REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WATERLOO
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Tuesday, December 11, 2012
9:04 a.m.
Regional Council Chamber
150 Frederick Street, Kitchener


Members absent: J. Brewer

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST UNDER THE MUNICIPAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST ACT

None declared

REPORTS – Public Health

a) PH-12-050, Compliance with the Ontario Public Health Organizational Standards

Dr. Liana Nolan, Commissioner/Medical Officer of Health, stated that this report summarizes the first year’s experience and highlights the areas of improvement. She added that Public Health has achieved compliance with this standard.

Received for information

b) PH-12-051, Infection Prevention and Control Program Report

Dr. Nolan commented that this annual report summarizes the activities undertaken with local partners and in response to feedback from recent Board of Health Outcome (BOHO) surveys.

Received for information

* G. Lorentz joined the meeting at 9:06 a.m.
* T. Cowan joined the meeting at 9:07 a.m.

c) PH-12-053, 2012-2013 Influenza Season Update

Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang, Associate Medical Officer of Health, stated that the Region has had an early start to the flu season with 103 confirmed cases up until December 1st and 4 deaths where the flu may have been a factor. She advised that two more clinics are being held this year and that residents continue to have the option of receiving the vaccine from their physicians, other clinics or through local pharmacies.

In response to Committee questions about how many vaccines have been administered, Dr. Wang stated that this data won’t be available until the end of the season. Public Health staff only have data on the number of vaccines distributed in the Region but are in regular contact with physicians and other vaccine providers. She indicated that the current rate of vaccination is
approximately 22-28% within the Region. The vaccination rate through local pharmacies is reported directly to the Ministry of Health.

Received for information

d) CPC-12-004, Friends of Crime Prevention Launch

Juanita Metzger, Community Engagement Coordinator, Waterloo Region Crime Prevention Council, shared the launch video of the Friends of Crime Prevention initiative with the Committee.

Frank Johnson, a member of the Waterloo Region Crime Prevention Council (WRCPC), provided an overview of the new governance initiative, including the focus for social change and community development. He extended appreciation to the Regional Chair and Regional Council for their continued support.

* C. Millar joined the meeting at 9:14 a.m.
* B. Halloran joined the meeting at 9:16 a.m.

F. Johnson provided examples of local community engagement activities and the financial rationale and economic savings linked to crime prevention initiatives. He encouraged the Committee to sign-up as a Friend of Crime Prevention.

S. Strickland commented that all members of Regional Council are supportive of the WRCPC and he encouraged all members of Regional Council to sign up as a friend.

Received for information

**REPORTS – Social Services**

e) SS-12-053, Centralized Child Care Registration & Waitlist Data Base

Douglas Bartholomew-Saunders, Commissioner, Social Services, provided introductory comments and stated that the centralized registration and wait list will allow staff to manage and market the strategy more effectively. In addition, this system is also in use by other municipalities.

Received for information

f) SS-12-054, Children’s Services - Community Collaboration Grants

D. Bartholomew-Saunders stated that the funding will support the work of the Children’s Planning Table and is a great opportunity for community collaboration.

MOVED by J. Wideman
SECONDED by B. Halloran

THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo enter into an agreement with the Province of Ontario for the purposes of implementing the Community Action Integration Leaders Project;

AND THAT the Regional Municipality enter into an agreement with the Lyle S. Hallman Foundation for the purposes of utilizing the Community Collaboration for Children funding as outlined in report SS-12-054, dated December 11, 2012.
CARRIED

g) SS-12-056, The Region of Waterloo’s Comprehensive Approach to Poverty Reduction

D. Bartholomew-Saunders introduced the report.

Cheryl Grove, Social Planning Associate, gave a presentation to the Committee; a copy is appended to the original minutes. She acknowledged the involved community partners, some of which were in attendance and she stated that the comprehensive approach focuses on and expands upon what the Region is already doing. She provided statistics related to poverty in Waterloo Region and summarized the local impacts.

C. Grove indicated that the approach to make improvements on Regional activities will impact more than 50 programs and services already in place and that these activities will align with community efforts to reduce poverty, reduce service duplication and maximize the results of the collaborative efforts.

* R. Deutschmann joined the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

C. Grove provided an overview of the accomplishments to date and highlighted some activities for the future including an enhanced Grand River Transit (GRT) training curriculum and a Dialogue on Diversity forum in April 2013. She summarized the vision, values, guiding principles, priority areas, actions and next steps.

T. Galloway requested that the motion be amended to include sharing a copy of the staff report with area Members of Parliament and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM).

In response to a Committee question about staff’s forecast for when more funds can be directly allocated to services rather than to community awareness campaigns, C. Grove stated that the foundation for changing attitudes has been put in place. Currently, improving programs and services is the focus of the new approach. Current initiatives which improve service to those in need include making access to services easier by enhancing awareness, access to the 211 service, enhancing information on the ROW website, and streamlining the intake process.

Mike Murray, Chief Administrative Officer, indicated that through this process, attitudes have changed internally at the Region. He reiterated that all residents of the Region have a significant role to play in reducing poverty.

C. Grove responded to a Committee question regarding the activities of other communities.

D. Bartholomew-Saunders stated that this approach demonstrates the iterate nature of getting the word out. He commented that the Region has moved the bar significantly and that more money is reaching our clients but we must keep on top of this issue by continuing to provide leadership.

MOVED by T. Galloway
SECONDED by T. Cowan

THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo endorse the Region of Waterloo’s Comprehensive Approach to Poverty Reduction (Comprehensive Approach) outlined in report SS-12-056 and detailed in Appendix A;
AND THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo forward a copy to the Minister of Community and Social Services and local Members of Provincial Parliament, local Members of Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA), the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the participating community reference groups as outlined in report SS-12-056 dated December 11, 2012.

CARRIED, as amended

REPORTS – Planning, Housing & Community Services

h) P-12-132, Doors Open Waterloo Region 2012 –Tenth Anniversary

Rob Horne, Commissioner, Planning, Housing and Community Services, commented that this is a very popular and successful program; it received great exposure in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) media.

The Committee applauded the efforts of the hundreds of involved volunteers and the supportive coverage by local media.

* J. Mitchell joined the meeting at 9:49 a.m.

Received for information

INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE

a) Memo: Community Start Up and Maintenance Benefit Study

S. Strickland encouraged the Committee to review the study results prior to the upcoming Regional budget meetings since there are opportunities to align programs administratively.

Received for information

b) Memo: Region of Waterloo Library Service Review Research Results

R. Horne commented that the review work was lead at the staff level and he commended Regional Council for their support of the Regional libraries. He stated that the survey results concluded a high level of satisfaction with library services and library staff. He extended his appreciation to the members of the Library Committee for reviewing areas of improvement; some of which will be discussed in the upcoming budget.

T. Cowan stated that the report speaks to the high level of service being provided in the Townships through the Regional libraries.

Received for information

OTHER BUSINESS

a) Council Enquiries and Requests for Information Tracking List was received for information.

NEXT MEETING – January 8, 2013

MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION
MOVED by L. Armstrong
SECONDED by J. Haalboom

THAT a closed meeting of the Community Services and Planning and Works Committees be held on Tuesday, December 11, 2012 immediately following the Community Services Committee meeting 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) labour relations
b) litigation or potential litigation related to a matter before an administrative tribunal
c) personal matters about identifiable individuals - committee appointments
d) personal matters about identifiable individuals - committee appointments

CARRIED

ADJOURN

MOVED by J. Mitchell
SECONDED by G. Lorentz

THAT the meeting adjourn at 9:55 a.m.

CARRIED

COMMITTEE CHAIR, S. Strickland

COMMITTEE CLERK, S. Natolochny
The Region of Waterloo’s Comprehensive Approach to Poverty Reduction

We are all part of the puzzle – we all have a piece to play.
Corporate Strategic Plan Actions:

4.1.1 Develop and implement the Region of Waterloo's comprehensive approach to poverty reduction.

4.1.2 Continue to collaborate with community partners in broad based efforts to reduce poverty.
We can't afford poverty
If problems are interlocking then so too solutions must be ......
The Region of Waterloo's Comprehensive Approach to poverty reduction will enable all Regional departments to provide an integrated, collaborative and coordinated response to poverty reduction.
Development of the Approach

• Regional Poverty Reduction Steering Committee
• Building Resilient Communities Working Group
• Community Reference Groups
• Community and Staff Consultations
• June 1 Forum
Accomplishments to Date

- Heightened awareness about poverty
- Workshop on engaging priority populations
- Input into Grand River Transit training curriculum
- Input into the Central Transit Corridor planning
- Review of strategic and departmental plans for alignment
- Co-hosted a workshop on collaborative leadership
- Input into the Public Participation Project
- Linkages with the Diversity and Inclusion Strategy
The Region's Comprehensive Approach to Poverty Reduction

- Vision & Values
- Guiding Principles
- Six Priority Areas
- 21 Actions

Regional Poverty Reduction Steering Committee
September 24, 2012
Priority Areas

- Ignite Passion for a Poverty Free Region
- Change Attitudes and Actions Together
- Build Bridges
- Make Big Ideas Happen
- Take a Person Centred Approach
- Level the Playing Field
Next Steps

• Communicate the Comprehensive Approach;
• Develop detailed work plans;
• Develop the planning table;
• Complete the evaluation plan; and
• Continue to engage staff and community members.
Questions?