

Bates, Tamara

Subject: FW: Chair and Members of Emergency and Community Services Committee

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From: Edawin < >

Sent: September 22, 2020 4:46 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Chair and Members of Emergency and Community Services Committee

Chair and Members of Emergency and Community Services Committee

September 22, 2020.

I extend to you a formal invitation to observe the meeting that we are in the process of organizing between Councillor Nann, an executive of the Good Shepherd Hamilton and 1+7 community members.

Inform us in advance about your intention to be present, due to Covid restrictions we will be able to accomodate only a few extra people.

The meeting format is detailed below:

I am looking forward to the promised meeting with Councillor Nann. As I did not hear from you yet and given the urgency of the subject and in order to save time, I have approached a number of neighbors to collect their questions and their suggestions.

As we discussed the matter of the format for this highly anticipated meeting we came to the conclusion that we mistrust the Zoom meeting format and the "one to one phone call".

This is what we request, in accordance with the proper protocols of Covid-19 phase 3 and taking the scientifically proper precautions to avoid exposure:

1. Participants:

Councillor Nann

Good Shepherd Hamilton executive in charge of running the new emergency shelter.

Carmen Orlando and 7 other representatives from the community.

2. Location:

The Old Cathedral Boys School. The meeting can be held in the large dinning area or any other area that allows for safe social distancing.

3. Day: Early next week.

4. Time: After work hours, to permit assistance of the community members.

5. Purpose of the meeting:

To obtain direct and factual information regarding the passing of the emergency order for a temporary emergency shelter, Covid-19 and the Old Cathedral Boys School.

6. Format:

A questionnaire will be presented. The questions will be formulated to be answered with a: yes/ no/I don't know/dates/ names of other parties.

This format will permit to cover with economy of time what needs to be cleared and include questions from a large number of neighbors that have no access to social media. The intention of this information gathering meeting is the gathering of information and not to debate.

7. Direct experience of the emergency shelter:

After the question period we will visit the facilities and we'll ask questions regarding the Covid-19 protocols in place directly from staff.

Councillor Nann told the community multiple times to address the Good Shepherd with questions and concerns; to this day they have not responded. They shall welcome the opportunity to give a tour of the shelter to a community delegation.

We request that you organize the meeting with the folks of Good Shepherd Hamilton as it is part of your office duty to facilitate this kind of encounter with the community.

8. A walk around the neighbourhood: We request a police guided tour of the area situated in the proximity of the new temporary emergency shelter, so that a police representative may have the opportunity to indicate to our leaders what buildings are problematic from their point of view. The community has a feeling that the people that have the power of decision-making do not have an experiential understanding of our situation.

It appears that among our leaders at least Councillor Nann was not fully cognizant of how many care facilities were situated in our area and their proximity to the new temporary emergency shelter. We want the Police to point and describe the problems they experience in the care facilities buildings plus point out the location of other buildings and rooming houses that are "trouble" from the Police perspective and experience.

Time permitting, this guided tour may take place on the same day of the meeting and if not, on the following day. We request that you organize the meeting with the Police as it is part of your official duty to facilitate this kind of encounter with the community.

Carmen Orlandis