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

Members absent: J. Brewer, D. Craig and S. Strickland

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST UNDER THE MUNICIPAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST ACT

None declared.

REQUEST TO REMOVE ITEMS FROM CONSENT AGENDA

J. Mitchell requested that Item 4d, CPC-13-001, Bill C-10 the Safe Streets and Communities Act be removed from the Consent Agenda.

J. Haalboom requested that 4a, SS-13-004, Sunnyside Home Accreditation Results be removed from the Consent Agenda.

MOTION TO APPROVE ITEMS OR RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION

MOVED by J. Wideman
SECONDED by T. Cowan

THAT the following item be approved:

- THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo approve the 2013 Social Service Grants as set out in Schedule A of F-13-008 dated January 29, 2013;

  AND THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo approve a Private Homemakers Rate of $13.20 per hour effective January 1, 2013.

AND THAT the following items be received for information:

- PH-13-006, Quarterly Charged/Closed Food Premises Report
- PH-13-005, Support, Promotion and Protection of Breastfeeding Public Health Standard Operating Procedure
- Memo: Renewal of Employment Ontario Contract
- Memo: West Montrose Covered Bridge Public Information Centre
- Memo: 2011 Census Bulletins 2 – 6
- Memo: Joseph Schneider Haus Opens for the 2013 Season

CARRIED
REGULAR AGENDA RESUMES

SS-13-004, Sunnyside Home Accreditation Results

The Committee congratulated staff on receiving an accreditation with exemplary standing. Gail Kaufman Carlin, Director, Senior’s Services, acknowledged that the accreditation is as a result of the commitment to high quality service by staff and Regional Council.

Douglas Bartholomew-Saunders, Commissioner, Social Services, extended his appreciation to the staff at Sunnyside and the leadership of the Director. He advised that Sunnyside Home is now accredited for a full three years, which speaks highly of the staff and the quality of care.

CPC-13-001, Bill C-10 the Safe Streets and Communities Act

Vice Chair J. Mitchell made introductory comments and requested support of the notice of motion she introduced at the January 16, 2013 Council meeting.

MOVED by G. Lorentz
SECONDED by T. Galloway

WHEREAS municipal governments are the front-line providers of services and programs of community safety such as policing and emergency services as well as support services for offenders, sentenced to prison, when they return to their home communities;

AND WHEREAS new federal legislation, including the Safe Streets and Communities Act, is expected to substantially increase costs to public safety, enforcement and corrections at all orders of government;

AND WHEREAS in municipalities the legislation is expected to increase the demands on policing resources as well as demands for social, housing, employment and health services for offenders released from prisons and returning to their communities;

AND WHEREAS court delays due to mandatory minimum sentencing and other aspects of the new crime legislation will impact not only victims but also the number of accused on remand in Provincial prisons awaiting trial, where there is little to no access to rehabilitation programs and supports;

AND WHEREAS provinces may be faced with needing to cut other funds including funds for municipalities as a result of bearing the increased costs of incarceration in their facilities; and

AND WHEREAS evidence-based, comprehensive and integrated crime prevention, and safe alternatives to judicial and custodial options, such as restorative justice and alternative sentencing options (drug treatment and mental health courts, community service orders, fine option programs etc.) have proven not only to be effective in reducing crime but also effective in reducing the costs to police and other municipally delivered public safety services;

AND WHEREAS municipal governments recognize that they have a vital role in engaging in discussions on correctional issues that affect community safety both broadly and directly within their jurisdiction;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo submit for consideration to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) that they pass a resolution calling on the federal government to provide a rigorous cost-benefit analysis of the impact of increased and extended
incarceration and other consequences of the recent crime legislation on community safety, with particular attention to impacts on municipalities as a result of costs in policing and of reintegration of offenders released from prisons into their home communities;

AND THAT the proposed FCM resolution urge the federal government to work with all orders of government to continue to strengthen and invest in strategic, successful and proven methods in crime prevention, victim assistance, effective alternatives to judicial and custodial options and support for the effective integration of offenders released from prisons back into our communities;

AND FURTHER THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo call on FCM to pass a resolution urging the federal government to respond to all the issues as stated in the above operative clauses.

CARRIED

REPORTS – Social Services

a) SS-13-003, Sunnyside Wellness Centre

Julie Wheeler, Manager, Community Programs, provided the Committee with a general update about the Wellness Centre; a copy of her presentation is appended to the original minutes. She gave an overview of the facilities and programs offered; membership statistics; and, results of the 2011 program evaluation. She advised that the Sunnyside Wellness Centre has achieved a high level of reported satisfaction and has had a significant impact on the quality of life of seniors who access the centre.

Received for information

* R. Deutschmann joined the meeting at 1:57 p.m.

b) SS-13-005, Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative – Investment Plan

MOVED by T. Cowan
SECONDED by B. Halloran

THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo approve submission of the Region of Waterloo’s 2013/14 Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative Investment Plan to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing;


CARRIED

c) SS-13-006, Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative – Business Case

MOVED by J. Wideman
SECONDED by B. Halloran

THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo approve and submit the attached business case for additional Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative base funding of $1,175,000 from the

CARRIED

REPORTS – Public Health

d) PH-13-004, Region of Waterloo Public Health’s Radon Health Promotion Initiative

Dr. Liana Nolan, Commissioner/Medical Officer of Health, introduced the report and stated that this promotion is a new initiative under the new Ontario Health Standards.

Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang, Association Medical Officer of Health, stated that residents are encouraged to test their homes for radon gas. The gas can accumulate to higher than normal levels and can increase the risk of lung cancer. Public Health will be working on increasing public awareness about the impact of exposure to radon.

In response to a Committee question about whether Public Health is tracking radon levels in homes where a non-smoking resident has died of lung cancer, Dr. Nolan advised that this is not something that has been done systematically in the past; this is the first time that Public Health has tracked this data.

In response to a Committee question about the level of related incidents of cancer in other countries, Dr. Nolan advised that the prevalence of high exposure to radon is dependent upon the bedrock under a home and that no area that would have zero exposure. She stated that in the past, Public Health has focused on smoking as a cause for lung cancer but radon can account for 5-10% of lung cancer cases. The initiative is intended to build an understanding of the impact of radon in Canada.

Received for information

OTHER BUSINESS

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

b) J. Haalboom highlighted the upcoming circus-themed events at the Waterloo Region Museum.

NEXT MEETING – February 26, 2013

ADJOURN

MOVED by T. Cowan
SECONDED by C. Millar

THAT the meeting adjourn at 2:13 p.m.

CARRIED

COMMITTEE VICE CHAIR, J. Mitchell

COMMITTEE CLERK, S. Natolochny
Presentation to
Community Services Committee
January 29, 2013
• "Everyone is older and we don’t feel intimidated by younger people"
  - Wellness Centre Member
• "It’s not too big and overwhelming like some of the gym clubs"
• - Wellness Centre Member
• 300+ members/year; Age friendly, barrier-free, safe and welcoming environment

• Promotes healthy living, socialization and supports aging in place

• Certified Kinesiologist

• Services: RMT, Physiotherapy, Dental Hygiene, Foot Care, Therapeutic Spa and education programs
"Everything here is geared towards seniors, it is just wonderful. It has helped me a great deal."

- Wellness Centre Member
• "Without the Sunnyside Wellness Centre, I would be in agony and pain. It gives me hope that my body can be comfortable"
  - Sunnyside Home Resident

• "I wait for me appointment everyday! It has strengthened my legs so I can stand better"
  - Sunnyside Supportive Housing Tenant
Questions?

For more information on the Wellness Centre, or other Community Programs please contact Julie Wheeler x 6370

jwheeler@regionofwaterloo.ca