



Hamilton

TENANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

December 12, 2013

11:30 – 1:30 pm

Boardroom – 350 King Street, Hamilton

Present: Connie Bellamy (Chair), Marie Raftis, John Hawker, Andy Cranbury, Larry Husack

Regrets: Laura Ryan, Don Britton

Also Present: Janet Surmanski, Dave Brodati

1) WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Connie welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2) CHANGES AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

3) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST /APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 4th MINUTES

There were no conflicts of interest declared. It was moved by Andy and seconded by Marie that the minutes of November 4th be approved.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

At the last meeting TAC reviewed a request for a TAC member to represent the Committee at the Housing and Homelessness Planning Group. This issue was revisited in order to officially clarify TAC's representative. Dave confirmed that John Hawker was chosen as the representative and that Marie will be the alternate. Both John and Marie re-confirmed their interest in the Planning Group.

4) Access to City Hall – Call Center Overview

Janet distributed an e-mail from the City call center which detailed the types of tenant calls that are received on a regular basis. The Committee reviewed the

information and requested further information. It was moved by Andy, seconded by Marie and carried that a staff representative from the call center be invited to a future meeting to provide further information.

5) Access to City Hall – Website Redevelopment

There was a general discussion and agreement that the Committee will wait to see the results of the first draft of the new web site, and will provide comments after their review. It was moved by Larry and seconded by Marie that the Committee will review the website work when they have further information.

6) Tenant Education – City Housing Hamilton

Janet advised that she contacted Matt Bowen, Manager of Tenant Engagement with City Housing Hamilton with a request for information. The Committee expressed an interest in hearing more about tenant engagement initiatives, and asked that Matt Bowen be invited to the next meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

TAC Annual Presentation Feedback

John advised the presentation was well received, and there were some questions from Councillors. He further advised that there was a motion for Tony Fallis to report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee on the voter station issue. Larry asked if the speaker notes were approved by the TAC or if John was speaking on his own. John advised that he added his own notes to the presentation.

Larry asked if we could draft a letter to reiterate TAC's position on the voter station pilot. TAC agreed and endorsed this idea.

Connie advised that she will contact Marie Antelo from the Hamilton Legal Clinic and Larry Huibers from the Housing Help Center in the New Year in order to work on ways to activate and encourage an increase in the number of tenant voters. Marie offered to assist Connie and Andy suggested that the Hamilton Civic League may also be interested in hosting a meeting. The Committee agreed that all community groups should be invited to participate in the process.

Housing and Homelessness Action Plan

Dave advised that the Action Plan was approved by City Council in December. He further advised that TAC will be involved in the implementation of tenant educational strategies that are highlighted in the plan. Connie indicated that TAC was in support of the Action Plan when the committee was consulted.

ONPHA – Feedback on the registration Process

Janet contacted ONPHA and advised that the TAC members had questions about the delays and confusion at the conference registration desk. Janet received a written response from OHPHA in which they acknowledged the issues. The e-mail from OHPHA will be forwarded to the members for their information. Larry suggested that the number of registrations should be reduced in the future, and that it is not necessary for four members of the committee to attend.