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THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT 3-2003

Minutes of a meeting of the Community and Health Services Committee held in Committee Room 4, Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Monday, February 10, 2003 commencing at 3:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Councillors Hildreth, Chair; Bailey; Brickell; Davidson; Eke; Harry; Marshall; Timms.

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

Staff

Part-time: Community Services Dept.: Ms. Crane, Coordinator of Education and Quality Improvement; Ms. Graham-Watson, Director, Social Assistance and Employment Opportunities; Mr. Hutchings, Director, Operational Support Services; Mr. Ventresca, Director, Seniors Services; Ms. Whalen, Administrator, Dorchester Meadows.

Human Resources Dept.: Ms. Fontana, Director, Corporate Health Services & Employee Relations.

Others: Councillor Saracino.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

32. Seniors Services Division Quality Improvement Report
Third and Fourth Quarter Reports – July 1, 2002 – December 31, 2002

Moved by Councillor Brickell
Seconded by Councillor Marshall

That Report COM 6-2003, February 10, 2003, respecting Seniors Services Division Quality Improvement Report, Third and Fourth Quarter Reports – July 1, 2002 - December 31, 2002, be received for information.

Carried.

33. Amended 2002 Ontario Works Service Contract

Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That Report COM 7-2003, February 10, 2003, respecting Amended 2002 Ontario Works Service Contract, be received.

That the Regional Chair and Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary documents to enter into the Amended 2002 Ontario Works Service Contract with the Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Services. The contract amount is \$11,281,796 in gross expenditures and a corresponding \$6,361,040 in net expenditures.

Carried.

34. Provincial Consultation for Grimsby
on Ontario Early Years Services

Ms. Reid, Commissioner, Community Services Department, advised that meetings will be held with the Province and various stakeholders with respect to the Ontario Early Years Services provided in the Town of Grimsby. Consultation will be held to determine what agency will take responsibility for the Town of Grimsby.

Moved by Councillor Brickell
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That the oral report from Ms. Reid, Commissioner, Community Services, respecting Provincial Consultation for Grimsby on Ontario Early Years Services, be received.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

35. Budget Reports

Councillor Eke inquired whether reports would be forthcoming to identify what specific measures will be taken by the Public Health and Community Services Departments to achieve the target budget reduction of \$3.6 million.

Mr. Trojan, C.A.O., advised that two reports, one for Current Budget and one for Capital Budget, would be brought to Committee outlining the impacts and implications of further budget reductions.

CORRESPONDENCE

36. Moved by Councillor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor Harry

That the following communications be received for information:

CHS 19-2003 Laurie Crowther, to Councillor Hildreth, Chair, Community and Health Services Committee, expressing her appreciation and thanks to the Region's decision to eliminate the minimum user fees for families deemed to have no available income through the needs testing process and the impact on her family.

CHS 20-2003 Debbie M. Zimmerman, Regional Chair, (January 29, 2003), to Ms. Helen Mulligan, Chair, Brant County Health Unit, regarding the withdrawal of Acting Medical Officer of Health coverage for the Brant County Health Unit by Dr. Williams and Dr. Sider.

Letter from Helen Mulligan, Chair, Brant County Health Unit to Debbie M. Zimmerman, Regional Chair, regarding the withdrawal of Acting Medical Officer of Health coverage for the Brant County Health Unit by Dr. Williams.

(Dr. Sider provided background information to Committee members on the reasons for withdrawal of Acting Medical officer of Health coverage for the Brant County Health Unit.)

CHS 21-2003 Carl DeFaria, Minister of Citizenship (January 23, 2003) to Debbie M. Zimmerman, Regional Chair, regarding refugee support at the Fort Erie/Buffalo border.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS (continued)

37. Standing Committee Reports

A discussion ensued regarding the information provided in Standing Committee Reports. Councillor Timms referred to a recent Public Health report on Artificial Tanning as an example, noting the following two concerns:

- 1) Cost information was incomplete
- 2) Would like clarification on where mandate comes from and whether there is a Provincial minimum that the Board must meet.

Committee members asked that the following information be provided in reports to Committee:

- An approximation of hard costs
- Clarification of mandate and level of service required
- What activities are taken to communicate to the public on the various issues
- What are the outcomes – are we successful in getting the message out to public

Mr. Trojan advised that staff will be reviewing report format including fiscal implications and suggested that the Council Business Plan Session in March would be a good forum to discuss this matter.

Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor Davidson

That the discussion and issues raised regarding the matter of Standing Committee report format be referred to the Council Business Plan Session in March.

Carried.

CLOSED SESSION

38. Moved by Councillor Eke
Seconded by Councillor Timms

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

Carried.

39. Approval of Agreement to Operate
Deer Park Villa, in the Town of Grimsby

Moved by Councillor Brickell
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That Report COM 8-2003, February 10, 2003 (HR 11-2003, February 11, 2003) regarding Approval of Agreement to Operate Deer Park Villa, in the Town of Grimsby, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

Carried.

40. Emergency Hostel Sustainability

Moved by Councillor Marshall
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That Report COM 09-2003, February 10, 2003, respecting Emergency Hostel Sustainability, be received.

That staff be authorized to assist in instituting financial measures to address the sustainability of the St. Catharines YWCA.

That the conditions and repayment terms outlined in the recommended actions contained herein be approved.

That the Regional Chair and relevant Councillors meet with the St. Catharines YWCA Board.

That the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary documents to enter into a Hostel Purchase of Service Agreement with the St. Catharines YWCA and any agreement in relation to this report.

That the per diem rate for the YWCA hostel operation be maintained at the current Provincially established maximum of \$38.00, plus the personal needs allowance of \$3.68 per day.

Carried.

41. Legal/Personnel Issues for the Senior Services Division

Mr. Ventresca, Director, Seniors Services, provided an oral report on legal/personnel issues related to the Senior Services Division.

Moved by Councillor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor Timms

That the oral report by Mr. Ventresca, Director, Seniors Services, regarding legal/personnel issues related to the Senior Services Division, be received.

Carried.

42. Moved by Councillor Timms
Seconded by Councillor Eke

That this Committee do now rise with report.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Committee adjourned at 5:20 p.m. to meet again on Monday, February 24, 2003 at 3:00 p.m. in C.R. 4, Regional Headquarters.

Jill Hildreth
Chair

Gail Reilly
Legislative Assistant

Thomas R. Hollick
Regional Clerk