNMENT & DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 12:00 o'clock p.m. The next meeting of the Social Development, Health & Culture Standing Committee will be held on January 11, 2012 at 9:00 o'clock a.m. in Council Chambers.



CHAIR



DEPUTY CLERK