



MINUTES

Social Determinants of Health Advisory Committee – Everyone Matters

Thursday, February 6, 2020 1:00 p.m.,

Committee Room 3, City Hall, 66 Charlotte Street Port Colborne

Attendees:

Co-Chair Lori Kleinsmith, Bridges CHC
Co-Chair Angie Desmarais, Councillor
Rob LaPlante, Niagara Regional Police
Jay McKnight, Niagara Regional Police
Jeffrey Sinclair, Niagara Region
Susan Therrien, Director of Library Services
Travis Morden, Municipal Law Enforcement Officer
Judy Cassan, Bridges CHC
Bill Steele, Mayor
Scott Lawson, Deputy Fire Chief
Tom Cartwright, Fire Chief

Regrets:

Christine Clark-Lafleur, Port Cares
Scott Luey, Chief Administrative Officer
Ryan Pearson, Niagara Community Legal Clinic

Minutes:

Nancy Giles, EA to Mayor and CAO

Co-Chair Angie Desmarais called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Lori Kleinsmith
Seconded by Bill Steele

That the agenda for the February 6, 2020 meeting of the Social Determinants of Health Advisory Committee – Everyone Matters be approved.
CARRIED.

Approval of the November 7, 2019 minutes

Moved by Bill Steele

Seconded by Rob LaPlante

That the minutes for the November 7, 2019 meeting of the Social Determinants of Health Advisory Committee – Everyone Matters be approved.

CARRIED.

Business Arising

Community Safety & Well-Being Plan

Michelle Johnson at Niagara Region was contacted and invited to this meeting. They have decided they are going to meet with the Port-ALL group on March 3, 2020 at 11 a.m. at the Reach Out Centre – there is an open invite to any member of this group to attend. They are also getting ready to launch their survey and Nancy will send out the link once received.

Housing and Homelessness Action Plan Task Force is also being consulted. Jeff Sinclair asked for representation from South Niagara and Christine Clark-Lafleur will be participating.

Lodging by-law

No update – municipalities have it – we will still proceed - there is also a provincial private member's bill proposed.

Need to speak with our CAO for an update.

Angie was at a meeting and speaking with Thorold's Mayor – they are doing a lot of work in this area, especially with student housing.

Affordable Housing

Angie spoke with Dan in Planning – they have decided to wait on this until the City's Strategic Plan is completed – and there is a budget ask for 2020.

Scott has met with Mark Butler and hopefully the Strategic Plan will be coming forward in about a month.

Scott Lawson expressed his concern about damage to a new build in the City by residents. Jeff explained that residents have responsibility for taking care of the unit. Jay – social workers are meeting residents and NRP is working with them on strategies for good tenancy. Need to advocate to the health system to support those with physical and mental issues and having 24/7 help available.

Success rate is 80-85% in the Home for Good and Housing First programs so in a building with 8 units, it is known that 1 tenant could fail.

Niagara Region can also provide some training to our new fire fighter volunteers on how to deal with these individuals with mental health/physical issues. Scott Lawson will contact the Region.

Let's Talk Series

The next talk at the Library is The Niagara Poverty Reduction Network – Housing Supports and Tenant Rights, February 26th at 6:30 p.m. – it is the only evening program. Sessions have been held in St. Catharines and Fort Erie. Our By-law Department will be attending to answer questions.

New Business

Letter from Minister of Children, Community and Social Services re Poverty Reduction Strategy survey

Lori advised that the province is legislated to review their Poverty Reduction Strategy. There is an online survey that has been launched. They are also accepting written submissions. Niagara Region is providing a regional response.

Lori, Angie and the Mayor will prepare a letter to submit. Income related to housing costs, echo language from the Region and inequity in funding formulas

Community Updates

None.

Action Items

- Note to Scott about Lodging By-law
- Letter to Minister of Children, Community and Social Services re Poverty Reduction Strategy survey

Next Meeting

Thursday, April 2, 2020 1 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.