Present:  Councillors T. Jackson (Chair), S. Duvall (1st Vice Chair), S. Merulla (2nd Vice Chair), B. McHattie, and B. Morelli

Absent with Regrets:  Councillor M. McCarthy – Other City Business
Councillor R. Pasuta – Other City Business

Also Present:  Councillor L. Ferguson
G. Peace, City Manager
J. Kay, General Manager/Chief, Hamilton Emergency Services
D. LaPointe-Kay, Acting, General Manager, Community Services
B. Browett, Director, Emergency Medical Services/Deputy Chief
T. Quinn, Director, Strategic Services
S. Langlois, Monteith Brown Consultants
S. Paparella, Legislative Assistant, Clerk’s Office

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REPORTED TO CITY COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. Resource and Deployment of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) (HES06005(b)) (City Wide) (Item 5.1)

   (Merulla/Morelli)
   (a) That Report HES06005(b) – Resource and Deployment of Emergency Medical Services be received.
(b) That Item “T” – Alternatives to Collaborate on the Improvement of Ambulance Dispatch Services, be considered completed and removed from the Emergency & Community Services Committee Outstanding Business List.

CARRIED

2. Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee Minutes, dated February 19, 2008 (Item 5.2)

(McHattie/Merulla)
That the Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee meeting Minutes, dated February 19, 2008 be received.

CARRIED

3. Arts Advisory Commission Minutes, dated June 26, 2007 (Item 5.3)

(McHattie/Merulla)
That Arts Advisory Commission meeting Minutes, dated June 26, 2007 be received.

CARRIED

4. Hamilton Historical Board Minutes, dated February 12, 2008 (Item 5.4)

(McHattie/Merulla)
That the Hamilton Historical Board meeting Minutes, dated February 12, 2008 be received.

CARRIED

5. Use, Renovation and Replacement Study of Hamilton Recreation and Public-Use Facilities - Guiding Principles Phase 1A (ECS07068(a)) (City Wide) (Item 7.1)

(Merulla/Morelli)
That the Guiding Principles, as outlined in Appendix A to Report ECS07068(a), be adopted.

CARRIED

6. Resource Limitations and Hospital Emergency Department Off-Loading (HES08006) (City Wide) (Item 8.1)

(Merulla/Duvall)
(a) That the Emergency Medical Services Resource and Deployment Advisory Task Force be directed to focus their monthly meetings, for as long as deemed necessary and starting in May 2008, to review hospital off load emergency department delays.

(b) That staff be directed, on behalf of the Emergency Medical Services Resource and Deployment Advisory Task Force, to invite to those
meetings all local MPPs, the City Manager, local hospital Chief Administrative Officers, senior Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care officials, the Local Health Integration Network representative, the respective paramedic unions, and any other stakeholders deemed relevant to the subject matter.

(c) That, at those meetings, the Emergency Medical Services Resource and Deployment Advisory Task Force seek to have the hospital administrations agree to immediately adopt the following guidelines, from Report HES06005(a), as approved by Council at its meeting of July 11, 2007:

“That the local hospitals (St. Joseph’s Hospital and Hamilton Health Sciences) continue to work collaboratively with Hamilton Emergency Services to reduce hospital off-load delays by considering the following:

- advocating for provincial assistance to resolve related health care system issues contributing to hospital off-load delays; and,

- to voluntarily implement the following guidelines:

  (i) That 90% of the time the patient will be off-loaded and the transfer of care be complete within 15 minutes of the paramedic arriving at the emergency department triage desk, and that this occurs within 30 minutes, 99% of the time.”

(d) That the Mayor correspond with the Honourable George Smitherman, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, to request that the Central Ambulance Communications Centre abide by the Provincial mandate to have a duly qualified supervisor on site 24 hours per day, seven days per week, effective immediately.

(e) That the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care acknowledge and pay the City of Hamilton 100% of all direct and indirect costs attributed to hospital off-load circumstances including, but not limited to, additional Emergency Medical Services resources, missed paramedic meal breaks, paramedic and Emergency Medical Service Supervisor overtime, added supply costs, added operational costs for ambulance use, firefighter overtime, salary costs, etc.

(f) That the Mayor correspond with the Honourable George Smitherman, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, to request that an immediate solution and response to the chronic “Alternative Level of Care” crisis that is contributing to patient backlog at the hospitals in the City of Hamilton.

(g) That Hamilton Health Sciences and St. Joseph’s Hospital be requested to review the process being utilized, by St. Joseph’s Hospital in Toronto,
respecting the flow of patients into the hospital emergency department to discharge in order to improve the patient off-load delay problem.

AMENDMENTS CARRIED
MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED

7. Ivor Wynne Stadium Rental Request from H.E.C.F.I. (ECS08018) (Ward 3) (Item 8.2)

(Merulla/Duvall)
That approval be given, for the single time use of Ivor Wynne Stadium on Saturday, August 23, 2008, from approximately 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., for the purpose of staging a country music concert, subject to specific City of Hamilton approved policies and guidelines. CARRIED

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

The Committee Clerk noted the following change to the agenda:

(i) Added as Item 4.1 – A delegation request by Mr. Jake Lawless, of the Rick Hanson Foundation respecting the annual Wheels in Motion event.

(Merulla/Duvall)
That the April 16, 2008, Agenda of the Emergency & Community Services Committee be approved, as amended. CARRIED

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

There were none declared.

(c) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 3)

3.1 April 2, 2008
(McHattie/Merulla)
That the Minutes of the April 2, 2008 meeting of the Emergency & Community Services Committee be approved, as presented. CARRIED
(d) Delegation Request by Mr. Jake Lawless, of the Rick Hanson Foundation respecting the Annual Wheels in Motion Event (Item 4.1)

(McHattie/Duvall)
That the delegation request by Mr. Jake Lawless, of the Rick Hanson Foundation respecting the Annual Wheels in Motion event, be approved.  

CARRIED

(e) Use, Renovation and Replacement Study of Hamilton Recreation and Public-Use Facilities - Guiding Principles Phase 1A (ECS07068(a)) (City Wide) (Item 7.1)

Terry Quinn, Director, Strategic Services, provided context and an overview of Report ECS07068(a), and then introduced Steve Langlois of Monteith Brown.

Steve Langlois, of Monteith Brown, provided an overview and PowerPoint presentation respecting the Guiding Principals for the Use, Renovation and Replacement Study of the Hamilton recreation and public use facilities. In that presentation, Mr. Langlois provided detail to the seven Guiding Principles, outlined in the Report ECS07068(a), and shown below:

1. Promote the Healthy Development of Children as well as Persons of all Ages in order to Build Healthy & Creative Communities
2. Ensure Appropriate Service Levels
3. Invest Strategically in the Redevelopment or Repurposing of Public Recreational Facilities
4. Meet the Needs of our Diverse Community & Ensure Accessibility
5. Exercise Fiscal Accountability
6. Strengthen Community Identity; Promote Community Pride & Cultural Awareness
7. Promote Environmental Protection and Stewardship

Councillor McHattie directed that staff consider the distance and access to facilities on foot and via public transportation with respect to Guiding Principle #7.

Councillor Duvall noted concern with respect to losing the use of facilities that currently exist in schools that are or will be closing.

Councillor McHattie advised that CityHousing Hamilton was looking at the possibility of purchasing closed school properties for use as senior housing; suggesting that there may possibilities in severing a portion of the greenspace, associated with these properties, for recreational use. It was noted; however, that
funding would be a key issue. The Councillor suggested that a model be looked at and discussed with the School Boards.

Councillor Jackson directed staff to consider the diversity of new and existing immigrants to the area, and the incorporation the type of sports or recreational facilities that would permit immigrants to continue to participate in the sports and activities they were used before immigrating to Hamilton.

(f) Outstanding Business List Items Requiring Approval for Proposed New Due Dates (Item 11.1)

(Merulla/Duvall)
That the proposed new due dates for Items “Q”, “X” and “GG” of the Emergency & Community Services Committee Outstanding Business List, be approved as follows:

(i) Item “Q” – Farmers’ Market Appeal Process  
Due Date: March 19, 2008  
Proposed New Due Date: May 21, 2008

(ii) Item “X” – Provinces Contribution to Hamilton’s Long-term Care Facilities  
Due Date: March 19, 2008  
Proposed New Due Date: May 7, 2008

(iii) Item “GG” – Hamilton East Kiwanis Non-Profit Homes - Termination of Section 95 Operating Agreement  
Due Date: May 7, 2008  
Proposed New Due Date: May 21, 2008

CARRIED

(g) Closed Session Minutes – April 2, 2008 (Item 12.1)

As the Committee determined that no discussion or amendments, respecting the Closed Session Minutes of the April 2, 2008, meeting of the Emergency & Community Services Committee were required, the Minutes were approved in Open Session, as shown below:

(Duvall/McHattie)
(a) That the Closed Session Minutes of the April 2, 2008, meeting of the Emergency & Community Services Committee be approved, as presented.

(b) That the Closed Session Minutes of the April 2, 2008 Emergency & Community Services Committee remain confidential and restricted from public disclosure, in accordance with exemptions provided in the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act." CARRIED
(h) ADJOURNMENT (Item 13)

(Morelli/Merulla)
There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor T. Jackson, Chair
Emergency & Community Services Committee

Stephanie Paparella
Legislative Assistant
April 16, 2008