



Hamilton

Minutes

FOOD & SHELTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 11, 2013 - 2:00 p.m.,

Neighbour to Neighbour Centre

28 Athens Street, Hamilton

Present: Chair: Alex Ramirez
Vice-Chair: Medora Uppal
Members: Carmen Saliccioli, Scott Jones Anne Wilson, Denise Arkell,

Absent with

Regrets: Fernando Forero, Maria Christina Pelaez; Don Jaffray, Larry Huibers, Thayra Marting, Katherine Kalinowski, Erika Reid and Laura Workman

Also Present: Greg Witt, Policy Analyst and Michele Attard (minute taker), Program Secretary/Housing Services Division; Carolin Anderson, Program Manager/Employment and Income Support Division

Guests: Paul Gregory and Alison Kooistra (Paul Dowling Consulting)

1. WELCOME

Alex welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

None

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

4. Minutes not approved

Approval of minutes for February 14, 2013 meeting (quorum not met for this meeting)

5. Discussion Items

5.1 Paul Dowling Consultants Day Services Review 2013

Alison and Paul asked members where they thought would be the best place for Homeless people to go during the day?

Alison read their definition of Day Services – “A space that allows people to come in without an appointment of application and spend time socializing, meeting their basic needs, and, at their own discretion, access specialized services designed to meet the needs of people who are homeless are at risk of losing their housing. These ‘services’ can include, but are not limited to; drop-in/day programs, therapeutic programs, recreational programming, shelter services, religious outreach and meal programs.”

The following was discussed:

- Churches, some have lunch programs one day a month
- Rec Centres, many of them are not being used during the day, possibly give out day passes
- Include Developmental Services for meaningful activities, possibly have free workshops
- What about ER diversion, some homeless people are going there when it is not necessary
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6. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

6.1 Work Plan for FSAC for 2013 - Priorities

There was discussion around the priorities for this committee; the following three priorities were set for the work plan:

- 1) Linkages with the City Food Strategy, the Food Charter
- 2) New HSB funding, endorse the extension of funding from June to December 2013
- 3) CHPI Review, how can this committee help with this initiative

Greg mentioned that the Homelessness Team is working on a Consultation Strategy for the CHPI Review. This will include consultations with the community and individual interviews with people with lived experience. There is also a “Public Talk” being held in partnership with the Street Youth Planning Collaborative, SPRC and the Affordable Housing Flagship on April 24th for folks in the community.

7 INFORMATION AND OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Follow up on Casino Discussion

There were no updates; members would like to discuss this matter if it becomes an issue at a future meeting.

7.2 Follow up on Member Survey

Alex thanked everyone for completing the survey. Alex reviewed the survey from 8 of the members:

- 7 out of 8 members liked the current location of Neighbour to Neighbour
- 7 out of 8 members thought that the current time was convenient
- Some of the members thought that to help with facilitation of meetings; have a clear identification of targets, have an agenda with a max of 3 items for debate, sometimes agenda is crowded.

7.3 Updates from Committee Members

Denise mentioned that the EFS Committee are working on the Emergency Food Strategic Plan and will give any updates at future meeting.

Medora updated members of the Report Card being developed by WAG, they are in Phase I, assessing the scope and being Hamilton specific, it should be launched in 2014.

8 ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 3:50.