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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 4, 2019

A regular meeting of the Health & Social Services Committee was held on Thursday, April 4, 2019 in Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 9:30 AM

Present: Councillor Chapman, Chair
Councillor Pickles, Vice-Chair
Councillor Anderson
Councillor Carter
Councillor Dies
Councillor Roy
Councillor Wotten
Regional Chair Henry

Also

Present: Councillor Joe Neal

Staff

Present: E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer
D. Beaton, Commissioner of Corporate Services
C. Boyd, Solicitor, Regional Solicitor's Office
H. Drouin, Commissioner of Social Services
J. Finlayson, Manager, Corporate Communications
L. Fortuna, Director, Health Protection, Environmental Health attended for part of the meeting
J. Jenkins, Manager, Population Health attended for part of the meeting
K. Kiproff, Senior Public Health Inspector, Health Protection attended for part of the meeting
R.J. Kyle, Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health
M. Laschuk, Director, Family Services attended for part of the meeting
R. MacEachern, Manager, Health Protection attended for part of the meeting
L. McIntosh, Director, Children's Services
M. Petrusiak, Manager, Health Analytics & Research attended for part of the meeting
N. Prasad, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
S. Rashad, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT

1. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Carter,
(16) That the minutes of the regular Health & Social Services Committee meeting held on Thursday, March 7, 2019, be adopted.
CARRIED

3. Statutory Public Meetings

There were no statutory public meetings.

4. Delegations

4.1 Erin O'Reilly, Housing Options Specialist, Durham Association for Family Resources and Support, regarding issues of housing and affordability related to loved ones who have a developmental disability

Rosemary Smith and Sandy Ciarlariello, Board Members of Durham Intentionally Built Communities Corporation, appeared before the Committee in place of Erin O'Reilly and provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding issues of housing and affordability in relation to loved ones who have a developmental disability.

R. Smith stated that they represent two family housing groups, Imagining Homes and Intentionally Build Community, who are fostered by Durham Family Resources, a family support and resource organization for families and individuals with a developmental disability. She stated that they are looking to be active, contributing partners in creating viable housing solutions for all but especially those most vulnerable. Their goal is for family members with a disability to have safe, affordable and stable housing options in the heart of an ordinary community.

R. Smith stated that they don't want to see segregated disability buildings which are isolated from neighbourhood amenities which seem to promote exclusion from ordinary communities. She stated that large scale buildings and communities that congregate people based on disability or vulnerability are isolating and people become more vulnerable in those types of settings.

R. Smith and S. Ciarlariello advised that families struggle every day with the severe lack of affordable housing options in the Region of Durham. R. Smith stated that parents want their children to experience a natural family life cycle where they can participate in typical community activities including living arrangements apart and separate from their parents.

Moved by Councillor Anderson, Seconded by Councillor Carter,
(17) That R. Smith and S. Ciarlariello be granted a one-time 2-minute extension in order to finish their delegation.
CARRIED

R. Smith and S. Ciarlariello stated that they are requesting the Region help families in the following three vital ways:

1. Provide deeper portable rent subsidies for individuals with disabilities on fixed or limited incomes;
2. Make low cost renovation dollars available to families who wish to modify their existing family home to include a secondary suite or move where a renovation is needed; and
3. Support or approve only the most inclusive and vibrant housing developments where only up to 10% of the total units of any new build would be considered for vulnerable people including those with disabilities.

R. Smith and S. Ciarlariello responded to questions of the committee.

4.2 Helena Finn-Vickers, Corporate Manager of Volunteer Resources and Spiritual & Religious Care, Lakeridge Health, and Sharon Hudson-Alipanopoulos, Volunteer Service Coordinator, Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences, regarding the impact of volunteers involved in regional hospitals

Helena Finn-Vickers, Corporate Manager of Volunteer Resources and Spiritual & Religious Care, Lakeridge Health, and Sharon Hudson-Alipanopoulos, Volunteer Service Coordinator, Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences appeared before the committee to acknowledge the contributions and commitments of Durham citizens as volunteers involved in regional hospitals. They stated that hospital volunteers have the privilege and responsibility to interact with people at vulnerable times and rise to the challenges by understanding their obligations to hospital policies and committing to the scope of their assigned role while helping hospital staff create positive patient experiences.

H. Finn-Vickers and S. Hudson-Alipanopoulos stated that National Volunteer Week is April 7 to 13, 2019. They advised that Volunteer Canada's theme for 2019 is: The Volunteer Factor, Lifting Communities. They stated that in 2018, Lakeview Health involved more than 1600 adults and students who provided over 140,000 hours of volunteer service. They stated that Volunteer Week is an opportunity to reflect that the volunteers lift their community through their fundraising efforts, their leadership roles and their interactions within each hospital.

H. Finn-Vickers and S. Hudson-Alipanopoulos stated that working together, volunteers, staff and partners at Lakeridge Health, can achieve the optimum goal of providing safe, respectful and positive environments where everyone has access to care and the opportunity to participate in society.

H. Finn-Vickers and S. Hudson-Alipanopoulos responded to questions of the committee.

4.3 Nathan Gardner, Partnership and Fund Development Manager, Community Development Council Durham, and Doreen Hume-McKenna, Durham Mental Health Services, regarding the results of the 2018 Point in Time Count

Nathan Gardner, Partnership and Fund Development Manager, Community Development Council Durham, Doreen Hume-McKenna, Durham Mental Health Services, and Rob Adams, Chief Executive Officer, Durham Mental Health Services, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to the results of the 2018 Point in Time Count that was done in April 2018.

N. Gardner stated that the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count is used to survey those who are experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness and seeks to give a better understanding of who is experiencing homelessness in Durham based on demographics, the need for housing, and personal experiences. The PIT Count report provides a snapshot of the nature of homelessness in Durham Region based on the individual surveys conducted during the week of April 16 to 20, 2018.

N. Gardner stated that Registry Week is a coordinated outreach and triage assessment process to develop data on every single individual experiencing homelessness. The purpose is to collect person-specific data on those experiencing homelessness and identify as many people as possible who are provisionally housed. Participants also filled out the Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool survey which will include them in the Region's By-Name list.

D. Hume-McKenna stated that the count was first done in 2017 with a second one done in 2018 and provided an overview of the data collected. She advised that the minimum number of people surveyed for 2018 was 291.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Pickles,
(18) That N. Gardner, D. Hume-McKenna and R. Adams be granted a one-time 2-minute extension in order to finish their delegation.

CARRIED

D. Hume-McKenna stated that they have made great gains with the PIT Count process as many stakeholders who have been working independently are now working together in a more cohesive system to come together to develop solutions.

N. Gardner, D. Hume-McKenna and R. Adams responded to questions of the committee.

4.4 A.J. Kehoe, Durham Region resident, requesting all meetings of the Durham Nuclear Health Committee to be held in the Lower Level Boardroom of Region of Durham Headquarters

A.J. Kehoe appeared before the committee with regards to his request that all meetings of the Durham Nuclear Health Committee (DNHC) be held in the Lower Level Boardroom of Region of Durham Headquarters.

A.J. Kehoe provided the following reasons for the DNHC meetings to be held in the Lower Level Boardroom:

1. The room has recording equipment to webcast meetings on the regional website;
2. The building is safely accessible by transit and wheelchairs;
3. There's a live audio system of microphones and speakers for attendees to hear what is being said;
4. It is a large room with space for people to sit and move around easily; and
5. Durham staff attending these meetings would not have to spend money or time travelling to remote locations.

A.J. Kehoe advised that attending meetings at other locations is difficult for some of the DNHC's regular attendees and is requesting that the DNHC meetings be relocated to the Lower Level Boardroom starting in 2020.

5. Presentations

5.1 Mary-Anne Petrusiak, Manager, Health Analytics & Research, and Jessica Jenkins, Manager, Population Health, regarding Making Children a Priority in our Health Neighbourhoods

M. Petrusiak, Manager, Health Analytics & Research, and J. Jenkins, Manager, Population Health, provided a PowerPoint Presentation with regards to Making Children a Priority in our Health Neighborhoods. A brochure entitled, "Making Children the Priority: Early Childhood Development in Priority Neighborhoods" was provided as a handout.

M. Petrusiak stated that the Health Department divided Durham Region into 50 health neighbourhoods to better understand patterns of health in the community. She provided a screenshot of the health neighbourhoods web page where various reports, summaries for 88 indicators and profiles for all neighbourhoods and municipalities are listed. She stated that the information comes from many different sources and covers topics including self rated health, pre-term birth, teen pregnancy, smoking, emergency visits for various injuries, asthma, and diabetes.

M. Petrusiak stated that the Making Children a Priority Report updates some of the information that is on the website, specifically, demographic data using the 2016 census, and breastfeeding data. The Report also presents data that was previously provided such as rate of police-reported domestic incidents; enhanced 18-month well baby visit; and 6 indicators on school readiness. The Report pulls the information together in a visual format, making the information more understandable.

M. Petrusiak advised that the Report describes the key social determinants of health as described in the Health Equity Guideline that all public health units must implement and provided an overview of some of the findings. She stated that the Report presents indicators for each of the 7 priority neighbourhoods as an infographic, it lists community assets and population numbers, and provides rates on well-baby visits, domestic incidents, breastfeeding and the Early Development Instrument (EDI).

J. Jenkins advised that the health data informs regional programs but also community partners, and has helped create community partnerships and provided opportunities for collaboration and coordination. She provided some examples of how the information has been used.

J. Jenkins stated that the Report is available on the Region's website and will also be shared through various social media platforms.

M. Petrusiak and J. Jenkins responded to questions regarding the importance of breastfeeding as a health indicator; factors related to domestic violence incidents in the City of Oshawa; participation in obtaining breastfeeding statistics and reaching out to those that don't want to participate; and reaching out and educating breastfeeding mothers about maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

6. Health

6.1 Correspondence

A) Correspondence from the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) regarding the 2019 alPHA Fitness Challenge for Board of Health Members

Moved by Councillor Wotten, Seconded by Councillor Pickles,
(19) That we recommend to Council:

That the correspondence from the Association of Local Public Health Agencies regarding the 2019 alPHA Fitness Challenge for Board of Health Members be considered.

CARRIED

6.2 Reports

A) New Regional Smoke-Free By-Law (2019-MOH-2)

Report #2019-MOH-2 from R.J. Kyle, Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health, was received. Revised pages 1, and 6 to 12 of Report #2019-MOH-2 were provided as handouts.

Moved by Councillor Pickles, Seconded by Councillor Anderson,
(20) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That Regional Council approve and pass the attached new Regional Smoke-Free By-Law in the form appended to Report #2019-MOH-2 of the Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health regulating smoking and vaping in public places and the workplace;
- B) That a copy of the approved Regional Smoke-Free By-law be forwarded to lower-tier municipalities requesting their consent to the passing of the by-law and that notice of such consent be forwarded to the Regional Clerk;
- C) That notice of receipt of a triple majority (passing of the by-law by Regional Council and receipt of notice of consent from at least 50% of the lower-tier municipalities representing at least 50% of the electors) and final passing of the by-law be provided to Regional Council by the Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health through an Information Report to Health and Social Services Committee and Council; and
- D) That with the passing of the Regional Smoke-Free By-Law, upon receipt of the triple majority, By-Law 66-2002, a by-law to Regulate Smoking in Public Places and the Workplace, as amended in 2004 and 2007, is hereby revoked.

CARRIED

B) Mandatory On-site Sewage System Maintenance Inspection Program – Lake Simcoe Protection Act, 2008 – Phase II (2019-MOH-3)

Report #2019-MOH-3 from R.J. Kyle, Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health, was received.

Moved by Councillor Carter, Seconded by Councillor Anderson,
(21) That we recommend to Council:

That the Regional Chair and Clerk be authorized to execute any legal agreements and any and all amendments thereto between the Region and the area municipalities with respect to the Mandatory On-site Sewage System Maintenance Inspection Program provided that such agreements are substantially in the same form as per the draft agreement attached to Report #2019-MOH-3 of the Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health.

CARRIED

7. Social Services

7.1 Correspondence

There were no communications to consider.

7.2 Reports

A) Children's Services Division Early Learning and Child Care Update with a focused Fee Subsidy Update and Statistical Report (2019-SS-1)

Report #2019-SS-1 from H. Drouin, Commissioner of Social Services, was received.

Staff responded to questions regarding regional surplus from 2018 that could be used to fund child care spaces; whether there has been discussion with the province with regards to funding; and subsidized daycare spaces supported by local taxpayers. Councillor Joe Neal requested that he be provided with how much tax support goes to subsidized daycare spaces.

Moved by Councillor Carter, Seconded by Councillor Pickles,
(22) That Report #2019-SS-1 of the Commissioner of Social Services be received for information.

CARRIED

8. Advisory Committee Resolutions

There were no advisory committee resolutions to be considered.

9. Confidential Matters

There were no confidential matters to be considered.

10. Other Business

There was no other business to consider.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Health & Social Services Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, May 9, 2019 at 9:30 AM in Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

12. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Carter, Seconded by Councillor Dies,
(23) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:16 AM

Respectfully submitted,

B. Chapman, Chair

N. Prasad, Committee Clerk