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Windsor, Ontario September 27, 2016

A meeting of the **Housing Advisory Committee** is held this day commencing at 9:00 o'clock a.m. in Room 406, 400 City Hall Square East, there being present the following members:

Marina Clemens, Chair  
Councillor John Elliott  
Mayor Gary McNamara, Town of Tecumseh (arrives at 9:14 a.m.)  
Anna Angelidis  
Linda Coltman  
Steve Govette  
Eric Hill  
Jessica Kipping  
Cheryl Porter  
Leigh Vachon  
Angela Yakonich

**Regrets received from:**

Judith Binder  
Sid Palumbo  
Paul Renaud  
Jim Steele

**Also present are the following resource personnel:**

Chris Aspila, Planner III  
Debbie Cercone, Executive Director, Housing & Children's Services  
Kelly Goz, Coordinator, Housing Administration and Development  
Rob Oleynik, Coordinator, Housing Administration and Development  
Karen Kadour, Committee Coordinator

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair calls the meeting to order at 9:06 o'clock a.m. and the Committee considers the Agenda being Schedule "A", **attached** hereto, matters which are dealt with as follows:

**2. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT**

None disclosed.

**3. MINUTES**

Moved by L. Coltman, seconded by E. Hill,  
That the minutes of the Housing Advisory Committee of its meeting held April 26,  
2016 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.  
Carried.

**4. BUSINESS ITEMS**

**4.1 Program Delivery Summary (5 Programs)**

R. Oleynik provides an overview of the following documents:

1. September 2016 - HOP Rollup 2016
2. Windsor-Essex Federal Provincial Housing Program Allocations for 2016 and 2017
3. 2015 Fire Sprinkler System Loan Program – The deadline for fire sprinklers is January 1, 2019
4. 2016 Fire Sprinkler System Loan Program – Any surplus funds will be reallocated
5. 2016 Ontario Renovates Program for Homeowner – Ten year forgivable loan

In terms of the Windsor Essex Federal Provincial Housing Program Allocations for 2016 and 2016, R. Oleynik indicates the Energy Efficiency Program is new.

**4.2 Updates – 10 Year Homelessness Plan, Fidelity Report – Mental Health Commission of Canada and Point-in Time Count**

K. Goz provides an overview of the Windsor Essex Housing Connection Fidelity Assessment, and the Point-in Time Count as follows:

- In April 2014, the City of Windsor Housing Services Department was approved for Housing First Training and Technical Assistance by the Mental Health Commission of Canada. Housing Services received guidance and support to explore the Housing First model's principles, operations and approaches, and the evidence based practices that support recovery, which was tailored to Windsor Essex's specific needs to implement Windsor's Housing First program, Windsor Essex Housing Connections. In February 2016, the Mental Health Commission of Canada along with Sam Tsemberis from Pathways to Housing came to Windsor and completed a review of the Housing First program, Windsor Essex Housing Connections. Windsor Essex Housing Connections is a multi-agency collaborative program which began July 2015. The program offers varying levels of support for persons experiencing homelessness combined with mental health and addiction concerns.

- In October 2016, a report to Council detailed the findings of the Fidelity Report.
- On April 19 & 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016 the City of Windsor in collaboration with the Homeless Coalition of Windsor Essex Count undertook its first Point in Time Count (PiT Count) in conjunction with the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness' 20,000 (20K) Homes Campaign. Over 240 volunteers participated in the PiT Count which spanned 3 shifts over April 19 & 20, 2016. Due to the high number of volunteers who participated, all areas of the City and County identified by a sub-committee were surveyed;
- Some of the findings included:
  - 201 persons (including 7 families with 10 dependent children) surveyed stated they experienced some form of homelessness on any given night;
  - 29% of the people experiencing homelessness identified as being of Indigenous ancestry;
  - 6% of respondents identified as having veteran status.
  - 21% were youth between the ages of 15 – 24 years;
  - Approximately 50% of those surveyed have experience chronic homelessness (6 months or more of homelessness in the past 12 months)
- A report will be brought before Council later this year detailing the results.
- The Windsor Essex Housing Connection Advisory Board, continues to meet to discuss system gaps and challenges and looks to further educating the sector on Housing First, evidence based best practices and programs.
- The Windsor Essex Housing Connections partnership has expanded to include the Downtown Mission and Canadian Mental Health Association.
- The next Point-in Time Count will be held in Spring of 2018 and will have a focus on youth.
- The City of Windsor received an additional \$170,118 in 2016-2017 and \$170,118 in 2017 – 2018 from the Homelessness Partnering Strategy. Investments were made to support the hiring of additional staff to Windsor Essex Housing Connections to support the findings of the Point in Time Count and 20K Homes Campaign.
- The City of Windsor through an application process to the Ministry of Housing, received \$203,400 / year for two years to deliver a Survivors of Domestic Violence – Portable Housing Benefit (SDV-PHB). The SDV-PHB is a collaborative between the City of Windsor, the Windsor Essex Central Housing Registry, Hiatus House and Réseau-femmes du sud-ouest de l'Ontario. This pilot program is to assist 30 qualifying individuals and families experiencing domestic violence. The goals of the Windsor Essex SDV-PHB Pilot Program Delivery model are to:
  - a) increase support for those experiencing domestic violence to obtain and retain housing;
  - b) decrease wait times for housing assistance for SPP households and other households on the chronological wait list for social housing;
  - c) expand housing choice for SPP households;
  - d) evaluate the household's experience and range of benefit options with respect to the delivery of a portable housing benefit; and
  - e) align with Ontario's action plan to end sexual violence and harassment.

#### **4.3 Let's Talk Housing- Federal Housing Consultation Initiative for a National Housing Strategy**

R. Oleynik encourages HAC members to provide comments relating to the Federal Housing Consultation Initiative and notes the results will be posted on November 22, 2016.

#### **4.4 HAC Evaluation Subcommittee – 10 Year Housing & Homelessness Plan**

M. Clemens states a meeting of the HAC Evaluation Subcommittee will be convened.

#### **4.5 Secondary Suites**

C. Aspila notes the Draft Report entitled "Lodging House Official Plan Amendment (OPA) and the Zoning By-law Amendment (ZBA) dated September 20, 2013 in response to Council Motions M421-2012 and M420-2012" was deferred by City Council.

C. Aspila indicates the Planning Department will be undertaking a Secondary Suite Policy upon direction by City Council.

The Chair suggests a letter be sent to the Chief Administrative Officer, City of Windsor to ascertain when the secondary suites matter will be vetted by City Council.

D. Cercone states the issue of secondary suites in communities with a university/college causes intensification of existing neighbourhoods as it relates to street issues and parking.

C. Aspila advises the City of London has rewritten their Official Plan to allow secondary suites in all areas excluding those near universities and colleges. He adds as secondary suites have been tied to lodging houses, it is difficult to separate the two.

Moved by A. Angelidis, seconded by L. Coltman,

That the Chair of the Housing Advisory Committee **BE DIRECTED** to send a letter to the Chief Administrative Officer, City of Windsor to determine when the policy to permit secondary suites in the Official Plan will proceed to City Council, and further, that letters **BE SENT** to the Mayors/CAO's in the County to ascertain the status of secondary suites in their respective municipalities.

Carried.

**4.6 Central Housing Registry Changes**

M. Clemens, Chair of the Central Housing Registry reports changes will be made to the Central Housing Registry – Windsor Essex County Housing Application and related forms for implementation in November 2016. Changes will be made to, among others, Priority 1 (Special Priority Status – Ranks first on the CHR Wait List) and Priority 2 (Ranks second on the CHR Wait List) and various verification requirements to allow for easier completion and processing of the application form.

**5. UPDATES FROM MEMBERS**

D. Cercone reports that we have seen some secondary migration of Syrian refugees from other communities as they have required emergency shelter supports. Staff from Community Development and Health Services are working in collaboration with community partners to prepare for “Month 13”. Month 13 will see the ending of the one year financial commitment from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). At that time, refugees will either need to transition to employment or to Ontario Works for ongoing income support

L. Vachon thanks members of HAC as fire sprinklers have been installed at Victoria Manor.

**6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 15, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room, 1266 McDougall.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 10:13 o'clock a.m.

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CHAIR

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COMMITTEE COORDINATOR