

ACPD's Housing Working Group Meeting Notes

February 20th, 2024

Virtual Teams Meeting

10:00AM – 12:00PM

Members in Attendance: Lance Dingman, James Kemp, Robert Westbrook, Paula Kilburn, Ben Cullimore

Members Absent: Hargun Kaur

** Due to technical difficulties, Robert and Ben were unable to fully participate in the meeting.

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of February 20th Agenda: Agenda was approved

3. Nomination of Chair: James suggested that he Chair the group for the first 6 months or so, to ensure a smooth transition and handover. James asked the other members to consider being Vice-Chair so he can bring them up to speed on the group's activities and prepare to take over after that time. This was

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approved by the other members. We will nominate a Vice-Chair at the next meeting

- 4. Note Taking Discussion:** Chair wanted to discuss note taking as it is unfair to always put it on one member. He suggested rotating turns with other members. Ben, while unable to communicate, sent out links to Otter AI which seemed to do a fairly good job at taking minutes for us to work from. We will investigate this software more in the future across all the groups.

- 5. Review of HWG's Work Plan:** We reviewed the HWG's Work Plan in an effort to update it. Chair pointed out that he would like to see us lose the Issues from our official name, as we are officially the Housing Issues Working Group. As everything dealt with at all WG meetings are essentially "issues", it is redundant to have it in the name. We also discussed changing all references to equality with equity as that is more accurate. It was also suggested that we add a reference to the four pillars of IDEA into either the mandate or the mission statement.

- 6. Review of Outstanding Business List:** Chair began going through the list item by item to give the new members some explanation of the work done before.

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Unfortunately, due to the technical difficulties experienced by some, they left the meeting around this time. As that left only three members still in attendance and they all were familiar with the OBL, we decided to do this on another day.

7. Update from Public Health's Extreme Heat

Working Group: Chair provided an update from the EHWG. RCF AC survey failed to provide the results they were hoping for due to lack of responses and so they are adding it to the annual inspections to determine the percentage of the facility's AC and in what areas it is in. DARTS is still not being consulted about creating a flying squad in the event of a heat emergency, but we have been assured that these discussions will be held soon. 2024 emergency heat response will be presented to Council soon and while it doesn't address all that we want it to, the process is underway and should be added to for 2025.

8. Special Supports Air Conditioner Program

Expansion Advocacy Letter to the Province and Association of Municipalities of Ontario: This was discussed at the end of the previous term of HWG. We agreed to be the point people on this advocacy work. The Hamilton Community Legal Clinic has offered to work with us by providing research for our

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letter asking for the province to lower the criteria for receiving an air conditioner. We would also like to ask for operating costs as they can dwarf the expense of the AC unit. When we have put our letter forward, the City will also put forward an advocacy letter to combine with ours. Chair will try to have Clare Freeman attend a future meeting of the HWG.

9. Other Business: Chair mentioned that there is some effort to revive the RCF coalition and may have more information soon.

10. Adjournment