



EMERGENCY & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT 14-003

As Amended by Council on May 14, 2014

1:30 p.m.
Monday, May 12, 2014
Council Chambers
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West

Present: Councillor, J. Farr, Chair
Councillor S. Merulla, Vice-Chair
Councillors S. Duvall, T. Jackson, B. McHattie, R. Morrow,
J. Partridge and T. Whitehead

Also present: Councillor B. Johnson

THE EMERGENCY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT 14-003 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. 2013-2014 Ontario Works Service Plan (CS11010(a) (City Wide) (Item 5.2)

That Report CS11010(a) respecting 2013-2014 Ontario Works Service Plan be received.

2. 2012-2015 Early Years Community Plan Implementation Strategy (CES14017) (City Wide) (Item 7.1)

That Report CES14017 respecting 2012-2015 Early Years Community Plan Implementation Strategy, be received.

3. Hamilton Veterans Committee Report 14-001 (Item 8.2)

(a) That the mandate of the Hamilton Veterans Committee be amended to reflect the following:

Reporting to Council, through the Emergency and Community Services Committee, the Hamilton Veterans Committee oversees the planning and delivery of military remembrance and commemoration activities on behalf

of the City of Hamilton. When directed by Council, the Committee will provide input on projects and issues that are of concern to Hamilton Veterans.

- (b) That the membership of the Hamilton Veterans Committee be revised to –
Up to 9 members of which one may be a member at large.

Members are required to be a City of Hamilton resident AND one of the following:

A veteran; OR

A current or former member of the Canadian Forces; OR

A current or former member of the Canadian Forces Reserves.;
OR

Meet the requirement of a member at large.

A member (at large) is required to demonstrate a special interest in veterans' projects and issues through their work in the community

4. Hamilton Veterans Committee Report 14-002 (Item 8.3)

- (a) That the Eligibility Criteria for the "Fields of Honour", Woodland Cemetery – Section 18 be revised to include:
- (i) Veterans and their Partners;
 - (ii) War Veterans who were members of Her (His) Majesty's or Allied Armed Forces, on active service during periods of war subsequent to the Korean War;
 - (iii) Members of the Canadian Armed Forces who have served in all Peace-Keeping Conflicts and were honourably discharged; and,
 - (iv) Members of the Canadian Armed Forces who are honourably discharged.
- (b) That all other criteria and protocols for the "Fields of Honour" be updated to reflect current Hamilton Municipal Cemetery policies and procedures.

5. Hamilton Veterans Committee Report 14-003 (Item 8.4)

- (a) That Council, on behalf of the Hamilton Veterans Committee, the only municipal organization of its kind in Canada, invite the Minister of Veterans Affairs, The Honourable Julian Fantino to:

- (i) Participate in one of the committee's monthly meetings;
 - (ii) Participate in the re-opening of Veteran's Place at Gore Park in 2015;
 - (iii) Endorse a discussion led by the Hamilton Veterans Committee with the Royal Canadian Legion Branches and other Veterans organizations in the City of Hamilton to campaign to Federal and Provincial Governments to develop a funding formula for the future sustainability for those organizations; and,
 - (iv) Fund the development of a yearly event poster and brochure that highlights places (memorial halls, cenotaphs, Fields of Honour) where citizens can go to remember.
- (b) That staff be directed to assist the Veterans Committee in facilitating discussions with the various Veterans organizations regarding issues of sustainability including the preparation of the work plan to include a timeline to complete this research.

6. Housing and Human Rights (CES14023) (City Wide) (Item 8.5)

That Report CES14023 respecting Housing and Human Rights be received.

7. Pressure at Emergency Shelters Serving Single Homeless Women (CS13051(a)) (City Wide) (Item 8.6)

That the General Manager of Community and Emergency Services be authorized and directed to provide \$152,150 from the Community and Emergency Services departmental surplus, the Social Services Initiative Reserve (#112214), or any combination thereof to Good Shepherd Centres to increase the number of emergency shelter beds from 20 to 30 at Mary's Place for the period of June 1, 2014 to May 31, 2015.

8. Fee Waiver Policy Update (CES14001) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 8.7)

That the Revised Fee Waiver/Reduction Policy attached as Appendix "A" to Report 14-003, be approved.

The following Item was amended by deleting the words “Planning Committee and Emergency and Community Services Committee” and inserting the words “General Issues Committee” therein:

9. Veteran's Parking (Item 9.2)

That staff be directed to investigate the implications to provide free parking, at City of Hamilton operated parking lots and on-street parking meters, for all Veterans with an Ontario Veterans licence plate and report back to the ~~Planning Committee and the Emergency and Community Services Committee~~ General Issues Committee.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL:

A. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITY

1. Public Access Defibrillation Success

On February 20, 2014 Mr. Steven Yull, the Principal at Queen Victoria School collapsed in front of his staff. The Vice Principal, Ms Holly Shanlin, initiated CPR and successfully used the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) which had just been installed in the school four months prior and the training completed only two months prior.

Chair Farr called Ms. Holly Shanlin, Mr. Derek Walker and Mr. Phil Melki to the podium to receive their Certificates of Recognition for providing assistance.

Chair Farr also called Mr. Steven Yull, Principal of Queen Victoria School to the podium to address Committee.

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

The Committee Clerk advised of the following added delegation request:

- (i) David Steckham of the Hamilton Veteran's Committee wishing to speak to Item 9.2 respecting Veteran's Parking. (Added Item 4.2)

The agenda was approved as amended.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

There were none declared.

(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 3)

The Minutes of the March 24, 2014 meeting were approved as presented.

(d) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 4)

- (i) Matt Thompson, Beasley Neighbourhood Association, to speak at the September 8, 2014 meeting to report on the Beasley Residential Temperature Project.**

The delegation request from Matt Thompson of the Beasley Neighbourhood Association, to speak at the September 8, 2014 meeting to report on the Beasley Residential Temperature Project was approved.

- (ii) David Steckham of the Hamilton Veteran's Committee wishing to speak to Item 9.2 respecting Veteran's Parking. (Added Item 4.2)**

The delegation request from David Steckham of the Hamilton Veteran's Committee wishing to speak to Item 9.2 respecting Veteran's Parking was approved and the rules of order were waived to allow Mr. Steckham to address Committee at today's meeting.

(e) CONSENT ITEMS (Item 5.1)

The following Advisory Committee Minutes were received:

- (i) Tenant Advisory Committee Minutes February 26, 2013
- (ii) Tenant Advisory Committee Notes April 30, 2013
- (iii) Tenant Advisory Committee Minutes March 26, 2013
- (iv) Tenant Advisory Committee Minutes June 12, 2013
- (v) Tenant Advisory Committee Minutes November 4, 2013
- (vi) Tenant Advisory Committee Minutes December 12, 2013
- (vii) Tenant Advisory Committee Minutes February 6, 2014
- (viii) Food & Shelter Advisory Committee Minutes February 13, 2014

- (ix) Seniors Advisory Committee February 7, 2014
- (x) Seniors Advisory Committee March 7, 2014
- (xi) Hamilton Veterans Committee March 11, 2014

(f) PUBLIC HEARINGS/DELEGATIONS

(i) Matt Jelly respecting proposal of a series of reforms to the City of Hamilton's Zero Tolerance Policy for Violence in Recreational Properties & Facilities (Approved March 24, 2014) (No copy)

Matt Jelly addressed Committee and read from the City of Hamilton's Zero Tolerance Policy for Violence in Recreational Properties & Facilities

He noted that all people and citizens should be held to the same standards. Council and the City Manager chose not to take action against a recent incident involving a Councillor and a member of the public who was in attendance at City Hall. If this had happened to a Councillor or a staffer there would have been consequences.

He urged Council to enact a city wide zero tolerance policy that also includes Councillors without requiring an application to the Integrity Commissioner.

Committee received the delegation.

(ii) David Steckham of the Hamilton Veteran's Committee wishing to speak to Item 9.2 respecting Veteran's Parking. (Added Item 4.2)

David Steckham addressed Committee and read from a prepared statement. He advised that he served in the Canadian Armed Forces for 20 years. He acknowledged that free Veteran's parking was approved with stipulations. He is looking to have the stipulations removed.

He outlined the duties of the members of the armed forces who wear the following hats:

Green Beret
Maroon Beret
Blue Beret
Air Force Wedge
Air Force Beret

He noted that all can be traded in for combat helmets.

He acknowledged there is a concern for potential abuse. In his opinion only the spouses of veterans, who have provided a support role to those serving their country, may be in a position take advantage of free parking. Hamilton is unique as it is the only city in all of Canada who has a Veteran's Committee. The City has spent tens of thousands of dollars for a war memorial for veterans who have died in combat – what about the living?

Mr. Steckham responded to questions from Committee. Committee received the delegation.

For disposition of this matter refer to Item 9 and Information Item (i)(ii).

(g) PRESENTATIONS

(i) 2012-2015 Early Years Community Plan Implementation Strategy (CES14017) (City Wide)

Jody Guilmette, Manager of the Early Years Program and Debbie Meyers, Chair of Best Start Network addressed Committee with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation. Copies of the hand-out were distributed and a copy has been retained in the Clerk's file for the public record.

They covered the following topics:

- What is Early Years Community Plan?
- Importance of the Early Years Community Plan
- Key Findings of the Early Years Community Plan
- Inclusion – How will these challenges be addressed?
- Child Care Stabilization and Transformation – How will these challenges be addressed?
- System Integration – How will these challenges be addressed?
- Access to Information - How will these challenges be addressed?
- Next steps.

The presenters responded to questions from Committee. Committee received the presentation and the staff report.

(h) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 8)

(i) Senior Advisory Committee Report 14-006 (Item 8.1)

Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Seniors Advisory Committee Report 14-006 were referred to the Fire Chief and the Paramedics Chief for report back to Committee.

Recommendation 3 was referred to the Director of Transportation for report back to Committee.

(ii) Hamilton Veterans Committee Report 14-001 (Item 8.2)

Committee amended subsection (a) of the recommendation by deleting the words “appropriate standing” and inserting the words “Emergency and Community Services” therein.

For disposition of this matter refer to Item 3.

(iii) Hamilton Veterans Committee Report 14-003 (item 8.4)

Committee amended subsection (a) of the recommendation by inserting the words “City Council on behalf of” after the word “That”

For disposition of this matter refer to Item 5.

(iv) Fee Waiver Policy Update (CES14001) (City Wide)(Item 8.7)

Committee approved the staff report respecting Fee Waiver Policy Update including subsection (b) as follows:

- (b) That the item respecting the Fee Waiver Policy be considered complete and removed from the Emergency & Community Services Committee Outstanding Business List.

(i) MOTIONS (Item 9)

(i) Urban Fitness Trail (Item 9.1)

Committee amended Item 9.1 respecting Urban Fitness Trail

- (a) by deleting the words “*undertake an assessment to develop the first*” and inserting the words “*investigate the feasibility of developing an*” therein;
- (b) by adding the following subsection (b):
 - (b) *That staff be further directed to brief the Ward Councillor on the investigative results, and report back to Committee on any proposed work plans/budget as required to implement any new project.*

The amended Item 9.1 was approved and reads as follows:

Whereas, the City of Hamilton has a significant parcel of land dormant in the McQuesten Neighbourhood; and

Whereas, the McQuesten Neighbourhood is in the process of developing the first urban farm which conforms to better Public Health, Community Services and Neighbourhood Strategies to be the best place in Canada to raise a child, promote innovation, engage citizens and provide diverse economic opportunities; and

Whereas, the obesity issue as it pertains to Public Health is of concern;

Therefore be it resolved:

- (a) That staff be directed to investigate the feasibility of developing an urban fitness trail in that parcel of land that would connect to the Redhill Valley Trail, the Bruce Trail and the Hamilton-Brantford Rail Trail thereby providing an expansion on the City's existing trail system which is second to none;
- (b) That staff be further directed to brief the Ward Councillor on the investigative results, and report back to Committee on any proposed work plans/budget as required to implement any new project.

(ii) Veteran's Parking (Item 9.2)

The motion was amended by adding the words "and the Emergency and Community Services Committee" after the words "Planning Committee".

(j) ADJOURNMENT (Item 13)

There being no further business, the Emergency & Community Services Committee meeting adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor J. Farr, Chair
Emergency & Community Services Committee

Ida Bedioui
Legislative Co-ordinator
Office of the City Clerk

FEE WAIVER/REDUCTION POLICY

PURPOSE

The purpose of the City of Hamilton's Fee Waiver/Reduction Policy is to provide financial assistance, in the form of a fee waiver or reductions for recreation facility and park rentals in those cases where imposition of a fee would create a financial hardship.

DEFINITIONS

Facility

Means a recreation facility operated by the City of Hamilton where the fees charged and permit issued for its use are administered by the Recreation Division.

Park

Means a park operated by the City of Hamilton where the fees charged and permit issued for its use are administered by the Recreation Division.

Affiliated

Means a sport or recreation organization that is formally affiliated with the City of Hamilton as per the Recreation Division's "*Affiliation Policy for Hamilton Minor Sports Organizations*".

Community Group

Means a non-profit group or corporation that is active in a community for a sport and leisure purpose, or that generally operates for the betterment of the community (e.g. minor sport organization, neighborhood association, service club, special interest club). This definition is distinct and different than that of "Commercial Group".

Commercial Group

Means a for-profit group or corporation that operates an event or business for the purposes of making a profit. This definition is distinct and is different than that of "Community Group".

GENERAL

- Fees will not be waived for an applicant that has an overdue amount owing to the City.
- Fees will not normally be waived on a retroactive basis, e.g., after an event has occurred.
- If the organization is a recipient of a grant through the Community Partnership Program (CPP), the purpose of which is to cover the cost of recreation facility or park rental fees, then no fee waiver will be considered.

- All applicants must comply with any and all insurance requirements and associated costs. Insurance fees are ineligible for fee waivers.
- Meeting all of the criteria does not guarantee that a rental fee will be waived.
- Only the Divisional Director of Recreation has the authority to approve a fee waiver under the provisions of the policy.

ELIGIBILITY

Groups

- Affiliated not-for-profit sport and recreation associations, not-for-profit arts and culture groups
- Community groups

Activities

- One-time activity or event where the imposition of a fee would create financial hardship to the organization or group.

NON-ELIGIBILITY

Groups

- Commercial groups
- Non-residents
- Individuals
- College & University Athletics (Varsity & Intramural)

Activities

- Sequential activities (daily, weekly, monthly,) such as seminars, courses, clinics, programs etc.
- Annual (or sequential) fundraising activities and events.
- Any activity where it cannot be demonstrated that the imposition of a fee will cause a financial hardship to the group applying for a fee waiver or reduction.

Examples:

- Requests for relief from facility permit fees for sequential use of arenas, meeting rooms, playing fields, surfaces and gymnasiums (e.g. regular league play).

- Sequential meetings (daily, weekly, monthly, etc.).
- Requests for fee waivers or reductions where the City has already offset the cost of those fees through some other means or funding mechanism (i.e. CPP Grant).
- Requests for relief which do not otherwise meet above eligibility criteria.

FEE WAIVER AMOUNTS

Eligible groups and activities may be entitled to a 100% Fee Waiver (or part thereof) based on the merit of the activity, if they are able to demonstrate financial hardship.

PROCEDURE

1. All eligible groups must complete a Fee Waiver Request Application Form, outlining the purpose of the activity and related organizational information and applicable information supporting a claim of financial hardship.
2. The Application Form must be submitted a minimum of four weeks prior to the date requested, to the Recreation Division – Facility Booking Section in order to ensure timely processing. *Application forms received after this time will be processed however, groups must assume responsibility for any consequences associated with delays in the confirmation/administration process.*
3. The Sport Development Administrative Clerks will first confirm that the facility is available on the date(s) and time(s) requested.
4. If the required facility (or suitable alternative) is available, the Application Form will be forwarded to the Divisional Director of Recreation for review and decision on approval.
5. Eligible groups will be notified by Sport Development Administrative Clerks, within two weeks from the time that availability of the requested facility (or suitable alternative) has been confirmed.
6. Sport Development Administrative Clerks will process a facility permit inclusive of any partial fees (if applicable).
7. The group or organization remains responsible for any/all terms & conditions outlined in the use of City facilities, including retrieving their permit in advance and having it present throughout the duration of their use.
8. Sport Development Administrative Clerks will credit facility accounts with the appropriate balance of revenues owing, from the City's fee waiver account.

EVALUATION & REPORTING

Staff will report to Council on an annual basis, as part of the Operating Budget Process, with a detailed account of the total numbers of fee waiver granted by group and related cost.

APPEALS

Any group who has been denied a fee waiver within the Divisional Director of Recreation's authority to approve under the policy may appeal the decision to the General Manager of Community & Emergency Services. If the fee waiver has been denied by the General Manager, the group may appear before Council (Emergency and Community Services Committee) to present their rationale for receiving a fee waiver.

Groups wishing to appear before Council must contact the City Clerk to register as a delegation.