



Hamilton

**Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee  
Minutes**

**6pm**

**Tuesday September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019**

**Meeting room 264**

**Hamilton City Hall**

**71 Main Street West, Hamilton**

James O'Brien, Senior Project Manager Housing & Homelessness  
905-546-2424 x 3728

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**Present:** Lance Dingman, Sandy Leyland, Julia Verbitsky, Tom Mobley, Michael Power, Violetta Nikolskaya, Leisha Dawson, Shaun Jamieson, Michael Slusarenko Rhonda Mayer

**Absent with Regrets:** Eileen Campbell, Morgan Stanek, Mary-Ellen Crechiola, Cllr Collins, Cllr Nann, Cllr Wilson, Alexandra Djaqba Oli, Tony Manganiello,

**Absent:**

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**FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:**

**1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

No changes the agenda

**(Dawson /Leyland)**

**CARRIED**

**2. Approval of Minutes**

**2.1 June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**(Leyland/ Nikolskaya)**

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

#### **4. Presentations**

##### **4.1 Housing Services Overview and Provincial Direction**

- Overview of Housing Services role
  - Homelessness Services
  - Emergency Shelter Services
  - Residential Care Facilities
  - Social Housing Administration
  - Affordable Housing Program
  - Policy and Program Development
- Housing Services acts as the Service Manager for the Hamilton area and also acts as the Community Entity for Federal homelessness funding
- This role includes the oversight of 13,800 units, and is legislated to ensure there are approximately 9,000 rent geared to income units
- Other key initiatives include:
  - Integration of access to housing with the Housing Services Division
  - Homelessness enumeration
  - Improving coordination of services within the homelessness serving sector
  - Implementation of the Poverty Reduction Fund
  - Use of surplus municipal lands for affordable housing
- Housing system challenges:
  - Lack of Federal and Provincial investment in new affordable rental housing
  - Stagnant supply of rental and affordable housing
  - End of operating agreements in affordable housing
- COCHI/OPHI new Provincial/Federal funding programs
  - Goals are to protect affordability, support the repair and renewal of social housing, Preserve urban Indigenous housing.
- Housing Supply Action Plan (Provincial), goals to address:
  - Speed – it takes too long for development projects to get approved
  - Mix – There are too many restrictions on what can be built to get the right mix of housing where it is needed.
  - Cost – Development costs are too high because of high land prices and government imposed fees and charges
  - Rent – It is too hard to be a landlord in Ontario and tenants need to be protected
  - Innovation – Other concerns, opportunities and innovations to increase housing supply.

- Review of National Housing Strategy overview. Key initiatives:
  - Co-investment fund
  - Maintain a resilient community housing sector
  - New Canada Housing benefit
  - Reducing chronic homelessness by 50% by 2025

(Leyland/ Nikolskaya)

**CARRIED**

## **5. Discussion Items**

### **5.1 National Housing Day**

- November 22<sup>nd</sup> is National Housing Day
- Hamilton traditionally does an event – past themes have been gentrification, balanced neighbourhoods, and affordable development.
- It was suggested that a photo voice project be part of the National Housing Day event. Opportunity for people to submit successes with a photo and caption
- Committee to be struck for National Housing Day event, and chair of HHAC to join committee.

(Mobley/Leyland)

**CARRIED**

### **5.2 Working Group**

Brain storming on working group to take place through email before November meeting, with regrouping to discuss striking the committee.

## **6. Other Business**

## **7. Motions**

**That the HHAC 2019 base budget submission in the amount of \$1000 be approved and referred to the 2020 budget process for consideration.**

(Mayer/Leyland)

**CARRIED**

**That Lance Dingman be approved to represent the Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee at the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities on matters of mutual interest.**

**(Leyland/Mayer)**

**CARRIED**

**7. Notice of Motions**

**8. New Business General Information / Business**

- Next meeting to be a bus tour of variety of locations related to the affordable housing and homelessness serving system.
- Rising Star has a completed needs assessment and is looking for volunteer members who are interested in supporting this peer to peer supportive housing concept.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

That, there being no further business, the Housing & Homelessness Advisory Committee adjourn at 7:55  
(Mobley / Dawson)

**CARRIED**

Next meeting, October 1, 2019  
Various locations

Respectfully submitted,  
Julia Verbitsky  
Chair, Housing and  
Homelessness Advisory  
Committee

James O'Brien  
Senior Project Manager  
Housing Services Division