

TENANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Presentation to The Emergency and Community Services Committee

December 9, 2013

John Hawker, Outgoing Chair

Connie Bellamy, Chair



Tenant Advisory Committee 2013 Milestones Presentation

Mandate

To provide Council and staff with information, advice and recommendations about residential tenancy issues and policies that would improve the overall well-being of tenants in Hamilton.

Tenant Advisory Committee 2013 Milestones Presentation

Objectives

- To identify systemic and policy issues facing tenants and provide advice and recommendations to the City
- To advocate for policy issues affecting tenants that require further action with the municipal, provincial and federal governments
- To develop strategies for information dissemination and education to tenants regarding tenant issues

Tenant Advisory Committee 2013 Milestones Presentation

Membership

Connie Bellamy – Chair

John Hawker – Outgoing Chair

Larry Husack

Andy Cranbury

Marie Frances Raftis

Don Britton

Laura Ryan

Tenant Advisory Committee 2013 Milestones Presentation

2013 Focus Areas

- Renter Voter Turnout
- Tenant Access to City Hall
- Rental Housing Licensing and Proactive Enforcement
- Ten Year Housing and Homelessness Action Plan
- Education of Members and Community Connection

Tenant Advisory Committee 2013 Milestones Presentation

Renters as Voters

- Received information and presentation from Tony Fallis to determine current practices and feasibility of placing a voting station in a rental building as a pilot project.

Tenant Advisory Committee 2013 Milestones Presentation

Tenant Access to City Hall

- Continue to find ways for City Hall and tenants in the general public to interact on issues that matter to them
- Received information and presentation from Jay Adams about the City's Web Site Redevelopment Project.
- Continue to provide input to web site redevelopment from a tenant's perspective.

Tenant Advisory Committee 2013 Milestones Presentation

Rental Housing Licensing & Proactive Enforcement

- Continued to receive information and presentations from Joe Xamin about the feasibility of licensing rental housing and proactive enforcement of property standards.
- Tenant Advisory Committee provided input from a tenants perspective.
- We hope to continue to be involved as this issue is further explored.

Tenant Advisory Committee 2013 Milestones Presentation

- The Tenant Advisory Committee was consulted about the Housing and Homelessness Action Plan and received regular updates on the Plan's development.
- The Tenant Advisory Committee endorses the City's 10 year Housing and Homelessness Plan.



Tenant Advisory Committee 2013 Milestones Presentation

Education and Community Connection

- Continued to learn about housing/tenant issues and stayed connected to the community by:
 - Participating in the Neighbourhood Development Committee
 - Attended the Ontario Non Profit Housing Association annual conference
 - Attended the National Housing Day event

Tenant Advisory Committee 2013 Milestones Presentation

2014 Focus Areas:

- Continue working to improve tenants access to City Hall
- Continue to promote tenant voter turnout
- On-going role in proactive enforcement of property standards
- Helping to implement tenant education strategies as part of the Housing and Homelessness Action Plan

TENANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THANK YOU!

