

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT 1-2006

Minutes of a meeting of the Public Health and Social Services Committee held in Council Chambers, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Tuesday, January 10, 2006 commencing at 2:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillors Hildreth, Chair, CSC; Marshall, Vice Chair, CSC; Timms, Chair, PHSC; Baty, Vice Chair PHSC; Partington, Regional Chair; Almas, Angelone, Bailey, Casselman, Harry, Katzman, Mastroianni, Trombetta.

Staff: Mr. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer; Dr. Williams, Commissioner of Public Health; Dr. Sider, Associate Medical Officer; Mr. Hutchings, Commissioner of Community Services; Ms. Heidebrecht, Director Children's Services; Ms. Pennisi, Director Social Assistance and Employment Opportunities; Ms. Gilroy, Regional Clerk; Ms. Middleton, Administrative Assistant, Ms. St. John, Director Clinical Services; Ms. Wodchis, Director Chronic Disease Prevention; Mr. Jones, Director Administrative Services; Mr. Cunnane, Director Emergency Services; Ms. Coppola, Manager Chronic Disease; Mr. Christensen, Director Health Protection Promotion; Mr. Bertleff, Program Manager Emergency Management, Ms. Stevenson, Manager Community Services; Ms. Biscaro, Director Population Health; Ms. Noel, Data Analysis Coordinator, Ms. Green, Community Dietitian; Mr. McQueen, Manager Emergency Services Administration.

OPERATIONS (STATUS REPORTS)

1. Update on Follow-up Actions Regarding the Wainfleet Servicing Class Environmental Assessment (EA)
Township of Wainfleet
PHD 01-2006/PWP 04-2006

Moved by Councillor Angelone
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report PHD 01-2006/PWP 04-2006, January 10, 2006, respecting an Update on Follow-up Actions Regarding the Wainfleet Servicing Class Environmental Assessment (EA) in the Township of Wainfleet, be received for information.

Carried.

2. Nutritious Food Basket (NFB) 2005 Survey Results
PHD 02-2006/COM 01-2006

Ms. Coppola, Manager Chronic Disease, presented information regarding the Nutritious Food Basket 2005 Survey Results and Ms. Green, Community Dietitian responded to Committee questions.

Moved by Councillor Angelone
Seconded by Councillor Mastroianni

That this Committee recommend to Regional Council that:

The Regional Chair send a letter to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care and the Minister of Health Promotion requesting the Nutritious Food Basket (NFB) data received from all participating public health units be reviewed and used to inform program and policy decisions with respect to the provincial Healthy Weights, Healthy Lives strategy and with respect to needed increased in social assistance and minimum wage rates: and that;

The Regional Chair send a letter to the Minister of Community and Social Services and the Minister of Finance urging a further increase in social assistance rates, without increasing the municipal contribution and increase the minimum wage rate to ensure all Ontarians have sufficient income to meet the basic needs of shelter and nutritious food.

Carried.

3. Enhanced Regional Emergency Operations Centre
PHD 03-2006/CSD 09-2006

Mr. Bertleff, Program Manager Emergency Management, gave an overview on the Enhanced Regional Emergency Operations Centre and answered Committee questions.

Moved by Regional Chair Partington
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That this Committee recommend to Regional Council that this report be received for information and;

That approval is granted to add the monthly telecommunications system maintenance costs to the 2006 current budget.

Carried.

4. Early Childhood Development Programs 2006 Grant Agreements
PHD 04-2006

Moved by Councillor Marshall
Seconded by Councillor Trombetta

That this Committee recommend to Regional Council that;

The 2006 Grant Agreements for the two Early Childhood Development Projects – Injury and Family Abuse Prevention (IFAP) and Promote Health Pregnancy and Child Development (PHPCD) be approved and signed by the Board of Health Chairman.

Carried.

5. Best Start Child Care Site Selection
COM 03-2006

Ms. Heidebrecht, Director Children's Services, highlighted key points on the Best Start Child Care Site Selection, while Ms. Noel, Data Analysis Coordinator, demonstrated the Best Start Online Atlas Tool.

Moved by Councillor Angelone
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That this Committee recommend to Regional Council that the communities identified in site selection process for expanded child care services be endorsed.

Carried.

6. Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
AAC 11-2205

Moved by Councillor Trombetta
Seconded by Councillor Casselman

That the minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting be received for information.

Carried.

INFORMATION

7. Employment Outcome Based Measurement – Follow up to COM 57-2004
COM 02-2006

Moved by Councillor Harry
Seconded by Councillor Casselman

That Communication COM 02-2006, Employment Outcome Based Measurement – Follow up to COM 57-2004, be received.

Carried.

8. Children’s Services Third Quarter Report – January – September 2005
COM 04-2006

Moved by Councillor Mastroianni
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That Communication COM 04-2006, Children’s Services Third Quarter Report – January – September 2005 , be received.

Carried.

9. OMBI Pilot Project – Capital Assets Accounting and Reporting
PWA 216-2005/
CSD168-2005

Moved by Councillor Angelone
Seconded by Councillor Baty

That Communication OMBI Pilot Project – Capital Assets Accounting and Reporting, be received.

Carried.

10. Announcement from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care
Regarding Funding for Land Ambulance

Moved by Councillor Harry
Seconded by Councillor Baty

Mr. Cunnane, Director Emergency Services gave a brief report on the new funding for land ambulance and long term care equipment. Niagara’s Land Ambulance funding has been set at \$443,196 and must be spent by March 31, 2006. These funds are for sustainability and will be spent on items such as new ambulances, new equipment, defibrillators, and stretchers.

Carried

The handouts which were distributed, AMO Alert 05-095 and Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network, can be found in the bluebook.

OTHER BUSINESS

11. Tobacco Enforcement

Dr. Williams, Commissioner Public Health, mentioned that presently, tobacco enforcement is funded via our cost shared budget for three quarters of enforcement and one quarter is under a grant from the MOHLTC. The Ministry is discussing taking over the full funding of this program. They are in the process of working out a formula and protocols.

12. Hearings on Bill 36

Date: Thursday, January 19, 2006
Time: 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Place: Four Points, Thorold

13. Pandemic

Meeting at Club Italia, Saturday, February 18, 2006 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. regarding Emergency Measures. Councillors are welcome to attend.

14. Public Health Accreditation Process

Councillor Timms advised the Committee of the Accreditation process underway within Public Health. If Committee members are interested Councillor Timms would offer an orientation session to become familiar with the Public Health Department and the Accreditation process.

15. Handouts

Information regarding Community Services and Public Health were distributed to Committee members who were new to either of the respective committees.

16. New Committee Structure

Councillor Hildreth noted that Councillor Timms and herself will alternate chairing the Public Health and Social Services Committee meetings.

Councillor Baty distributed the Sub-Committee Listing and the 2004-2005 Delegation Listing, that is required to be filled out by all Councillors. Completed Listings should be given to Kimberly Bowman, Administrative Assistant to Regional Clerk.

Mr. Trojan, Chief Administrative Officer, mentioned that staff will be brought in for their respective portions of the meeting to eliminate congestion Committee Room 4. If space becomes an issue the Public Health and Social Services Committee meeting can be held in Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 3:50 p.m., to meet again in Committee Room 4, January 31, 2006 at 2:00 p.m.

Bruce Timms
Co-Chair

Jill Hildreth
Co-Chair

Wendy Middleton
Administrative Assistant

Pam Gilroy
Regional Clerk