
Minutes
Affordable Housing Action Committee
January 12, 2010



PRESENT: Paul Armstrong, Mayor Paul Ayotte, County Councilor Brian Bartlett, Gayl Hutchison, John Martyn, Rosemary O'Donnell, Melinda Rees, Linda Saunders, Dave Taylor

STAFF: Susan Bacque, Cheryl Lyon, Linda Mitchelson, Dorothy Olver, Sally Samis

REGRETS: John Bennett, Katherine Blackwood

GUESTS: Sam Blondeau, Joe Meisenheimer

- 1. WELCOME ~ Paul Armstrong, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order**
Attendees introduced themselves

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Rosemary O'Donnell asked that the Services committee report be moved ahead to after the delegation

Motion that AHAC accept the agenda as amended

M. Melinda Rees

S. Gayle Hutchison

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

December 8, 2009

Melinda Rees submitted an email from Kathy Blackwood regarding her understanding that the funding of the Property Standards study was that the Services committee could put a proposal together with solid numbers and forward to the Mayor. Kathy felt the Mayor's comments were omitted.

Members in attendance at the Dec. 8 meeting said that David Pritchard, Financial Officer required a solid quote or contract by year end and he would see what he could do.

It was agreed that discussion resume when the Mayor arrived at the meeting.

Approval of Minutes of Special AHAC Meeting, December 16, 2009, to deal with possible closure of Warming Room/Our Space

M. John Martyn **S.** Gayle Hutchison

Carried

4. DELEGATIONS

4.1. Homelessness Outreach Workers ~ Joe Meisenheimer and Sam Blondeau

Homelessness Partnering Strategy Presentation was informative, (Copies were distributed and are attached).

Joe and Sam said that most of the eleven deaths were related to lifestyle choices and health and physical conditions.

Services Committee Report ~ Melinda Rees

Melinda presented the proposal for the Property Standards working group, (attached). The proposal was submitted by email to the Mayor and Susan Bacque on Dec. 22, 2009.

- Susan Bacque had two comments, first that it is important that City staff have the opportunity to give feedback. Secondly the study should review repair-funding programs to help landlords repair and upgrade low-income units. It would also be helpful to look to other jurisdictions to see what has and is working.
- Linda Mitchelson suggested refining the request, modifying the timelines and getting input from the various departments.
- There was discussion regarding the cost of the proposal and whether it would be funded from 2009 or 2010.

The Mayor arrived at 3:45, discussion resumed on item 3 ~ Approval of Dec. 8 minutes.

Mayor Ayotte said he received the proposal around December 22nd and had an opportunity to speak with Linda Reed, CAO. She commented that the proposal needed to be tightened up. He hasn't had an opportunity to follow up with her. Linda contacted Susan Bacque for her comments on the proposal.

The Dec. 8 minutes should reflect that the Mayor said he would see what he could do, with the funding for the proposal from any 2009 under spending in the AHAC budget.

Melinda preferred endorsement from AHAC to continue, and said the proposal is a starting point and may change over time.

John Martyn suggested supporting the intent of the proposal, supported by other members

Motion: That AHAC supports the intent of the Property Standards Working Group Proposal

M. Melinda Rees

S. Rosemary O'Donnell

Carried

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

5.1 AHAC Terms of Reference

Members put various amendments/additions forward which were accepted by consensus.

Motion: That AHAC accept the TERMS OF REFERENCE as amended in discussion

M. John Martyn

S. Gayle Hutchison

Carried

5.2 Budget 2010

David Pritchard presented the 2010 AHAC budget at the December 8th, meeting and a Motion was passed to approve at that time. No further discussion needed.

6. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES / WORKING GROUPS

6.1. C.E. Sub Committee

Paul Armstrong reported that there were presentations made in December at eight township council meetings. Work has begun on the 2010 HIF with the CESC meeting every two weeks.

6.2. Supply Sub-Committee

John Martyn reported that they were continuing to look at Affordable Housing targets and will be meeting every third Wednesday starting tomorrow Jan. 13. If interested in attending let Sally in the Housing division know.

6.3. Services Sub-Committee

See Above

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1. Minimum Barrier Shelter ~ Working Group

- Paul Armstrong reported on an emergency AHAC meeting on Dec. 16 to discuss the expiring lease of the Our Space at the Brock Mission site. Our Space has secured a lease at the Orange Lodge on George St N.
- There is a desire to develop a Minimum Barrier Shelter Working Group. This working group will define the need, real costs and real hurdles associated with a Minimum Barrier Shelter to the client group. Linda Mitchelson and Brenda Dales have agreed to be part of this WG as have, Joe and Sam (Homelessness outreach workers).
- Linda Mitchelson said that Social Services Division is bringing an extensive report to Joint Services re: the hard to serve.
- Gayle Hutchison suggested it not be called the Minimum Barrier Shelter Working Group and that something more suited to the people that we are trying to target might be better considered.
- Susan Bacque described work for the City of Toronto on opening three shelters, and that opened the discussion on how to get from temporary to a permanent housing solution. Prevention not management is the key.
- Linda Mitchelson will contact various agencies to see who might else be interested. Paul asked if anyone is interested in participating in the WG to contact him by email.
- Paul and Linda will set up a meeting schedule.

8. ITEMS FOR THE UPCOMING AGENDA

Susan suggested revitalizing the practice of the Community Updates item at the beginning of every agenda.

Motion to Adjourn

M. John Martyn

9. NEXT MEETING:

February 9, 2010 ~ 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. ~ Sutherland Room