

7.2(a)

Housing Issues Working Group Notes October 1, 2019

Present: John Hawker, Lance Dingman, Mary Sinclair (contributing past member ACPD) and Jayne Cardno

The Group reviewed work in progress and listed outstanding business with some priorities indicated.

- Edward John to present and respond to questions

The Housing Working Group is keen to hear from Mr. Edward John regarding the now long-standing list of questions prepared early last spring.

Because subsidized and social housing is a top City, federal and provincial concern and a number of groups are working on housing concerns there was discussion around inviting such groups to hear the presentation and questions for Edward John. The Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee and the Seniors Advisory Committee were two such groups.

A sample of concerns and questions relate to the percentage of units that will be accessible as well as an accessible application process that could include a number of the 40-some housing providers in the City.

- A priority is to support 15% percent of all new builds as being accessible units.
- Housing Guide - action via email to inform key organizations of the availability online and in print (45 copies)
- On-going work on providing detail regarding accessibility issues with current application for housing used by Access to Housing.

- Accessible facilities should be a priority for meetings hosted by the City and related agencies going forward. Ex housing meetings have been difficult to attend.
- Expecting publication of the "Home For Good" report.
- Determine when and where the next Housing Summit will be.

ACPD ASK: Motion to appoint a liaison to the Housing Summit (John Hawker has volunteered)

- Concern noted that the City offers far more resource supports for those who own their homes than for those who rent and run into financial difficulties or face eviction.
- From the Transportation Working Group which is supportive of an idea to propose a key event and possible year-long series of events that would increase public awareness on accessibility issues and celebrate the independence of those with disabilities support was given by the Housing Working Group.

ACPD ASK: Motion to move forward on seeking support and resources to mount this event.