



MINUTES

Social Determinants of Health Advisory Committee – Everyone Matters

Thursday, February 7, 2019

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
Bill Steele, Mayor
Rob LaPlante, Niagara Regional Police
Christine Clark-Lafleur, Port Cares
Jeffrey Sinclair, Niagara Region
Susan Therrien, Director of Library Services
Neal Schoen, Niagara Community Legal Clinic
Ryan Pearson, Niagara Community Legal Clinic
Judy Cassan, Bridges CHC
Sherry Hanson, Manager of By-law Services
Scott Luey, Chief Administrative Officer

Regrets:

Tara McKendrick – CAMH

Minutes:

Nancy Giles, EA to Mayor and CAO

Co-Chair Lori Kleinsmith called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Addition to the Agenda – Re-Appointment of Co-Chairs and amendment of by-law to remove East Village Task Force Representative and add a representative from the Niagara Community Legal Clinic and updates from community partners.

Moved by S. Hanson
Seconded by B. Steele

That the agenda for the February 7, 2019 meeting of the Social Determinants of Health Advisory Committee – Everyone Matters as amended be approved.
CARRIED.

2. Approval of the November 1, 2018 minutes

Moved by A. Desmarais
Seconded by R. LaPlante

That the minutes for the November 1, 2018 meeting of the Social Determinants of Health Advisory Committee – Everyone Matters be approved.
CARRIED.

3. Appointment of Co-Chairs:

Moved by B. Steele
Seconded by N. Schoen

That Angie Desmarais and Lori Kleinsmith be nominated as Co-Chairs.
CARRIED.

4. Amendments to By-law 6530/97/17

Moved A. Desmarais
Seconded S. Hanson

That this committee recommends to Council:

That Section 3 (k) of By-law 6530/97/17 be amended to remove “East Village Neighbourhood Improvement Task Force” and add “Niagara Community Legal Clinic” as the clinic name has changed;

and further that Section 3 (d) be amended to remove “One member of staff from the Community Services Division” and add “The City of Port Colborne Health Services Coordinator” as a voting member also removing reference to this position from Section 4 (a) and renumbering Section 4 accordingly;

and further that Section 3 be amended to add “One representative from Community Services, Niagara Region” as a voting member.
CARRIED.

5. Business Arising

Annual Report to Council: Reviewed and slight adjustments made. Lori will present to council in March.

Affordable Housing Report to Council – Motion coming to council Monday night – Angie will be bringing the following motion forward:

Whereas access to adequate housing is a fundamental human right (paragraph 25(1) of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and Ontario Human Rights Commission - Human Rights Perspective on Housing Supply, January 2019); and

Whereas Port Colborne is fast approaching a housing crisis with alarming occupancy rates, soaring housing costs and stagnating incomes (Ontario

Association of Food Banks, Quarterly Report, September 2018, Port Colborne Primary Rental Market Statistics, 2016, Key Housing Indicators for Port Colborne, July 5, 2017 and Where Will We Live – Ontario’s Rental Housing Crisis, May 2018); and

Whereas the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee and the Social Determinants of Health Committee, both being committees of this council have each placed housing as a priority to their mandate; and

Whereas designing and implementing a poverty reduction strategy has been included in the Port Colborne Strategic Plan (CAO Report No.:2015-47); and

Whereas adequate and affordable housing has been directly linked to poverty reduction (Wellesley Institute, Poverty Is a Health Issue: It’s time to address housing and homelessness, Oct 10, 2013)

Therefore be it resolved that The Corporation of the City of Port Colborne does acknowledge that housing is a human right and that municipal government has a role to play in the gradual realization of this right for all residents of Port Colborne; and

That planning staff be directed to engage with stakeholders to create a coordinated municipal affordable housing strategy for the city of Port Colborne with the goal to establish a definition for the term “affordable housing” and to create affordable housing options across the housing continuum, with a report due back to this council to include a high-level view of timelines and targets on or before May 27, 2019.

6. New Business

Report: Shared Prosperity: The Role of Municipal and Regional Government to Reduce Poverty in Niagara - was sent to all candidates, this could be a document to guide us. Take some time to review documents before next meeting. Another document - A Guide for Cities Reducing Poverty will be sent to members for review.

7. Community Updates

Library – supporting the priorities of this committee – have started their “Let’s Talk About ...” with the first one being Housing and Homelessness March 27, 2019 6:30 – 8:00 with Jeffrey Sinclair and Christine Clark-Lafleur. Future subjects include Youth Suicide, Human Trafficking, Substance Abuse, Legal issues.

Neal advised that Regional committee working legislation for rooming, lodging and boarding houses have a final draft by-law – by-law is going back to the CAO’s and they will decide the next steps.

Warming Centre – Angie advised that she volunteered at the newly formed Warming Centre that was set up by a local business – numbers reported in the newspaper

may be skewed by the Out of the Cold meal program on Tuesdays. There may be a need during extreme cold but it has become a coffee klatch. Christine advised that Port Cares have been working with PORTall and they are the eyes and ears of the community – there are 3 true homeless individuals – each is connected with a program – Christine thanked NRP for the wellness checks on individuals. Christine looked into providing overnight services and the costs to provide a minimal service is over \$1,000 per night. The Pastor at Christainview Centre is looking at possibly opening an overnight centre.

Lori advised that Bridges CHC is hosting a new program for accessing services for those with mental health and addictions. There is an Interprofessional Care Team - IPC Program – funded through the LHIN – there are hired social workers and psychotherapists – referrals are made from primary care physicians – appointment based – need to encourage people to ask for referrals – if they don't have a primary care physician, start with the outreach worker for the program, Noelle Antkowiak – she can get referrals – for ages 12 and up (Contact Niagara is the triage for 12-18 year olds). Members should try to encourage referrals from the local doctors.

8. Action Items

Annual Report to Council – Lori to present to Council in March

Affordable Housing Motion to Council – Angie to present at tonight's meeting

All members to review two documents for discussion at April meeting –

Shared Prosperity: The Role of Municipal and Regional Government to Reduce Poverty in Niagara

A Guide for Cities Reducing Poverty

9. Next Meeting

Thursday, April 4, 2019 1 p.m.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.