



**CITY OF KINGSTON
ARTS, RECREATION & COMMUNITY POLICIES
COMMITTEE
MEETING NO. 01-2012
Thursday, January 26th, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.
Council Chambers
MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillor Glover; Chair
Councillor Downes
Councillor Hutchison
Councillor Neill
Councillor Osanic
Councillor Schell

STAFF PRESENT

Mr. Wally Ferris, Director, Recreation & Leisure Services
Ms. Lanie Hurdle, Commissioner, Community Services
Mr. James Thompson, Committee Clerk
Mr. Neil Unsworth, Manager, Parks Development
Mr. Colin Wiginton, Manager, Cultural Services

OTHERS PRESENT

Ms. Farrar
Six members of the public

THIS IS NOT A VERBATIM REPORT

MEETING TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Moved by Councillor Hutchison
Seconded by Councillor Neill

THAT Councillor Glover be elected Chair of the Arts, Recreation & Community Policies Committee.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Neill
Seconded by Councillor Schell

THAT Councillor Hutchison be elected Vice-Chair of the Arts, Recreation & Community Policies Committee.

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Neill
Seconded by Councillor Osanic

THAT the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved by Councillor Schell
Seconded by Councillor Osanic

THAT the Minutes of the Arts, Recreation and Community Policies Committee Meeting 09-2011 held on November 24th, 2011 be approved.

CARRIED

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were none.

DELEGATIONS

Ms. Mary Farrar, President, Friends of the Kingston Inner Harbour conducted a PowerPoint presentation regarding potential improvements to Doug Fluhrer Park. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is attached to the original set of minutes located in the City Clerk's Department.

Moved by Councillor Downes
Seconded by Councillor Neill

THAT the Arts, Recreation & Community Policies Committee grant the delegation an additional five minutes to complete their presentation.

CARRIED

Councillor Neill stated that he liked the idea of engaging the First Nations.

BRIEFINGS

There were none.

BUSINESS

a) Community Poverty Reduction Plan

Ms. Hurdle thanked the United Way and the Kingston Community Roundtable on Poverty Reduction for their contributions to the Community Poverty Reduction Plan. Ms. Hurdle informed the Committee that the Community Poverty Reduction Plan does not exclusively pertain to the City of Kingston.

Ms. Hurdle spoke to the Report, the implementation of the Community Poverty Reduction Plan and the composition and mandate of the working groups.

Ms. Hurdle noted that the City of Kingston and the United Way would both provide support to the working groups.

Councillor Neill questioned how the working groups will be established. Ms. Hurdle replied that the working group members will either be identified by an agency or will be selected at large. Councillor Neill asked if staff will be making the selections. Ms. Hurdle responded that staff will make the decisions following consultation with the United Way.

Councillor Downes mentioned that the Kingston Community Roundtable on Poverty Reduction was very successful at breaking down institutional walls. He stated that the various agencies must cooperate to achieve the objective. He asked staff if the representatives of the organizations will have the authority to make decisions on behalf of their organization. Ms. Hurdle stated that the representative's authority will vary depending on the organization. She stated that the intent is to bring the various organizations to the table in order to breakdown silos and to reduce poverty in a sustainable manner.

Councillor Glover provided members of the public with an opportunity to provide comment.

Ms. Matovik expressed concern that the working group members who are actually living in poverty will be drowned out at the working group meetings by the representatives of the various organizations.

Ms. Morey was of the opinion that the Housing and Homelessness Committee serves the City of Kingston rather than the community as a whole. She questioned how citizens can ensure that the Community Poverty Reduction Plan is operating in an accountable fashion.

A member of the public commented that he believes that the Community Poverty Reduction Plan is lacking cohesion or a unified message. He stated that some people are concerned that their voice will not be heard. He suggested that the Kingston Community Roundtable on Poverty Reduction be provided an opportunity to recommend a few strong contributors.

Ms. Cassidy noted that some citizens may require support in order to participate on a working group.

Councillor Downes commented that the Community Poverty Reduction Plan is a very impressive initiative. He commented that the Plan represents a practical start and emphasized that cooperation is important.

Councillor Neill questioned if staff will hold an orientation session for the working group members. Ms. Hurdle confirmed that the working group members will receive some orientation.

Councillor Neill stressed that support be provided to working group members should it be required. Ms. Hurdle indicated that a child care allowance and transportation vouchers are available.

Councillor Glover requested that Councillor Hutchison assume the role of Chair.

Councillor Glover stated that 12,000 people live below the low income cut off in the City of Kingston. He noted that close to 20% of the City of Kingston's population is living on less than the living wage which is 30,000 dollars.

Councillor Glover stated that he is thrilled to see a Skills Development and Employment Working Group.

Councillor Glover resumed the role of Chair.

Moved by Councillor Schell
Seconded by Councillor Osanic

1. **THAT** Council direct staff to continue to work with United Way and other community agencies/organizations to play a role in the implementation of the Community Poverty Reduction Plan; and
2. **THAT** Council direct staff to provide support to Community Poverty Reduction Plan working groups as required; and
3. **THAT** Council recommend that the composition of the Community Supports for Education Working Group, the Health Working Group, the Social Services and Community Supports Working Group and the Skills Development and Employment Working Group include four community members who are living in poverty; and
4. **THAT** staff report back to Council through the Arts, Recreation & Community Policies Committee at least once per year on the implementation progress of the Community Poverty Reduction Plan.

CARRIED AS AMENDED
(SEE MOTIONS TO AMEND WHICH WERE CARRIED)

Moved Councillor Neill
Seconded Councillor Osanic

THAT the motion of Councillor Schell and Councillor Osanic regarding the Community Poverty Reduction Plan be amended to include the following as clause 3:

THAT Council recommend that the composition of the Community Supports for Education Working Group, the Health Working Group, the Social Services and Community Supports Working Group and the Skills Development and Employment Working Group include four community members who are living in poverty; and

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Hutchison
Seconded by Councillor Neill

THAT clause 4 of the motion of Councillor Schell and Councillor Osanic regarding the Community Poverty Reduction Plan be amended to read as follows:

THAT staff report back to Council through the Arts, Recreation & Community Policies Committee at least once per year on the implementation progress of the Community Poverty Reduction Plan.

CARRIED

b) Occupy Kingston Space Option

Ms. Hurdle informed the Committee that the Report stems from a Council recommendation.

Ms. Hurdle indicated that staff has reviewed the availability of community spaces and has met with Occupy Kingston to gain an understanding of their needs.

Ms. Hurdle stated that Occupy Kingston is looking for a secure space to keep equipment and to provide a service to the community. She commented that Occupy Kingston has established a board and are attempting to obtain a not for profit status.

Ms. Hurdle stated that the representatives of Occupy Kingston seem interested in an available space at the Memorial Centre.

Councillor Glover provided the representatives from Occupy Kingston with an opportunity to speak to the Committee.

Mr. Thornton stated that it is the intent of Occupy Kingston to open an Open Source Action Centre.

Mr. Thornton provided Committee members with a document entitled "Occupy Kingston: Open Source Action Centre Report for City of Kingston ARC Committee." A copy of the document is attached to the original set of minutes located in the City Clerk's Department.

Mr. Thornton spoke to the document.

Mr. Thornton stated that the Open Source Action Centre is a grassroots and a cooperative organization. He commented that it is their intent to work with other groups. He indicated that the Open Source Action Centre hopes to be an official partner of Sustainable Kingston. He mentioned that the Open Source Action Centre will operate in a transparent, accountable and open fashion. He reiterated that their goal is to reduce electronic waste.

Mr. Mounsey provided the Committee with an overview of the proposed seed bank.

Mr. Thornton indicated that the Open Source Action Centre will offer their technical services to other organizations for free. He noted that free internet will be provided via the meshnet service.

Councillor Downes questioned how the Open Source Action Centre will handle the electronic waste. Mr. Thornton stated that the Open Source Action Centre has contacted the Ontario Electronic Stewardship and indicated that they will provide recycling contacts. He stated that volunteers will troubleshoot computers at the Open Source Action Centre. He indicated that if a computer is not repairable the parts will be separated. He stated that unusable parts will be transported to an Ontario Electronic Stewardship approved safe drop off site. Councillor Downes stated that the City of Kingston must follow regulations in order to establish a disposal site.

Councillor Hutchison questioned if Occupy Kingston views the proposed space at the Memorial Centre favourably. Mr. Mounsey replied that Occupy Kingston is very happy with the proposed space.

Councillor Hutchison questioned how Occupy Kingston intends to utilize the space at the Memorial Centre. Mr. Mounsey responded that the back room would be used for sorting and storage.

Councillor Hutchison questioned if the Open Source Action Centre has access to transportation to move the electronic waste. Mr. Thornton confirmed that the Open Source Action Centre has access to transportation.

Councillor Hutchison questioned if the Open Source Action Centre will be leasing the space. Ms. Hurdle replied that the existing policy indicates that it costs 5,000 dollars to lease this space annually. She mentioned that there are other agreements available for community organizations. Mr. Thornton stated that the Open Source Action Centre is in the process of applying for grants and are receiving support from other "Occupy" groups.

Councillor Hutchison questioned if the proposed improvements to the space at the Memorial Centre are necessary. Ms. Hurdle noted that no structural changes are required. She stated that the proposed improvements are in line with the work that was done for other tenants at the Memorial Centre. Councillor Neill stated that he believes repairing this space ties into the revitalization of the Memorial Centre. Mr. Thornton mentioned that cement paint would be better than carpet.

Councillor Downes stated that Mr. Giles should be involved with this matter.

Councillor Downes emphasized that he is concerned about the computer maintenance portion of this plan. He commented that the Open Source Action Centre's organizational plan must outline how the storage of the computers will occur. He stated that this initiative must be properly managed from the beginning. He reiterated that electronic waste must be handled in an environmentally responsible manner.

Councillor Osanic stated that she believes the Open Source Action Centre has potential.

Moved by Councillor Hutchison
Seconded by Councillor Osanic

THAT staff be directed to work with the Open Source Action Centre to establish a partnership in which the City of Kingston would provide space in the Memorial Centre subject to the Open Source Action Centre providing a satisfactory organizational plan for their gardening and community computing programs; and

THAT the capital costs for preparing the space for community use do not exceed 4,000 dollars; and

THAT staff review the arrangements and programs eighteen months after the agreement being reached.

CARRIED

The Committee recessed from 8:55 p.m. to 9:05 p.m.

c) **An Update Regarding the Proposed Expansion of the Arts Advisory Committee Membership**

Mr. Wiginton informed the Committee that a Creative City Working Group has been established which reports to the Arts Advisory Committee.

Mr. Wiginton stated that staff requires additional time to conduct the necessary research and to work with the Creative City Working Group prior to making a recommendation.

Mr. Wiginton mentioned that the Grand Theatre Community Advisory Board is also pondering similar issues.

Mr. Wiginton stated that staff must consider how all of the pieces now fit together under the cultural plan.

Councillor Schell commented that the Cultural Plan calls for all sections of the arts sector to be built up in a sensible way.

d) 2012 City of Kingston Arts Fund

Mr. Wiginton spoke to the Report, the roll of the review committee and the changes to administration.

Moved by Councillor Schell
Seconded by Councillor Osanic

THAT the Arts, Recreation and Community Policies Committee accept the revised 'Kingston Arts Council Plan for the Administration of Arts Funding for the Corporation of the City of Kingston Arts Fund in 2012' as the basis for a service level agreement with the Kingston Arts Council (KAC) to administer the 2012 City of Kingston Arts Fund on behalf of the City; and

THAT the Arts, Recreation and Community Policies Committee recommend that Council approve the revised 'Plan for the Administration of Arts Funding for the Corporation of the City of Kingston Arts Fund in 2012'; and

THAT the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to enter into a service level agreement acceptable to the Director of Legal Services requiring that the Kingston Arts Council provide for the administration of the City of Kingston Arts Fund for 2012; and

THAT Council appoint two Councillors and a City staff member to participate on each of the review committees in 2012 (the Operating Grants Review Committee for arts organizations and the Project Grants Review Committee for arts projects.)

CARRIED

e) Motion pertaining to Program and Accommodation Review Committee

Councillor Downes withdrew from the meeting.

Councillor Glover provided the Committee with background information pertaining to the motion.

Moved by Councillor Hutchison
Seconded by Councillor Osanic

THAT the Near Campus Neighbourhoods Advisory Committee following consultation with the Quality of Life Working Group provide input to the Program and Accommodation Review Committee regarding the public elementary and secondary schools that are currently under review in near campus neighbourhoods.

CARRIED

Councillor Downes returned to the meeting.

f) Motion pertaining to proposed Home Ownership Program Policy

Councillor Schell provided the Committee with an overview of the motion.

Councillor Hutchison sought further clarification regarding the proposed amendments to Section 6.4 and 6.5 of the Home Ownership Program Policy.

Moved by Councillor Neill
Seconded by Councillor Schell

THAT the Arts, Recreation & Community Policies Committee defer the motion pertaining to the Home Ownership Program Policy to the Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee for clarity regarding the proposed amendments to Section 6.4 and 6.5 of the Home Ownership Program Policy

CARRIED

g) Motion pertaining to proposed Assignment of Housing Provider Net Operating Surplus Repayable to Service Manager

Moved by Councillor Osanic
Seconded by Councillor Schell

THAT By-Law 2003-88, being a By-Law to Authorize the Establishment of a Social Housing Capital Reserve Fund (Purpose – Create a Sustainable Source of Funding For Capital Projects For Local Not-For-Profit Housing Providers) be amended to reflect the following:

THAT Council approves the allocation of social housing providers' identified net surplus repayable funds to the Social Housing Capital Reserve Fund, and

THAT Council endorses expanded access to the Social Housing Capital Reserve Fund to include the installation of Renewable Energy Systems, and

THAT when and as deemed necessary and appropriate, housing providers which, due to size, economies of scale and varying ability to repay loans, may be approved to receive a forgivable loan rather than a repayable loan from the Social Housing Capital Reserve Fund.

CARRIED

MOTIONS

a) Vision to Revitalize Doug Fluhrer Park

Councillor Hutchison informed the Committee that this motion stems from a request from the Friends of the Kingston Inner Harbour. He commented that staff was enthusiastic about the concept.

Councillor Downes stated that he was supportive of this initiative.

Ms. Hurdle stated that Doug Fluhrer Park could use some rejuvenation. She commented that a number of major projects are already underway. She indicated that staff could not commence this project for approximately two years.

Councillor Downes questioned if it would be possible to make some minor cosmetic improvements in the interim. Ms. Hurdle replied that she would speak to public works.

Moved by Councillor Hutchison
Seconded by Councillor Downes

WHEREAS Douglas R. Fluhrer Park is approximately 2.8 hectares (or 7 acres) in size and has approximately 650 meters of shoreline and is located on Kingston's waterfront immediately north of Kingston Marina;

WHEREAS enhancing and improving Douglas R Fluhrer Park is in keeping with City waterfront initiatives including Richardson Beach Bath House Improvements, Battery Park, Lake Ontario Park, Breakwater Park and the Inner Harbour Trail; and

WHEREAS enhancing and improving lands on the waterfront is identified as high priority in the Official Plan and the Parks and Recreation Master Plan; and

WHEREAS residents have identified the revitalization of Douglas R. Fluhrer Park is of great value to the community including the newly reformed Friends of Kingston Inner Harbour association; and

WHEREAS residents have expressed an interest in volunteering toward improvements in the park; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council authorize City staff to consult with the public to establish a high level vision for Douglas R. Fluhrer Park and report back to the

Arts, Recreation and Community Policies Committee on the potential cost and timing of park enhancement and improvement in support of the resulting public vision; and

THAT staff consultations in forming the vision will include, but not be limited to, such potential stakeholders, in addition to all the residents of the City of Kingston and immediate park neighbourhoods, as the Friends of Kingston Inner Harbour, Kingston Community Health Centres, Cycle Kingston, the Downtown BIA, and MetalCraft Marina; and

THAT it is recognized that any vision of a revitalized Douglas R. Fluhrer Park must accommodate the possibility of a future Wellington Street extension project; and

THAT staff report to the Arts, Recreation & Community Policies Committee by January, 2014 regarding progress on this project.

CARRIED

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

There were none.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Arts, Recreation & Community Policies Committee is scheduled to be held on Thursday February 23rd, 2012.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Schell
Seconded by Councillor Downes

THAT the Arts, Recreation and Community Policies Committee do now adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

