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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 5, 2020

A regular meeting of the Health & Social Services Committee was held on Thursday, March 5, 2020 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 9:31 AM

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

Staff

Present: E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer
C. Boyd, Solicitor, Corporate Services – Legal Services
T. Cheseboro, Director and Chief of RDPS
S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, Commissioner of Social Services
S. Grant, Communications Coordinator, Corporate Communications
D. Holmes, Director, Business Affairs and Financial Management
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
R.J. Kyle, Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health
M. Laschuk, Director, Family Services
A. Robins, Director, Housing Services
E. Valant, Program Manager, Housing Services
G. Williams, Director of Communications, Corporate Communications
N. Prasad, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

1. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

2. **Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by Councillor Carter, Seconded by Councillor Pickles,
(10) That the minutes of the regular Health & Social Services Committee meeting held on Thursday, February 6, 2020, be adopted.

CARRIED

3. Statutory Public Meetings

There were no statutory public meetings.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Dies,
(11) That the agenda be altered in order to hear the Presentation from A. Robins, Director of Housing Services, [Item 5.1 A)] at this time.
CARRIED

5. Presentations

5.1 Alan Robins, Director of Housing Services, re: Durham Access to Social Housing (DASH) Waitlist

A. Robins, Director of Housing Services, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to Durham Access to Social Housing (DASH). A copy of the presentation was provided to Committee members.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Legislative Requirements
- Service Level Standards and Wait List
- Other Subsidy Programs
- Subsidy Breakdown
- DASH Vacancies Site
- DASH Waitlist Statistics
- 2019 DASH Activity
- DASH Applicant Information
- What Does the DASH List Tell Us

A. Robins provided an overview of the legislative requirements for social housing. He stated that the DASH wait list is vacancy driven and provides a greater choice to applicants in deciding where they want to live in Durham. He advised that it determines initial eligibility, manages applicants, posts available vacancies to secure site and refers interested applicants to housing providers. He further advised that applicants must register to view and express their interest in vacancies. A. Robins provided an overview of the web page and demonstrated how applicants are able to view vacancies and express their interest in those vacancies.

A. Robins responded to questions with regards to how the service level standard is set by the province; clarification about the Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit; the effects of the Strong Communities Rent Supplement ending in 2024; ways to reduce the wait list; whether the service standards are reviewed yearly; whether the portable housing component will be made long term; encouraging use of the online tool to view vacancies; concerns about the number of families looking for

housing and issues surrounding those situations; and the possibility of looking into matching roommates.

Councillor Carter requested that he be provided with geographical information in relation to sheltered, unsheltered and primary source of income as listed under the DASH Applicant Information slide.

Councillor Pickles requested that he be provided with details regarding the number of people moving into Durham housing that do not reside in Durham.

4. Delegations

4.1 Susan deRyk, Interim President and CEO, Lakeridge Health and Rob Adams, CEO, Durham Mental Health Services re: Durham Mental Health Services and Lakeridge Health Pinewood - Proposed Amalgamation Plan

Susan deRyk, Interim President and CEO, Lakeridge Health and Rob Adams, CEO, Durham Mental Health Services provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Durham Mental Health Services and Lakeridge Health. A copy of the presentation was provided to Committee members via email following the meeting.

S. deRyk and R. Adams stated that transforming local community mental health and addictions services requires removing barriers between providers and working as one team. They advised that an integration of the services offered by Durham Mental Health Services and Lakeridge Health will further improve the coordination of mental health and addictions services and care transitions to provide enhanced access, quality of care and better experiences of people. They further advised that an integration of services will remove barriers that exist between both organizations that prevent the seamless transfer of services and information.

R. Adams advised that they have created an online survey to engage the community and acquire feedback on the following four questions. He encouraged Committee members to submit their feedback through the online survey:

- What are we doing well now that should continue or be improved?
- What are the benefits you see as a result of the amalgamation?
- What unique features of both DMHS and Pinewood would you want to ensure are preserved or enhanced after amalgamation?
- Do you have any other considerations or advice that would be helpful?

S. deRyk and R. Adams responded to questions of the Committee.

5. Presentations

5.1 Alan Robins, Director of Housing Services, re: Durham Access to Social Housing (DASH) Waitlist

A. Robins appeared earlier in the meeting (see pages 2 and 3 of these minutes).

6. Health

6.1 Correspondence

There were no communications to consider.

6.2 Reports

A) The Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) Call for Board of Health Nominations (2020-MOH-2)

Report #2020-MOH-2 from R.J. Kyle, Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health, was received.

Moved by Councillor Pickles, Seconded by Councillor Roy,
(12) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That the nomination of Councillor Bob Chapman for election to the alPHa Board of Directors for a two-year term to represent the Central East region be endorsed; and
- B) That two members of Regional Council be identified to sponsor the nomination and complete the nomination form.

CARRIED

Questions to Health

At the request of Councillor Carter, Dr. Kyle provided a verbal update on COVID-19 and referred Committee members to the regional website as it is updated on a regular basis. Dr. Kyle also responded to questions with regards to whether extra measures are being taken for front line emergency workers; and the best place to be tested if someone suspects they have symptoms and how is this communicated to the public.

7. Social Services

7.1 Correspondence

There were no communications to consider.

7.2 Reports

A) Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI) and Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI) Programs 2019-2020 Take-up Plans (2020-SS-5)

Report #2020-SS-5 from S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, Commissioner of Social Services, was received.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Wotten,
(13) That Report #2020-SS-5 of the Commissioner of Social Services be received for information.

CARRIED

B) 2019 Durham Access to Social Housing (DASH) Wait List Statistics (2020-SS-6)

Report #2020-SS-6 from S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, Commissioner of Social Services, was received.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Wotten,
(14) That Report #2020-SS-6 of the Commissioner of Social Services be received for information.

CARRIED

C) Housing Program Appeals 2012-2019 (2020-SS-7)

Report #2020-SS-7 from S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, Commissioner of Social Services, was received.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Wotten,
(15) That Report #2020-SS-7 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

10.1 KPMG Aviation Sector Analysis re: Pickering Airport

Regional Chair Henry advised that the KPMG Aviation Sector Analysis was just released by Transport Canada and it states there is a projected need for an airport in the City of Pickering by 2036.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Health & Social Services Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, April 9, 2020 at 9:30 AM in Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

12. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Roy, Seconded by Councillor Pickles,
(16) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10:59 AM

Respectfully submitted,

B. Chapman, Chair

N. Prasad, Committee Clerk