Community Services Standing Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday, August 03, 2022
Time: 9:00 o'clock a.m.

Members Present:

Councillors
Ward 1 - Councillor Francis
Ward 5 - Councillor Sleiman (Chairperson)
Ward 6 - Councillor Gignac
Ward 9 - Councillor McKenzie
Ward 10 - Councillor Morrison

Clerk's Note: Councillor McKenzie and a member of Administration participated via video conference (Zoom), in accordance with Procedure By-law 98-2011 as amended, which allows for electronic participation.

ALSO PARTICIPATING VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE ARE THE FOLLOWING FROM ADMINISTRATION:

Sandra Gebauer, Council Assistant

ALSO PARTICIPATING IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ARE THE FOLLOWING FROM ADMINISTRATION:

Ray Mensour, Commissioner – Community Services
James Chacko, Executive Director of Parks & Facilities
Andrew Daher, Executive Director of Employment & Social Services
Jen Knights, Executive Director of Recreation & Culture
Kirk Whittal, Executive Director of Housing & Children's Services
Dawn Bosco, Manager of Children's Services
Linda Higgins, Manager of Intergovernmental Funding
Jennifer Tanner, Manager of Homelessness & Housing Support
Sonia Bajaj, Coordinator of Housing Administration & Development
Kelly Goz, Coordinator of Housing Administration & Development
Whitney Kitchen, Coordinator of Housing Administration & Development
Tina Moore, Coordinator of Housing Administration & Development
Anna Ciacelli, Deputy City Clerk / Supervisor of Council Services

1. CALL TO ORDER

Following the reading of the Land Acknowledgement, the Chair calls the meeting of the Community Services Standing Committee to order at 9:00 o'clock a.m.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

None disclosed.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

3.1. Adoption of the Community Services Standing Committee minutes of its meeting held July 6, 2022

Moved by: Councillor Gignac
Seconded by: Councillor Morrison

THAT the minutes of the Community Services Standing Committee meeting held July 6, 2022 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.
Carried.

Report Number: SCM 187/2022

4. REQUEST FOR DEFERRALS, REFERRALS OR WITHDRAWALS

None requested.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

5.1. Additional Information Memo - Before and After School Child Care in the Riverside Area (Ward 6)

Councillor Gignac inquires as to how the administrative report “Canada Wide Early Learning Child Care Update” impacts the situation moving forward as people are looking for qualified early childhood educators. Kirk Whittal, Executive Director of Housing and Children’s Services, appears before the Community Services Standing Committee regarding the Additional Information Memo dated August 3, 2022 entitled “Before and After School Child Care in the Riverside Area” and indicates that there will be an impact although there are strategies that are being considered to try to address the employment situation. Dawn Bosco, Manager of Children’s Services, appears before the Community Services Standing Committee regarding the administrative report “Additional

Information Memo - Before and After School Child Care in the Riverside Area (Ward 6)" and indicates that Administration is working on a comprehensive plan to engage the community to increase early childhood educators across Windsor Essex.

Councillor Gignac inquires as to how the school board is trying to ensure that the programs are available before and after school but does require that the parents are responsible to transport their children to another school. Ms. Bosco indicates that Administration is working with the school boards and are looking for other unique opportunities, i.e. in the Riverside area having staff being able to walk and pick up children to go from one school to another.

Moved by: Councillor Gignac
Seconded by: Councillor Francis

Decision Number: **CSPS 190**
THAT the Additional Information Memo by the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services dated August 3, 2022 entitled "Before and After School Child Care in the Riverside Area" **BE RECEIVED** for information.
Carried.

Report Number: SCM 210/2022
Clerk's File: SS2022

6. PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

6.1. Housing Hub Consultation and Architectural Feasibility Study Update - Ward 3

Valerie Dawn, Architect, Glos Arch + Eng, appears before the Community Services Standing Committee regarding the administrative report "Housing Hub Consultation and Architectural Feasibility Study Update" and provides the following details related to the Housing Hub project:

- During COVID-19, the public facilities closed and stay-at-home orders went into effect, the City of Windsor was quick to make sure people experiencing homelessness had somewhere to go.
- The former Windsor Waterworld was identified as a place that could be occupied for this purpose and the Housing and Homelessness Help Hub (H4) was created.
- H4 is a space that has helped identify and fill the gaps in supporting those experiencing homelessness in this region.
- Information was collected from people who are most impacted by this facility, i.e. people with lived experience navigating homelessness in our region, members of the surrounding community and with every sector of service providers whose work intersects with H4.
- The result is a need for a complete paradigm shift in service delivery as demand and acuity are growing fast and people are getting lost in the gaps.
- Even as an ad-hoc intervention, H4 is having an impact and a permanent wrap-around service hub could change everything.

- A space where people can have their basic needs met, i.e. food, water, rest and hygiene is needed; It needs to be a safe drop-in space where people can show up and know that they will be treated with dignity; It needs to be the front door for diversion and prevention services, the first step that can save so many people from entering into homelessness; It needs to provide coordinated access to services; offering a resource that allows every service provider in this region to operate more effectively/to take advantage of coordinated intake and provide collaborative crisis services as extensions of services.
- We also want this space to be destigmatized with positive common amenities that can be celebrated as community assets.
- We need transitional housing which is a place to stay for a little bit.
- We need permanent supportive housing which is a place to live without losing access to services.

Councillor Gignac inquires about identifying the site and the construction. Ms. Dawn indicates that it will take a year to vet a site and to do the proper diligence, and that it will take four to five years to construct the facility.

Councillor Gignac asks Administration if the funding request for this will be referred to the 2023 Capital Budget. Mr. Whittal responds that there is a request for capital dollars in the 2023 Budget, and adds that the key component is trying to get upper levels of government to commit funding and support.

Councillor Morrison asks Administration to comment on the number of shelters that are available. Mr. Whittal responds that currently there are three shelters in Windsor Essex – the Family Shelter, the Downtown Mission and the Salvation Army; and that this initiative is looking at permanent housing or transitional housing with supports for high acuity individuals which potentially could be sixty-four new homes.

Councillor Morrison inquires whether there is data relating to the number of deaths annually due to homelessness. Kelly Goz, Coordinator of Housing Administration and Development, appears before the Community Services Standing Committee regarding the administrative report “Housing Hub Consultation and Architectural Feasibility Study Update” and indicates that currently they do not keep specific statistics related to that as it is complex to obtain the information from reliable sources.

Councillor Francis asks Ms. Dawn to elaborate on the four to five year timeline and what would expedite that, i.e. if the Province provided the funding or is it locked into that four to five years. Ms. Dawn indicates that certain parts of the project would be difficult to expedite. Ms. Dawn indicates that tightening the site selection process, clarifying funding dollars and being decisive is the best way to expedite the process. Ms. Dawn adds that if the site was known along with the funding dollars confirmed, it would be three years.

Councillor McKenzie inquires whether a case will be made to senior levels of government to include funding to support the operational side of what is being contemplated. Ms. Goz indicates that as administration continues to work with our community partners, they are leveraging other

sector staffing and resources but also continue to seek out additional funding for opportunities around ongoing operating funding related both to the service hub and the supports that would be required in the housing unit should that also be the will of Council. Ms. Goz responds that part of the next steps once the site selection is identified will include talking to the neighbouring businesses advising what the intention of the program is; it is going to be an expansion or enhanced model of the current H4 so it is not intended to be a duplication, rather an enhancement that will service the broader community.

Councillor McKenzie asks Ms. Dawn if some sites have been considered or if there is a narrower version of some of the areas that are under consideration. Ms. Dawn responds that specific sites have been explored; however, at this time, they do not have clarity of which sites can move forward but none of those sites are considered real or viable enough to bring forward at this time.

Councillor Francis inquires whether this model will this presented to the province as a pilot project, as an innovative piece that essentially can be cut and pasted into other communities in Ontario and Canada. Ms. Goz indicates that they are innovating, and are early adopters in this program and using all of the best practices that they have been overseeing for the last seven years and it is working.

Moved by: Councillor Gignac
Seconded by: Councillor Morrison

Decision Number: **CSPS 191**

a) THAT the report of the Coordinators of Housing Administration and Development dated June 27, 2022 entitled “Housing Hub Consultation and Architectural Feasibility Study Update” **BE RECEIVED** for information; and,

b) THAT the Commissioner Human and Health Services **BE AUTHORIZED** to **APPROVE** and **SUBMIT** applications and related submissions and amendments to secure capital and operating funding related to the development and implementation of the Housing Hub and any subsequent programs or program extensions, provided they are in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, satisfactory in financial content to the City Treasurer, and technical content to the Executive Director of Housing and Children’s Services, provided that any submission or amendments do not exceed the funding in the approved budget in each respective year; and,

c) THAT the Executive Director, Housing and Children’s Services **BE AUTHORIZED** to pursue additional funding opportunities, and take any action as required to reduce the amount of funding that may be requested from the municipal tax base; and,

d) THAT the City Clerk and Chief Administrative Officer and City Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to **EXECUTE** Funding Agreements and any related documents, amendments and/or extensions between the City of Windsor and relevant funders related to capital or operating funding for the Housing Hub, provided that the Funding Agreements and any related documents, amendments and/or extensions are in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, satisfactory in financial content

to the City Treasurer, and technical content to the Commissioner of Human and Health Services and Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services, provided that any agreements do not exceed the funding in the approved City budget in each respective year; and,

e) THAT for the duration of the programs the Commissioner of Human and Health Services **BE AUTHORIZED** to submit any necessary reports and documents required by the respective provincial and/or federal ministry and/or other funder(s) to remain in compliance with mandatory reporting requirements under the program(s) provided they are satisfactory in financial content to the City Treasurer, and in technical content to the Executive Director, Housing and Children's Services; and,

f) THAT the Executive Director, Housing and Children's Services **BE AUTHORIZED** to **ENGAGE** with Real Estate to explore and identify potential sites that meet the minimum requirements identified through Glos Arch + Eng's Architectural Feasibility Study; and,

g) THAT the Chief Administrative Officer and City Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to enter into agreements to conduct any necessary preliminary work needed to determine the viability of potential sites that aligns with the requirements identified through Glos Arch + Eng's Architectural Feasibility Study and that is in accordance with the purchasing bylaw, provided that such agreements and any related amendments and extensions are in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, satisfactory in financial content to the City Treasurer, and technical content to the Commissioner of Health and Human Services and Executive Director of Housing & Children's Services where the costs do not exceed the $200,000 municipal funding currently allocated to the Housing Hub in Capital project 7221048 – H4 Housing Hub; and,

h) THAT the Executive Director, Housing & Children's Services **REPORT BACK** on:
- potential sites for the Housing Hub
- the findings of the preliminary work completed to support a recommendation to enter into negotiations to acquire and/or build and/or renovate a property
- the outcome of applications made related to capital and/or operating funding
- any capital funding required for the acquisition, renovation or construction of the proposed Hub, as well as for any ongoing operating funding required to maintain the asset and deliver the services; and further,

i) THAT City Council **ENDORSE** the draft motion to request the Province of Ontario to increase capital and operating investments in affordable and supportive housing to mitigate homelessness as requested through the Urban Commissioners Group for consideration at the Regional Single Tier CAO table:

WHEREAS homelessness in Ontario is on the rise; and,

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has released More Homes More Choice, Ontario's Housing Supply Action Plan; and,

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has released Ontario's Community Housing Renewal Strategy; and,

WHEREAS Ontario's housing action plans do not address the need for supportive housing; and,

WHEREAS Ontario's most vulnerable populations require access to supports to maintain their housing and their health; and,

WHEREAS the absence of permanent housing with adequate onsite supports is a key driver of homelessness and recidivism to homelessness; and,

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario requires municipal Service Managers to collect detailed, up-to-date information from individuals experiencing homelessness through the use of by-name-lists; and,

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario identifies the use of by-name lists as an innovative approach to help connect people with local housing and homelessness supports that better respond to their needs and improve access to supportive housing; and,

WHEREAS municipalities and Service Managers are stretching beyond their funded limits and mandates to provide supportive housing in their communities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario acknowledge the need for immediate action and flow capital and operating funding to municipalities and Service Managers in Ontario to lead the development of critical supportive housing programs.

Carried.

Report Number: C 112/2022
Clerk's File: GH/11710

7. COMMITTEE MATTERS

7.2. Report No. 130 of the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee - Accessibility remediation of 18,000 pages for the City of Windsor website

Gayle Jones, Diversity / Accessibility Officer, appears before the Community Services Standing Committee regarding "Report No. 130 of the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee - Accessibility remediation of 18,000 pages for the City of Windsor website" and is available for questions.

Moved by: Councillor Gignac
Seconded by: Councillor Francis

Decision Number: **CSPS 193**
THAT Report No. 130 of the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee of its meeting held May 10, 2022 indicating:

> That APPROVAL BE GIVEN to an expenditure in the upset amount of $50,000 from the Non-Built Capital Fund 7086008 (Accessibility) for accessibility remediation of eighteen thousand (18,000) pages of complex/difficult to remediate documents for the City of Windsor website.

BE APPROVED.
Carried.

Report Number: SCM 185/2022
Clerk's File: MB2022

7.1. Minutes of the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee of its meeting held May 10, 2022

Councillor McKenzie refers to the discussion held at the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting (WAAC) relating to Transit Windsor services and asks Administration to forward that excerpt of the minutes to the Chair of the Transit Windsor Advisory Committee.

Councillor McKenzie invites the Chair of WAAC and/or delegates to speak to the Transit Windsor Committee regarding the concerns that were raised.

Moved by: Councillor Francis
Seconded by: Councillor McKenzie

Decision Number: **CSPS 192**
THAT the minutes of the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee of its meeting held May 10, 2022 **BE RECEIVED**; and further

THAT the minutes of the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee of its meeting held May 10, 2022 **BE REFERRED** to the Transit Windsor Advisory Committee to be considered at a future meeting of that committee.
Carried.

Report Number: SCM 173/2022
Clerk's File: MB2022

7.3. Report No. 14 of the Housing & Homelessness Advisory Committee - Barriers faced by the 2SLGBTQIA+ community in finding appropriate housing and housing services

Councillor McKenzie advises that he is a member of HHAC and refers to the presentation brought forward by Trans Wellness Ontario representing members from the 2SLGBTQIA+ community; and adds that a letter from Marina Clemens, Chair of the at the Housing and Homelessness Advisory

Committee.(HHAC) was provided to Council supporting the motion brought forward along with a memo from Kirk Whittal that Administration has undertaken a process to address some of the concerns that were raised at the meeting. Councillor McKenzie requests that the committee endorse the motion brought forward at the Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee.

Moved by: Councillor McKenzie
Seconded by: Councillor Francis

Decision Number: **CSPS 194**
THAT Report No. 14 of the Housing & Homelessness Advisory Committee of its meeting held June 21, 2022 indicating:

> WHEREAS, members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community face barriers to finding appropriate housing and housing services in Windsor/Essex in disproportionate numbers and,
>
> WHEREAS the barriers faced are multi-faceted and complex including institutional, administrative as well as discriminatory,
>
> THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee recommends that the City of Windsor Administration consult with community partners in Housing, Social Services and appropriate community advocacy groups including Trans Wellness Ontario and others to bring forward recommendations for both Windsor City Council and County of Essex Council consideration to address the housing challenges faced specifically by the 2SLGBTQIA+ community.

BE APPROVED.
Carried.

Report Number: SCM 172/2022
Clerk's File: MB2022

7.4. Minutes of the Meetings of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, Willistead Manor Inc., held June 9, 2022

Moved by: Councillor Gignac
Seconded by: Councillor Morrison

Decision Number: **CSPS 195**
THAT the minutes of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, Willistead Manor Inc., of its meeting held June 9, 2022 **BE RECEIVED**.
Carried.

Report Number: SCM 205/2022
Clerk's File: MB2022

7.5. Report No. 116 Willistead Manor Inc.

Moved by: Councillor Francis
Seconded by: Councillor Gignac

Decision Number: **CSPS 196**
THAT Report No. 116 of the Board of Directors, Willistead Manor Inc., of its meeting held June 9, 2022 indicating:

That the resignation of C. Dettinger from the Board of Directors, Willistead Manor Inc. BE ACCEPTED.

BE APPROVED.
Carried.

Report Number: SCM 206/2022
Clerk's File: MB2022

8. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

8.1. Windsor Essex Community Housing Corporation - Naming of the Meadowbrook Affordable Housing Development - Ward 8

Moved by: Councillor Gignac
Seconded by: Councillor Francis

Decision Number: **CSPS 197**
THAT the report of the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services dated August 3, 2022, regarding the naming of the 3100 Meadowbrook Passive House development **BE RECEIVED** for information.
Carried.

Report Number: S 92/2022
Clerk's File: GH/6905

8.2. Canada Wide Early Learning Child Care Update (City Wide)

Councillor McKenzie asks for the uptake in terms of registering for eligibility. Ms. Bosco indicates that they opened up their applications available to all licensed child care facilities in Windsor Essex at the end of June 2022, and they continue to receive applications with a deadline of September 1, 2022 to apply.

Councillor McKenzie inquires as to the percentage of service providers who have applied. Ms. Bosco advises that they have not met the fifty percent mark at this time.

Councillor Sleiman inquires about the school board involvement, Ms. Bosco responds that they regularly communicate with the school board as they are part of their committees, although this is a funding agreement between the city and the child care providers directly.

Councillor Gignac asks in terms of day care providers and reaching out to participate in the program, she expresses concern that they may not be able to staff properly and what the role of the city will be related to this. Ms. Bosco indicates that due to COVID-19 and child care centres closing, child care programs lost many Early Childhood Educators (ECE's), when the centres opened up again, they did not get the uptake of families so there were some spaces available. Ms. Bosco adds that prior to the Canada Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement, the province embarked on a work force initiative understanding that across the province everyone was feeling the pinch with not having enough registered Early Childhood Educators. Administration is hopeful that between the new initiative and having more steady regular hours, that will play a key role along with increasing the hourly wage for the ECE's. Administration will continue to work with the community on this initiative. Administration is also working with the school boards and colleges to acquire more ECE's into the field.

Moved by: Councillor Francis
Seconded by: Councillor Morrison

Decision Number: **CSPS 198**
THAT the report of the Manager of Children's Services dated July 18, 2022 entitled "Canada Wide Early Learning and Child Care Update (City Wide)" **BE RECEIVED** for information.
Carried.

Report Number: S 93/2022
Clerk's File: SS2022

9. QUESTION PERIOD

None registered.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting of the Community Services Standing Committee is adjourned at 10:03 o'clock a.m. The next meeting of the Community Services Standing Committee will take place on Wednesday, September 7, 2022.
Carried.

_____	_____
Councillor Sleiman (Chairperson)	Deputy City Clerk / Supervisor of Council Services