Regional Municipality of Waterloo

Community Services Committee

Minutes

Tuesday, June 16, 2015
10:50 a.m.

Regional Council Chamber
150 Frederick Street, Kitchener


Members Absent: W. Wettlaufer

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest under “The Municipal Conflict of Interest Act”

None declared.

Delegations

a) Tara Bedard, Manager, Immigration Partnership re: PHE-CRS-15-01, Waterloo Region Immigration Fact Sheets

T. Bedard appeared before the Committee on behalf of the Immigration Partnership to highlight the value of the Immigration Fact Sheets. She explained that these are widely used by their community partners and service providers to plan for their work with members of the community. She provided an overview of the content of the fact sheets and noted there are significant economic and social benefits in supporting immigrants to be a part of the community.

In response to a question from the Committee, T. Bedard explained that newcomers struggle with getting hired due to a number of different factors including employers that do not understand their situation, the availability of employment references, or
employers that generally distrust newcomers. She noted that the Immigration Partnership has been working with employers to open doors for newcomers and address other challenges. T. Bedard also explained that federal and provincial policies affect where newcomers are settling and that the Region and the Economic Development Corporation should work to influence those policies in order to attract people to the Region.

The Committee thanked T. Bedard for the presentation and for the positive work of the Immigration Partnership in the community.

Request to Remove Items From Consent Agenda

There were no requests to remove items from the Consent Agenda.

Motion to Approve Items or Receive for Information

Moved by D. Craig

Seconded by K. Kiefer

That the following items be approved:

- That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo approve the Region of Waterloo Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) Supportive Housing Program Standards;

  And That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo delegate authority to the Commissioner of Community Services to approve updates to the Region of Waterloo Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) Supportive Housing Program Standards as outlined in report CSD-HOU-15-08, dated June 16, 2015.

- That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo amend By-law 05-019 as amended, being a By-law to Establish Fees and Charges for the Regional Municipality of Waterloo, to add Preferred Accommodation (admitted after July 1, 2015) of $25.00 per day effective July 1, 2015 as outlined in report CSD-SEN-15-06/COR-TRY-15-60, dated June 16, 2015.

And that the following items be received for information:

- PHE-CRS-15-02, 2014 Update to Health Unit Profiles
- PHE-HPI-15-06, Health Hazard Prevention and Management Program Update

1896063
D. Craig noted that he had requested information on deteriorating Emergency Medical Services (EMS) response times in Cambridge. Dr. Liana Nolan, Commissioner/Medical Officer of Health, stated that a report on this topic is planned for the August meeting.

Chair G. Lorentz thanked Public Health and Community Services staff for the clear and concise annual reports.

Regular Agenda Resumes

Reports – Public Health and Emergency Services

a) PHE-PSV-15-05, EMS Master Plan Review

Stephen Van Valkenburg, Director/Chief Emergency Medical Services, explained that the report outlines the process for developing a new ten year EMS master plan that will look at the staffing, dispatch, and capital needs that will be required to address population growth and increasingly complex health issues in the future.

Moved by D. Jaworsky

Seconded by S. Shantz

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo endorses the process for reviewing the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Master Plan;

And That four (4) Members of Regional Council be appointed to serve as members of the EMS Master Plan Review Steering Committee including:
   a) The Chair of Community Services Committee (also representing Kitchener)
   b) The Vice Chair of the Community Services Committee (also representing the Townships); and

Carried

Reports – Community Services

b) CSD-EIS-15-05, Social Development Programs Annual Grants 2015

1896063
In response to a question from the Committee, Douglas Bartholomew-Saunders, Commissioner, Community Services, noted that the amount of money recommended for the Community Outreach Program includes the costs of employees and a small amount of overhead for the program.

Regional Chair K. Seiling noted that evaluation of existing programs is underway and reports on these evaluations may be brought forward to the Committee in the future.

Moved by L. Armstrong
Seconded by J. Mitchell

Carried

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

Next Meeting – August 11, 2015

Adjourn
Moved by K. Kiefer
Seconded by K. Redman
That the meeting adjourn at 11:12 a.m.

Carried

Committee Chair, G. Lorentz
Committee Clerk, T. Brubacher