

## 6.2(b)

### **ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES Housing Issues Working Group Meeting Notes**

Tuesday, September 15, 2020

Virtual Webex Meeting

10:00a.m. – 12:00p.m.

In Attendance: James Kemp, Lance Dingman, Shahan Aaron, Paula Kilburn, Mary Sinclair, Tom Manzuk

Those Absent: Jayne Cardno, Michele Dent, Anthony Frisina, Sophie Geffros

1. Welcome
2. Approval of Sept. 15 Agenda
3. Approval of February Minutes
4. Declarations of Interest
5. HWG Terms of Reference: We discussed the old copy of the TOR that was located from 2017 and decided that it doesn't reflect the current group's points of focus. The Chair will submit an updated version for the Group to review and discuss at the next meeting.
6. Residential Care: Mr. Dingman requested some time from the Chair to discuss Residential Care Facilities and Residential Care Services (RCF and RCS respectively). As the Chair was unfamiliar with RCF's, it was requested that he provide a small presentation for the group's edification. Mr. Dingman performed this admirably and expressed the issues and hardships of RCS with precision.

To summarize:

RCS and RCFs are second level lodging homes for individuals with mental and developmental disabilities that are not able to function independently without some level of assistance. Mr. Dingman raised a number of issues and concerns regarding the living conditions and policy towards tenants at RCFs. Tenants are housed together two or three to a room, there is no privacy, no autonomy, daily safety concerns, unrealistic personal needs allowance, few options for transitioning to independent living, no ability to cultivate personal or intimate relationships, inadequate complaints process and lack of adjudication.

While RCS and RCFs are covered under the Provincial Long Term Care Homes Act of 2007, they are licensed by the Municipality and therefore it is believed to fall under the purview of the ACPD and the HWG. In the age of Covid-19 and considering the current housing crisis we would urge the City to consider them in any future housing plans. To that end, there was a consensus that we should put forward a motion of support to the housing and homelessness committee. It was also agreed that Lance should be recommended as an ambassador of the ACPD in the hopes that we may work together to highlight the current issues in the RCS system and look for ways to improve living conditions for the disabled.

7. Modified Classification Guide: We didn't so much discuss the guide as we discussed ways to communicate effectively with the clerk's office and provided the Chair with some direction as to how to proceed.
8. Elevator signage and policy regarding elevator failure: The new by-law was discussed and some members were made aware of the history behind it.

9. Action Items: The Chair was directed to prepare motions regarding the RCS system and Mr. Dingman's Ambassadorship to the ACPD.
10. Adjournment.