



Hamilton

**GAMING FACILITY PROPOSAL SUB-COMMITTEE
MINUTES 12-005**

9:30 a.m.

Thursday, December 13, 2012

Council Chambers

Hamilton City Hall

71 Main Street West

Present: Mayor R. Bratina (Chair); Councillor R. Pasuta (Vice Chair)
Councillors S. Merulla, J. Partridge, T. Whitehead

Also Present: Councillor J. Farr

**THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REPORTED TO THE GENERAL ISSUES
COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION:**

1. Health and Social Impacts of Gambling (BOH12040) (City Wide)

(Whitehead/Merulla)

- (a) That the City of Hamilton adopt the Public Health approach outlined in this report when considering issues related to gaming, including an emphasis on healthy public policy and casino operational policy conditions to mitigate gambling related harm;
- (b) That a representative from the Ontario Problem Gambling Institute – Centre of Addiction and Mental Health be invited to participate in the Hamilton Educational Forums to provide expert information about the health and social impacts of gambling, and the Hamilton Public Health Services Fact Sheet on the Health and Social Impacts of Gambling be made available;
- (c) That Public Health staff be directed to come forward with options to the Board of Health to improve local gambling prevention activities, with potential funding provided through gaming revenue;

- (d) That the Province be asked to commission a longitudinal research program to study the health, social and economic costs and benefits, at both a provincial and local level, of any gaming expansion. This would include developing a baseline and tracking impacts as the changes are implemented.

2. Correspondence respecting Casino Location (New Business)

(Whitehead/Partridge)

That the following items be received:

- (a) Correspondence from Matt Jelly respecting casino location (Attached hereto as Appendix "A")
- (b) Correspondence from Reverend Aaron Gerrard, on behalf of the Churches of the Ancaster Ministerial Association, expressing their opposition to any proposals to bring a casino into downtown Hamilton (Attached hereto as Appendix "B")

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COMMITTEE:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

The Clerk advised of the following change:

- (i) Correspondence from Matt Jelly respecting casino location
- (ii) Correspondence from Reverend Aaron Gerrard, on behalf of the Churches of the Ancaster Ministerial Association, expressing their opposition to any proposals to bring a casino into downtown Hamilton
(Referred by Council on December 12, 2012)

(Merulla/Pasuta)

That the agenda be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

(c) PREVIOUS MINUTES

(Pasuta/Merulla)

That the November 30, 2012 Minutes of the Gaming Facility Proposal Sub-Committee be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

(d) DISCUSSION ITEMS

**(i) Health and Social Impacts of Gambling (BOH12040) (City Wide)
(Item 4.1)**

Dr. E. Richardson, Medical Officer of Health, and Susan Boyd, Program Manager, Alcohol, Drug and Gambling Services, responded to questions of the Sub-Committee.

Request for Additional Information (New Business – No Copy)

(Merulla/Pasuta)

(aa) That staff be directed to provide an economic impact report weighing the pros and cons of a casino impact on:

1. Public health
2. Economic development

and report back to the Gaming Facility Proposal Sub-Committee;

(bb) That staff be directed to provide information to the Gaming Facility Proposal Sub-Committee with respect to tracking and mapping of existing problem gamblers in the City of Hamilton by postal code.

CARRIED

(ii) Additional Casino Conditions (Item 4.2)

(Whitehead/Pasuta)

That the additional casino conditions as outlined in Item 4.2 be referred to staff for consideration and/or inclusion in the final report respecting casino location.

CARRIED

(iii) Revised Timelines (Item 4.3)

(Partridge/Pasuta)

That the revised timelines respecting future meetings of the Sub-Committee and schedule of reports to the General Issues Committee, be received.

CARRIED

(e) NOTICE OF MOTION

Councillor S. Merulla put forward the following Notice of Motion:

That staff be directed to convene an in-service workshop which would provide a clear understanding of what addiction means and the impacts on the community.

(Partridge/Whitehead)

That the rules of order be suspended in order to allow for the introduction of a motion respecting an in-service workshop. **CARRIED**

(Merulla/Pasuta)

That staff be directed to convene an in-service workshop which would provide a clear understanding of what addiction means and the impacts on the community. **CARRIED**

(f) GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Input from Hamilton Police Service

Councillor Merulla requested that an item respecting "response from the Hamilton Police Service" be placed on the next meeting agenda of the Sub-Committee.

(ii) Casino Locations (New Business – No Copy)

Tim McCabe distributed two maps to the Sub-Committee. The first map of the downtown indicated the three zones that currently permit commercial entertainment (D1, D2 and D3 zones) as well as the West Harbour.

The second map indicated other areas in the City of Hamilton which permit commercial entertainment, in conjunction with a hotel.

(g) ADJOURNMENT

(Partridge/Pasuta)

There being no further business, the Sub-Committee adjourned at 11:21 a.m.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted

Mayor R. Bratina, Chair
Gaming Facility Proposal Sub-Committee

Carolyn Biggs
Legislative Co-ordinator
Office of the City Clerk