MINUTES: Tenant Advisory Committee  
Friday, Sept 10, 2010 – 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Room CH433, City Hall

PRESENT: John Hawker (Chair); Mary Sinclair, Connie Bellamy, Susan Andrews

REGRETS: Andy Cranbury,

Also Present: Dave Brodati, Jennie Vengris, Michele Attard – City of Hamilton, Meaghan Ross – Housing Help Centre

1. OPENING & AGENDA APPROVAL
   1.1 – Welcome
       John welcomed Jennie to the meeting; introductions were made around the table.

   1.2 – Additions to & Approval of Agenda
       Connie asked to add an agenda item
       Agenda was accepted as amended. (Sinclair/Bellamy) CARRIED

   1.3 - DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
       None.

2. BUSINESS ARISING/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

   2.1 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES for June 11, 2010
       The June 11, 2010 minutes of the Tenant Advisory Committee (TAC) were approved as presented.  
       (Bellamy/Sinclair) CARRIED

   2.2 Business Arising from minutes
       Members asked if there had been any further discussions of the future of this committee. TAC will continue, hopefully members will reapply. Dave will send meeting notes from the June meeting to members.
2.3 Terms of Reference
Dave mentioned that the Terms of Reference for TAC have been forwarded to the Clerk’s office; TAC can continue to meet and there will be a transition phase for the new term of council. Dave will check and see if dollars from the 2010 budget can be spent past October. Dave will send copies of the revised Terms of Reference to all members.

2.4 Budget for 2011
Dave is working on the budget breakdown for the 2011 budget. The topic of conferences being included in the budget arose, members mentioned that Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Association (AODA) human rights conference is coming up. It was suggest that maybe TAC could coordinate having presentations which involve other advisory committees at the same time. Dave will bring back the breakdown of the budget to the next meeting.

2.5 Workplan
Members had some discussion on the workplan for 2011, acknowledging that the committee did complete most of the tasks for 2010; the issue that keeps arising are the bed bugs in the community. Members mentioned that there was an article in the paper today; it is a big problem, it has become an epidemic and should it be a health issue. Dave will check with public health and see where they stand with this issue; and ask if a staff person from Public Health can come to a meeting to talk about the issue at the November meeting. Members will draft a workplan and have a brainstorming meeting in October, looking at the accomplishments, and work on a tentative workplan for 2011. John questioned if he has to submit a report to council at the October 8th meeting, Dave will follow up for John.

3. REPORTS

3.1 Solutions for Housing Action Committee (SHAC)
Mary mentioned that it is National Housing Day November 25th.

3.2 Tenant Education and Outreach Initiative (TEOI)
Meaghan asked members if they would consider signing a pledge for Hamilton’s Common Campaign Coalition. Meaghan gave a brief summary of the issues:
1) Adequate Income – living wage for workers
2) Affordable Transit – pilot project 2008, ends April 2011
3) Rent Supplements – to extend program beyond 2013
Members endorsed the campaign and asked Meaghan to print a copy and John, the chair will sign. Meghan will email information to members before the next meeting.
Members agreed to pledge $100.00 towards the candidates housing meeting October 4th. Dave will follow up with the process to have a cheque produced. Meaghan mentioned that she could put forth any questions from TAC at that meeting asking if members could send questions to her beforehand.

3.3 City Housing Hamilton
No updates
3.4 Housing
Dave informed members that there was a motion by Councillor McHattie at the Emergency Community and Services for staff to review the loss of rental housing to condominium conversions. Dave will be doing the review and will update members at the meeting in October.

4. Work Plan
See item 2.5.

5. New Business

5.1 Integrating Neighborhoods Event
Dave informed member of the event sponsored by SPRC, Trillium Foundation and Affordable Housing Flagship, October 12, 2010 at the Waterfront Banquet Centre.
Dave asked members if they would like to attend the event and the costs for registration could be submitted to the TAC budget. John and Mary said that they would like to attend, Dave asked other members to let him know as soon as possible if they can attend.

5.2 Motion
Connie asked to present a motion:
That there is an official commendation for Michele Attard for her perseverance and long service. Dave will mention this to Brian Kreps, Manager Homelessness.
(Bellamy/Sinclair) CARRIED

6. Future Meeting
Next meeting will be held on Friday October 8, 2010 in room CH433 at City Hall.

7. Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.