Present were: Vice Chair J. Mitchell, L. Armstrong, J. Brewer, T. Cowan, D. Craig, R. Deutschmann*, T. Galloway, J. Haalboom, B. Halloran*, R. Kelterborn, G. Lorentz*, C. Millar*, K. Seiling, J. Wideman, and C. Zehr

Members absent: S. Strickland

MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

MOVED by G. Lorentz
SECONDED by L. Armstrong

THAT a closed meeting of Community Services Committee be held on Tuesday, October 16, 2012 at 8:45 a.m. in the Waterloo County Room, in accordance with Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001, for the purposes of considering the following subject matters:

   a) personal matters about identifiable individuals – committee appointments

   CARRIED

MOTION TO RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

MOVED by J. Brewer
SECONDED by J. Wideman

THAT the meeting reconvene into Open Session.

   CARRIED

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST UNDER THE MUNICIPAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST ACT

None declared.

PRESENTATIONS

   a) Mary MacKeigan, Executive Director, Opportunities Waterloo Region, addressed the Committee on the issue of Increasing Local Food Security and provided a presentation about community gardens; a copy is appended to the original minutes. She summarized the number of gardens and plots established in the Region and offered a cost comparison of food purchased and food grown in community gardens.

   * B. Halloran joined the meeting at 9:06 a.m.
M. MacKeigan gave a history of the local neighbourhood markets, the community-government partnership established in 2007 and the Diggable Communities Collaborative. She highlighted the increasing capacity of the community garden council and gardens; the all-culture gardens; and, accessible gardens. She gave an overview of the cost savings and examples of the socio-economic benefits and summarized the next steps.

M. MacKeigan responded to Committee questions regarding the statistics available for publicly accessible and private lots, as well as the processes for establishing community gardens.

* R. Deutschmann joined the meeting at 9:18 a.m.

OTHER BUSINESS

Lee Ann Wetzel, Deputy Clerk, introduced the students in attendance from Pope John Paul II Catholic Elementary School and indicated that the students are participating in the Region’s celebration of Local Government Week, an initiative which helps citizens and students better understand local government and demonstrates ways that people can become involved in the community.

She highlighted the efforts of staff in the Regional Clerk’s office to promote Local Government Week and provided an overview of the Region’s Municipal Education Outreach Program; this is an educational program currently being offered to local grade 5 classes and there are plans for the development of a similar program for local grade 10 students.

REPORTS – Social Services

a) SS-12-045, Homeless Individuals And Families Information System Local Coordination Project (2012-2014)

Gail Kaufman Carlin, Acting Commissioner, Social Services, provided introductory comments.

MOVED by J. Wideman
SECONDED by T. Galloway

THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo approve entering into an extension of the funding Agreement in the additional amount of up to $60,971 with the Federal Government of Canada or a Ministry or agency thereof for continued local coordination of the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS) for the period July 25, 2012 to March 31, 2014;

AND THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo enter into an Agreement with the House of Friendship of Kitchener for up to $32,171 for continued delivery of certain aspects of the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS) for the period July 25, 2012 to March 31, 2014;

AND THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo enter into an Agreement(s) with consultant(s), as determined by the Commissioner of Social Services from time to time, for up to a maximum of $26,700 collectively for continued delivery of certain aspects of the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS) for the period July 25, 2012 to March 31, 2014;

AND FURTHER THAT the 2012 Operating Budget for Social Planning be increased by $17,604 gross and $0 net as outlined in Report SS-12-045, dated October 16, 2012.

CARRIED
REPORTS – Public Health

b) PH-12-041, Contraband Tobacco

Dr. Liana Nolan, Commissioner/Medical Officer of Health, advised that the report’s recommendation encourages the provincial government to continue to strengthen their strategies to address the manufacture and supply of contraband tobacco.

Sharlene Sedgwick Walsh, Director, Healthy Living, Planning & Promotion, responded to a Committee question about the new measure for a marking scheme of fine-cut tobacco.

MOVED by J. Haalboom
SECONDED by L. Armstrong

THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo write to the Premier in support of the Ontario Government’s most recent budget commitments to eradicate contraband tobacco through the implementation of additional regulatory, enforcement, and other provisions in Bill 186;

AND THAT the provincial government is encouraged to continue to strengthen their strategies to address the manufacture and supply of contraband tobacco;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be shared with surrounding Central West municipalities (based on Ministry of Health and Long Term Care boundaries); local area municipalities; local Members of Parliament (MPs); and, local Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs), as noted in report PH-12-041, dated October 16, 2012.

CARRIED

C. Komorowski, Manager, Food Safety, Recreational Water and Cambridge & Area Team, responded to Committee questions about the closures of premises and the increased number of premises being included in this quarterly report. He stated that closures are not typically permanent and that closure orders are removed once any health hazards have been corrected. He suggested that the increase in charges may be due to the increased number of inspections and he provided details about the compliance process, as well as the indications that education often rectifies most problems.

In response to a Committee question about the Region’s role and responsibilities, C. Komorowski provided details about the multi-prong reporting system in place.

In response to a Committee question about the purpose and intent of the Committee’s review of quarterly reports, Regional Chair K. Seiling advised that Regional Council is the Board of Health and had, in the past, asked staff to report any infractions on a quarterly basis; if other issues arise, Dr. Nolan, as the Medical Officer of Health, reports to Regional Council, as required.

In response to a Committee question regarding the Region’s jurisdiction for inspecting private residences, C. Komorowski outlined the legislative restrictions and the circumstances and criteria for Public Health inspectors and other municipal staff to become involved, citing
municipal zoning and other municipal by-laws as issues for consideration. He clarified that there are some exemptions of the Food Premises Regulation, when dealing with charitable organizations that are preparing food for community events.

* C. Millar joined the meeting at 9:32 a.m.

B. Halloran offered her welcome to the students from Pope John Paul II and asked C. Komorowski to share an overview of the role of Regional Public Health inspectors, for the benefits of the students’ awareness.

Received for information

d) PH-12-043, West Nile Virus Activity – 2012 Season End Update

Received for information

e) PH-12-044, Public Health Sector Strategic Planning and Collaboration with LHINS

Dr. Nolan made introductory comments.

Received for information

f) PH-12-045, Tuberculosis Program Report

Karen Quigley-Hobbs, Director, Infectious Disease, Dental & Sexual Health, provided summary comments, indicating that Regional rates are stable and lower than the provincial average. She responded to a Committee question about testing as a preventative measure, stating that screening is the primary means of identification.

Received for information

g) PH-12-046, 2012-2013 Influenza Season Update

K. Quigley-Hobbs stated that there have been two positive cases in the Region and this has resulted in the first institutional outbreak in the province. She stated that vaccines were distributed to long-term care facilities and primary care providers, as well as others, in early October, and that vaccines will be distributed to 23 local identified pharmacies, whose staff have received extensive training. Clinic dates have been established and Councillors were invited to receive their shots on October 24; 2012.

R. Deutschmann stated that he is concerned that Public Health hasn’t arranged for a clinic in North Dumfries and he asked that attendance numbers for the clinic set up by Langs Farm Village Association be reviewed by Public Health staff for future reference. He inquired about the cost of hosting a clinic in North Dumfries and asked that the information be included with the preliminary 2013 budget information. Dr. Nolan stated that staff can conduct a review of the data, as they have been tracking staffing at clinics over the years; the challenge, however, is low attendance. She said that a more detailed annual report can be prepared for next year.

In response to a Committee question about the effectiveness of the influenza vaccine, Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang, Associate Medical Officer of Health, stated that influenza has a tendency to change and sometimes becomes pandemic; this creates challenges when vaccines are in place but the vaccine is still the most effective intervention.
Received for information

h) PH-12-047, 2011-2012 Influenza Season Summary

K. Quigley-Hobbs provided an overview of the report, including statistics, and she stated that the Region continues to support other health care providers in the Region.

Received for information

REPORTS – Planning, Housing & Community Services

i) P-12-106, Waterloo Region’s Updated Community Action Plan for Low to Moderate Level Housing

Rob Horne, Commissioner, Planning, Housing and Community Services, introduced Deb Schlichter, Director of Housing, who provided an overview of the report. She gave the historical and legislative background for the updated plan and indicated that Regional Council will have regular opportunities for input.

MOVED by J. Wideman
SECONDED by R. Kelterborn


CARRIED

j) P-12-110, Waterloo Region Museum – Mid Year Update

Lucille Bish, Director, Community Planning, provided an overview of the Museum’s current year operations and projected revenues. She responded to a Committee question about the business plan projections.

Received for information

k) P-12-111, Housing Services Corporation Insurance Program Update

R. Horne stated that this update reflects the more openly competitive bidding process established for community housing and indicated that a report will be prepared for the Committee once the first bids have been received.

Received for information

INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE

a) Memo: Ontario Works Caseload: September 2012

Received for information

b) Memo: Update on Early Years System Plan & Forum Invitation
G. Kaufman Carlin highlighted the forum and extended an invitation to Councillors.

Received for information

c) Memo: Replacement of Technology: Social Services Solutions Modernization Project

Received for information
d) Memo: Communication with Ontario Works Participants

Received for information
e) Memo: Root Cause of Crime - RAP Sheet

Received for information
f) Memo: Between Life and Death: The Barriers to Calling 9-1-1 During an Overdose Emergency

Received for information
g) Memo: Staff Recognition

The Committee acknowledged the significant community contributions made by Regional staff and, specifically, John Prno, Chief, Emergency Medical Services.

Received for information

h) Memo: Information Requests

J. Prno responded to Committee questions regarding the operating cost per 1,000 population and clarified the information provided about response times.

In response to a Committee question about scheduled meetings for the working group, Dr. Nolan advised that dates have not yet been confirmed but she is consulting with S. Strickland about planning the next steps.

In response to a Committee request that the 2013 budget discussions include a presentation from Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Budget Committee Chair T. Galloway, advised that Council will be discussing and prioritizing which services they would like highlighted during the budget review process; this discussion will take place during the October 24 Budget meeting.

In response to a Committee question about the EMS response times and call volume for Cambridge, J. Prno suggested that it is likely an issue of geography; the river is a challenge in terms of station locations. He indicated that the higher call volume may be a result of the age and health of the Cambridge population.

Received for information

**OTHER BUSINESS**

a) Council Enquiries and Requests for Information Tracking List was received for information
NEXT MEETING – November 6, 2012

ADJOURN

MOVED by J. Brewer
SECONDED by T. Cowan

THAT the meeting adjourn at 10:06 a.m.

CARRIED

COMMITTEE VICE CHAIR, J. Mitchell

COMMITTEE CLERK, S. Natolochny
Project Update:

Food security: Increasing access to fresh, local, affordable food.
Why Community Gardens?
For every dollar invested...

...6 dollars of vegetables are produced.

Efficacy of Community Gardens as a Tool to Enhance Food Security, Ontario Health Promotion E-Bulletin, 20 April 2012 http://www.ohpe.ca/node/13198
The average input cost per garden was about $25, making the average garden savings $475 \textit{tax free}.  
An estimated 3,000 garden plots in the city of Boston produced $1.5 million worth of food - an average of $500 \textit{tax free} per plot.

Salomon & Shenot, 2006
## 2012 Produce Cost Comparisons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Yield per plant (each)</th>
<th>Yield per plant (weight)</th>
<th>Grocery store Cost</th>
<th>Store cost / Plant</th>
<th>Seed Cost</th>
<th>Seed Cost/Plant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Green Pepper</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>3 lb</td>
<td>0.97/lb</td>
<td>$2.91</td>
<td>$5.95/25 seeds</td>
<td>23 cents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cucumber</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.88/each</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>$2.50/50 seeds</td>
<td>5 cents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acorn Squash</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.99/each</td>
<td>$5.94</td>
<td>$2.75/15 seeds</td>
<td>18 cents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butternut Squash</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9 lb</td>
<td>$1.29/lb</td>
<td>$11.61</td>
<td>$3.50/40 seeds</td>
<td>8 cents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrot</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$0.19 each</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$2.95/1500 seeds</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow Onion</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$0.99/lb</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$3.25/300 seeds</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romaine Lettuce</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$0.99 each</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$3.35/500 seeds</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomato</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>$0.97/lb (approx. $.60 per tomato)</td>
<td>$9.70</td>
<td>$3.50/40 seeds</td>
<td>8 cents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potatoes</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.5 lb</td>
<td>$0.97/lb</td>
<td>$1.45</td>
<td>$10.95/5 lb bag</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$0.59/each</td>
<td>$1.78</td>
<td>$7.95/250 seeds</td>
<td>3 cents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherry Tomato</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$2.50/150 seeds</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Increasing capacity of the community garden council and gardens (2008-2010)

- Ethno-cultural outreach (2010-2011)
- Three new community gardens two of which are all-culture gardens (2011)
- Four accessible gardens (2011-2013)
Good Neighbour Garden
Summer, 2012
Neighbourhood Market

- made $250.00
- gave to neighbours in need

Cost Savings

13 households
$300.00 per household
$3,900.00
“The Good Neighbour Garden has brought out many qualities within the local community. Not only has it brought neighbours together, it has also given people a chance to fulfil an interest that they didn’t have an opportunity to satisfy in the past”

**Socioeconomic benefits of gardening.**

**Benefit**

**Life quality**
- Fresh food/vegetables
- Improved diet
- Personal satisfaction and enjoyment

**Economic well-being**
- Saved money

**Social well-being**
- Socializing
- Helping others
- Sharing the produce with others
- Feeling of self-sufficiency
- Improved neighborhood

www.joe.org/joe/1991winter/a1.php
Local food security and neighbourhood projects

Next Steps

- Complete the four accessible garden projects by summer, 2013
- The Good Neighbour Garden: plan and implement its training program on preserving food, and encourage experimenting with a community kitchen (2012-2013)
- Diggable Communities Partnership decides on new directions (2013)
- Complete the last of the 4 access to recreation for all youth projects in Wellesley Township
- Explore mobilizing and supporting other neighbourhood projects over the next few years
  - Woolwich Community Centre meeting this week
- Continue active participation in the Healthy Communities Partnership lead by Public Health