

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT 21-2004

Minutes of a meeting of the Public Health Services Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on December 6, 2004, commencing at 12:35 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillors Timms, Chair; Partington, Regional Chair; Almas; Angelone; Baty; Brock; Casselman; Harry; Redekop; Trombetta.

Staff: Mr. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Dr. Sider, Associate Medical Officer of Health; Ms. Reilly, Legislative Assistant.

Staff

Part-time: Mr. Bacchus, Commissioner, Corporate Services; Ms. Biscaro, Director, Population Health; Mr. Christensen, Director, Health Protection & Promotion; Mr. Fuentes, Associate Director, Emergency Services; Mr. Jones, Director, Administrative Services, P.H.; Dr. Klooz, Associate Commissioner of Health; Ms. Loewen, Manager, Sexual Health; Mr. McQueen, Transition Manager, Niagara Ambulance Communication Service; Mr. Spencer, Manager, Sexual Health Program.

CLERK'S OFFICE – CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

221. Procedure to Select the
Committee Chair and Vice-Chair
of each of the Standing Committees

Peter Partington, Regional Chair, called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Public Health Services Committee.

Moved by Councillor Brock
Seconded by Councillor Angelone

That Councillor Baty be nominated for the position of Chair of the Public Health Services Committee.

Carried.

The Regional Chair called a second time for nominations for the position of Chair of the Public Health Services Committee.

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Councillor Timms be nominated for the position of Chair of the Public Health Services Committee.

Carried.

The Regional Chair called a third time for nominations for the position of Chair of the Public Health Services Committee.

Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Councillor Brock

That nominations for the position of Chair of the Public Health Services Committee be closed.

Carried.

There being no other nominations, a ballot vote was taken and Regional Chair Partington, with the agreement of Councillor Timms, declared him Chair of the Public Health Services Committee.

Peter Partington, Regional Chair, called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Public Health Services Committee.

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Councillor Baty be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of the Public Health Services Committee.

Carried.

The Regional Chair called a second and third time for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Public Health Services Committee.

Moved by Councillor Brock
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Public Health Services Committee be closed.

Carried.

There being no other nominations, Regional Chair Partington, with the agreement of Councillor Baty, declared him Vice-Chair of the Public Health Services Committee.

Moved by Councillor Brock
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report CSD 174-2004, December 8, 2004, respecting the Selection of the Committee Chair and Vice-Chair for each of the Standing Committees, be received.

Carried.

(Report CSD 174-2004 is behind the Joint Reports Tab in the Blue Book.)

222. Day and Time of Regular Meetings for Standing Committees

Moved by Councillor Angelone
Seconded by Councillor Trombetta

That Report CSD 175-2004, respecting Day and Time of Regular Meetings for Standing Committees, be received.

That regular meetings of the Public Health Services Committee be held on Monday at 12:30 p.m. in accordance with a schedule approved, from time to time, by Regional Council.

That special meetings be held at such times and such places as may be appropriate, pursuant to the provisions of the procedural by-law.

Carried.

(Report CSD 175-2004 is behind the Joint Reports Tab in the Blue Book.)

ADMINISTRATION

223. Core Service Review Process and Results to Date

Mr. Trojan provided a brief overview of Report CAO 26-2004 outlining the results of the work that has been completed to date as well as an outline for the steps required to complete the review of Core Services. The report highlighted the environmental scan information compiled to date, community consultation efforts and the Council planning process. Staff has proposed some recommended next steps to ensure that Council's priorities identified through the most recent planning exercise are reflected in the services delivered by the Region.

Moved by Councillor Baty
Seconded by Councillor Angelone

That Report CAO 26-2004, respecting Core Services Review Process and Results to Date, be received and referred to Council for decision.

Carried.

(Report CAO 26-2004 is behind the Joint Reports Tab in the Blue Book.)

(Refer to staff direction on page PHSC 112.)

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

224. Potential 2005 Public Health Department Budget Options

Moved by Councillor Brock
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PHD 86-2004, December 6, 2004, respecting Potential 2005 Public Health Department Budget Options, be received for information, and

That Scenario 1 contained in Appendix B be approved and referred for consideration with the overall budget.

Carried.

Councillors Redekop and Timms wished to be recorded as opposed to the foregoing motion.

ADMINISTRATION (continued)

225. 2005 Budget Prioritization Process Update

Mr. Trojan highlighted Report CAO 27-2004 providing the results of the work that has been completed to date, as part of the 2005 Current Budget process. Two options for achieving 2005 budget targets are included in the report for council consideration. The options have been developed from the information available from the ongoing Core Services Review. Each scenario has identified the financial and service related impacts and risks associated with it. The other recommendation in the report related to the budget is that the multi-year financial plan be updated following adoption of any changes to the Council Business Planning document to ensure proper alignment.

Moved by Regional Chair Partington
Seconded by Councillor Angelone

That Report CAO 27-2004, December 2, 2004, respecting 2005 Budget Prioritization Process Update, be received and referred to Council for decision.

Carried.

(Report CAO 27-2004 is behind the Joint Reports Tab in the Blue Book.)

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT (continued)

226. Physician Recruitment

Committee members discussed what the best mechanism for funding for the Physician Recruitment and Retention Program would be and some suggestions included:

- Funding from Niagara Economic & Tourism Corp.
- Examine other municipalities/regions as to how they fund their physician recruitment programs
- Approach Provincial and Federal governments to determine their roles and responsibilities for this health issue (LHINs)
- Public/Private Sector
- What incentives/opportunities can Universities/Colleges offer

Moved by Councillor Brock
Seconded by Councillor Trombetta

That Report PHD 83-12004, December 6, 2004, respecting Physician Recruitment, be received; and

That Council review the appropriateness of continued funding for the Physician Recruitment and Retention Program, as requested by the Niagara District Health Council, and

That funding be approved for this program and that it be funded from a source recommended by staff.

Carried.

227. Early Learning and Child Care
"Best Start" Provincial Announcement

Moved by Councillor Harry
Seconded by Councillor Angelone

That Report COM 83-2004/PHD 84-2004, December 6, 2004, respecting Early Learning and Child Care "Best Start" Provincial Announcement, be received for information.

Carried.

(Report COM 83-2004/PHD 84-2004 is behind the Joint Reports Tab in the Blue Book.)

228. Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs)

Moved by Councillor Baty
Seconded by Councillor Redekop

That Report PHD 87-2004/COM 84-2004, December 6, 2004, respecting Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) be received and forwarded to Council for decision.

That staff explore opportunities for consultation with other LHIN network areas to determine any mutual concerns related to the Ministry's LHIN network area map and its Healthcare transformation agenda; and

That the Region work closely with the Niagara District Health Council and Niagara Health System to ensure local health care issues are known and addressed; and

That the LHIN Information Session in Niagara include invitations to the Niagara District Health Council, Niagara Health System and relevant regional and municipal stakeholders.

Carried.

(Report PHD 87-2004/COM 84-2004 is behind the Joint Reports Tab in the Blue Book.)

229. Financing Option for Furniture
re: Staff Move to 509 Glendale Avenue

Moved by Councillor Angelone
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That Report PHD 88-2004, December 6, 2004 (CSD 176-2004, December 8, 2004) respecting Financing Option for Furniture re: Staff move to 509 Glendale Avenue, be received and supported and forwarded to Council for decision.

Carried.

(Report PHD 88-2004/CSD 176-2004 is behind the Joint Reports Tab in the Blue Book.)

230. 2003 Mandatory Program Compliance – Sexual Health and
Sexually Transmitted Diseases/HIV/AIDS Programs

Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PHD 82-2004, December 6, 2004, respecting 2003 Mandatory Program Compliance – Sexual Health and Sexually Transmitted Diseases/HIV/AIDS Programs, be received for information; and

That this report be forwarded to the Chief Medical Officer of Health to raise the issue that increased clinical service demands in conjunction with the reduction documented in community-based education and promotion efforts may be a broader factor in the rising gonorrhoea and genital Chlamydia rates and that increased funding is required to meet these demands.

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

231. Moved by Councillor Trombetta
Seconded by Councillor Angelone

That PHSC 33-2004 from Salwa Bishay, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Muskoka-Parry South Health Unit regarding Call to Action: Creating a Healthy School Nutrition Environment, be received.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

232. Defibrillator
Councillor Angelone requested the status on the defibrillator report. Dr. Sider advised that he is examining public access to defibrillators and that a report will be presented in early January.

233. TB Testing
Councillor Casselman expressed her concerns that TB has been detected among the homeless in Toronto and inquired as to whether there has been any response to the former Toronto Medical Officer of Health's request for increased testing. Dr. Sider commented that he was not aware of any plans in place at this time for increased testing but that the Health Community is aware that it is to be vigilante in prompt contact assessment.

234. Public Health Department Annual Meeting

Councillor Baty attended the Public Health Department's Annual Meeting and congratulated staff on their many accomplishments.

CLOSED SESSION

235. Moved by Councillor Harry
Seconded by Councillor Brock

That this Committee do now meet in Closed Session for purposes of receiving information of a confidential nature relating to property and legal matters.

Carried.

236. Niagara Ambulance Communication Service – Progress Report

Mr. McQueen introduced Mr. Guillermo Fuentes, the recently hired Associate Director, Emergency Services in charge of the Ambulance Dispatch pilot project.

Moved by Councillor Casselman
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That Report PHD 85-2004, December 6, 2004 (HR 44-2004, December 7, 2004/CSD 168-2004, December 8, 2004) respecting Niagara Ambulance Communication Service – Progress Report, be received for information and referred to Regional Council.

Carried.

237. Ambulance Station – Ontario Street

Committee received an update on the Ambulance Station, Ontario Street matter.

Moved by Councillor Trombetta
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

STAFF DIRECTION

That staff be directed to:

- (i) Provide information (Finance staff) on the status of proposed new revenue tool related to hotel tax. (Refer to minute 223.)

ADJOURNMENT

Committee adjourned at 2:45 p.m. to meet again on Monday, January 10, 2005, at 12:30 p.m. in Committee Room 4, Regional Headquarters.

Bruce Timms
Chair

Gail Reilly
Legislative Assistant

Pam Gilroy
Regional Clerk/
Associate Director of Corporate Strategy