



**CITY OF KINGSTON  
HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 05-2012  
MINUTES**

**Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
1:00 p.m., Councillors' Lounge, City Hall**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Councillor Jim Neill (arrived at 1:15 p.m.)  
Councillor Liz Schell  
Mr. John McDougall  
Mr. David Jackson, Chair  
Ms. Marilyn Birmingham, Vice Chair  
Mr. Terry Bridges  
Ms. Barb Butler  
Mr. Peter Clarke  
Mr. Neal Ritchie  
Mr. Jean-Paul Shearer  
Mr. Chris Stafford

**STAFF PRESENT**

Ms. Jannette Amini, Committee Clerk  
Ms. Lee Campbell, Manager, Housing  
Programs  
Ms. Lanie Hurdle,  
Commissioner, Community Services  
Ms. Susan Powley, Committee Clerk

**OTHERS PRESENT**

4 Members of the Public

**THIS IS NOT A VERBATIM REPORT**

**MEETING TO ORDER**

Mr. Jackson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm.

**CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA**

*Moved by Mr. Clarke  
Seconded by Mr. Bridges*

***THAT*** the agenda and addendum be confirmed as amended to add under 'Delegations':

- *Ms. Margaret Rowe, Executive Director Dawn House – to speak regarding financial concerns for shelters;*

*And to add under 'Other Business:*

- *Invitation to Ms. Michelle LaMarsh, Interval House - to speak regarding Robins Hope Transition and Housing*
- *Strategic Direction Report - Frontenac County Seniors Housing Pilot Project*
- *Visits in relation to Innovative Housing Projects*

**CARRIED**

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

*Moved by Councillor Schell  
Seconded by Ms. Birmingham*

***THAT** the Minutes of the Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee Meeting No. 04-2012 held on Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012 be confirmed.*

**CARRIED**

## **DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None was declared.

## **DELEGATIONS**

### **a) Ms. Margaret Rowe, Executive Director Dawn House**

Ms. Rowe was present to speak regarding financial concerns for shelters. She noted a flawed model with an insufficient per diem amount for a shelter to operate. She provided details regarding the current arrangements between municipalities and the province for the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program.

Clarification regarding the per diem amounts and adjustments for Canada Pension were requested and provided by Ms. Rowe.

It was noted that the solution cannot be determined by this committee as it is a provincial matter. Councillor Neill noted that a motion could be forwarded by the Committee to Council regarding any concerns.

## **BRIEFINGS**

## **BUSINESS**

### **a) Request for Proposal for Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Program (CHPP) Evaluation and Selection Process**

The Information Report of the Commissioner of Community Services (HHC-12-010) was attached to the agenda as Schedule Pages 1 – 5.

Ms. Hurdle provided an overview of the report.

To a question by Mr. Bridges regarding the evaluation criteria which would be used, Ms. Hurdle explained that weighting criteria would be included within the Request for Proposal (RFP).

**b) 2013-2015 Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Program (CHPP) & Homelessness/Housing Strategy Funds (HHSF)**

The Recommend Report of the Commissioner of Community Services (HHC-12-005) was attached to the agenda.

*This report was deferred from the February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012 HHC meeting pending additional information from staff included in this agenda as Report HHC-12-10, Request for Proposal for Consolidated homelessness Prevention Program (CHPP) Evaluation and Selection Process.*

(See Pages 6 – 16)

Mr. Clarke described his concerns regarding a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the allocation of funding to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015 when the City require a consolidated Housing and Homelessness Plan by 2014; the City would have a plan with no funding available to it for two years. He noted that from the point of view of agencies, this would provide more stability, and that it would be easier to administer a 3-year RFP than a 1-year RFP; however, he queried putting together a plan for 2014 when there would already be funded activity from January 2013. He said that funding for any new initiative developed in the City would be shut out until the RFP is in; thus, he would like to see a shorter time period for the RFP.

Ms. Hurdle said the guidelines provided by the province will assist with the process. With a plan in place in 2014, the year could be used to issue an RFP under new criteria.

Mr. Clarke acknowledged the benefit for one year to be used to issue an RFP under new criteria, but questioned the need for two years.

To a question by Councillor Schell, Ms. Hurdle referenced past RFP challenges, and said that the idea this time is to put together a plan based on new guidelines, so that a new funding model can be put together. The timeline suggested for the reduction could be met if everything goes as planned in consultation with the community. Staff have recommended proceeding cautiously understanding that there could be delays. With the time frame suggested, a new RFP could be issued based on the new guidelines from the province. Councillor Schell suggested building in flexibility to allow for any provincial changes with the ODSP payment within the new provincial guidelines so the City isn't locked into a 3-year plan. Ms. Hurdle noted challenges when funding models are changed.

To a question by Ms. Butler, Ms. Hurdle said that when the guidelines come out, likely by the end of this year, it is hoped that there is flexibility regarding funding that comes into the municipality. She said that this is the reason why staff wish to work with key stakeholders before finalizing the funding model. Ms. Butler referenced page 3 of the agenda, and queried the equitability of funding and reapplication for funding by agencies. Ms. Campbell provided examples to explain that this is per diem funding for shelters based on agreements which have been in place. Ms. Hurdle said that the RFP is for the Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Program (CHPP) funding and a small portion of municipal funding which doesn't impact the per diem rate. New provincial

guidelines will open doors for how funding can be used in different ways. A new RFP will be sent out when a new funding model is in place.

Mr. Jackson summarized that shelters have been in place since the late 1980's up to the present time. He noted that beyond a review of statistics, it would be helpful to visit a shelter to see a day to day operation, noting that the provision of shelters for different needs such as those for youth, substance abuse, men or women, represent different levels of complexity and cost.

To a question by Councillor Neill regarding a surplus of funding at the end of the year, Ms. Hurdle advised that a surplus would be carried over on the agency books, that traditionally the monies have not been collected back from the agencies. She questioned whether this approach would be an encouragement to agencies to be more efficient. Ms. Campbell added that quarterly reports are received from agencies in addition to quarterly provincial reports, so there is a monitoring process in place for monies which are expended and clients who are being served.

*Moved by Mr. Clarke  
Seconded by Councillor Neill*

***THAT*** Council approve the issuance of a Request for Proposal (RFP) in 2012 for the allocation of annual Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Program (CHPP) funding and \$150,000 municipal Homelessness/Housing Strategy funds (HHSF) for the period from 2013 to 2014 for homelessness programs and services that meet the Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Program goals and local identified priorities; and

***THAT*** City staff report back to City Council with the results of the RFP with recommendations on the award of funding based on the CHPP goals and the identified gaps and priorities and the evaluation criteria.

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**  
(See Motion to Amend which was Carried)

*Moved by Mr. Clarke  
Seconded by Ms. Birmingham*

***THAT*** the length of the period for the issuance of a Request for Proposal (RFP) in 2012 be amended to replace 2015 with 2014.

**CARRIED**

**c) Housing Programs Reporting**

The Information Report of the Commissioner of Community Services (HHC-12-009) was attached to the agenda as Schedule Pages 17 – 42.

Ms. Hurdle explained the intent of the report which was to provide the committee with information regarding housing programs as well as the wait list.

Ms. Hurdle advised that the wait list for the City will be provided at the next meeting.

To a question by Mr. Jackson regarding the frequency of reports provided, Ms. Hurdle said that wait lists don't change significantly. Mr. Jackson noted that wait list statistics are produced monthly and home ownership lists might not change often. He suggested that routine information with key indicators would be helpful for the committee. Mr. Clarke concurred that provision of monthly wait lists with flagged changes would assist in determining the magnitude of needs.

Ms. Butler, who spoke on behalf of Ms. Birmingham, noted a recent required approval for Door Funding, and queried a 2013 completion date on the 'Housing capital projects' chart on page 30 of the agenda rather than an immediate date. Ms. Hurdle explained that this information was received from Home Base Housing. She explained that currently, they have negotiated a purchase price for the property, that a remediation plan with the provincial government is underway, and she is not aware of the details of the conditions of federal funding and what they will require. Mr. Jackson summarized that the status column notes the remediation plan in conjunction with the Ministry of Environment.

Councillor Neill recalled that the Home Base Housing proposal was sound, and expressed his concern that DOORS funding is desperately in demand across the housing sector. He suggested that the funding be used in a timely fashion. Ms. Hurdle advised that a time frame has been incorporated in the policy so a control is in place.

To a question by Ms. Birmingham regarding a report referenced on page 22 of the agenda, Ms. Hurdle explained that the sale of condos at 382 Bagot Street has included a review of the pricing structure. An OMB challenge has been received for the site plan for that property.

Mr. John Paul Shearer noted that provided there is a certain level of activity and requirements are being met, his experience has been that funding dollars are not called back.

#### **d) Update on the Upcoming Public Meeting – 208 Indian Road**

Ms. Hurdle referred to a public meeting held in November 2011 regarding the potential of a parkette located at 208 Indian Road. The area is an open field with no amenities which was proposed to be declared surplus affordable housing use. Comments received were not in favour of the proposal, and identified the need for the City to provide some maintenance. Another parkette has been identified on the other side of the street at 219 Indian Road. A second public meeting will be held on March 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. for consideration of two single detached homes at 219 Indian Road, and to

describe steps which could be taken at 208 Indian Road in order to make it a more useable space.

Councillor Neill commended the move forward by providing an alternate approach, and that Council will need to recognize if a 'not in my backyard' position is being taken.

To a question by Mr. Bridges, Ms. Hurdle advised that the 219 Indian Road location is sloped, and would only require the relocation of electrical services, and a severance in order to permit the construction of two houses.

Ms. Birmingham expressed concern that residents may not want this housing located in their neighbourhood. She later asked if there was a possibility for two single detached houses. Ms. Hurdle said this would require a zone change.

Mr. Jackson noted the challenge of changes in an older suburban area.

To a question by Councillor Neill, Ms. Hurdle said that a Request for Information (RFI) was issued before with two responses, and based on that RFI, the two parties have confirmed they are still interested.

#### **e) Update on the Community Poverty Reduction Plan**

Ms. Hurdle advised that in the past year the United Way, the former Kingston Community Roundtable on Poverty and the City has been working on the Poverty Reduction Plan. A framework was forwarded from this committee to the Arts, Recreation and Community Services Committee a couple of months earlier. A working group will be required to advance this plan. She noted there is support for this plan from the Arts, Recreation and Community Services Committee and Council.

To a concern by Councillor Neill regarding potential overlaps, Ms. Hurdle advised that information can be provided at the next meeting regarding the objectives of a Housing Working Group. A discussion can be held with invited representatives from the United Way.

Mr. Clarke requested that a copy of the framework be distributed to members in advance of the agenda.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

##### Strategic Direction Report - Frontenac County Seniors Housing Pilot Project

Mr. McDougall referenced a recommendation that Frontenac County determine seniors housing in four townships. Eight meetings are coming up to be held with stakeholders; two will be held in each township, and copies of details will be available.

Mr. Jackson requested that this supplementary information be provided to members.

Visits in relation to Innovative Housing Projects

Mr. Jackson suggested that a visit be undertaken at the building coop at Portsmouth Village following a regular meeting. Councillor Neill suggested that the next meeting be held in close proximity at the Portsmouth Olympic Harbour.

Invitation to Ms. Michelle LaMarsh, Interval House - to speak regarding Robins Hope Transition and Housing

Mr. Jackson suggested that Ms. LaMarsh be invited to attend the June meeting to provide information regarding Robins Hope Transition and Housing which is made available to assist women when they leave Interval House.

Site Visits will be coordinated for other housing projects and information regarding a possible schedule will be provided at the April meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee is scheduled to be held on Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 1:00 p.m., with consideration being given to holding the meeting at Portsmouth Olympic Harbour.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Moved by Councillor Neill  
Seconded by Councillor Schell*

***THAT the meeting adjourn at 2:29 p.m.***

**CARRIED**

