

**Bates, Tamara**

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**Subject:** FW: Cathedral Shelter Community meeting Dec 6

**From:** Damon J <>

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 7, 2021 6:49 PM

**To:** Mastroianni, Rob <[Rob.Mastroianni@hamilton.ca](mailto:Rob.Mastroianni@hamilton.ca)>; Office of Ward 3 City Councillor Nrinder Nann <[ward3@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward3@hamilton.ca)>; John, Edward <[Edward.John@hamilton.ca](mailto:Edward.John@hamilton.ca)>; Housing Services <[housing@hamilton.ca](mailto:housing@hamilton.ca)>; Affordable Housing <[affordho@hamilton.ca](mailto:affordho@hamilton.ca)>

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**Subject:** Cathedral Shelter Community meeting Dec 6

To all to whom this is addressed, the panelist and Councillor Nann, and to the attention of the Mayor and of the Councillors who will seat Dec 9 2021 at the City of Hamilton Emergency & Community Services Committee.

Most questions that were asked during the short 60 minute meeting went unanswered/ignored.

I believe another member of the community has sent an email with a complete list of questions. The expectation is (the panelists) do their civic duty and provide **answers before Dec 9**, so that the City of Hamilton Emergency & Community Services Committee may be informed BEFORE the appointed meeting when they will consider this issue.

Has a decision has already been made and the meeting on Dec 9 is simply a formality?

For the chair of the City of Hamilton Emergency & Community Services Committee, Nrinder seemed to be someone who could provide some answers and clarification, yet stayed disengaged and silent during the meeting. This is surprising for the councillor of the ward that this has a direct impact on. For someone who promotes community engagement and inclusion, the effort to inform and include as much of the community in the "conversation" and meeting about the shelter says otherwise.

There were several issues with the meeting:

-Time set was 1730, for the majority of us who work and have families, this is one of the worst times to hold a meeting. The meeting for a splash pad is today (dec 7) at 1830? I can see where the priorities are here. Was this meeting more of an announcement wrapped and presented as a "conversation"?

- Why the switch from a stable meeting platform used in prior meetings (zoom) to a new platform through eventbrite/webex? the app crashed twice and was not very user friendly.

- No recording, no transcript available

- SHORT NOTICE....splash pad meeting is set and announced weeks in advance with feedback surveys months in advance. Does anyone think that 1 week notice, just 2 days prior to the committee meeting is sufficient? Where are the feedback surveys?

What is the future of the old cathedral boys school? How many "temporary" shelters will there be?

How long will you continue to use Covid as the convenient excuse to explain the lack of progress on issues that have been around long before Covid?

The issues that this temporary shelter is supposed to help alleviate are not new, throwing a new bandaid on top of an old one is not making it better, it's festering the wound. When is the city staff going to produce a viable long term plan to deal with homelessness and mental health?

Will the community be given ample time and opportunity to give feedback on any future plans for the old cathedral boys school and any other facility in question in the ward.

Regards,

Damon Joo

Concerned (14 year) Ward 3 resident