EMERGENCY & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
REPORT 11-009
1:30 p.m.
Wednesday, June 22, 2011
Hamilton City Hall
Council Chambers
71 Main Street West
Hamilton, Ontario

Present: Councillor S. Merulla, Chair
Councillor, J. Partridge, Vice-Chair
Councillors S. Duvall, T. Jackson, B. McHattie, B. Morelli,
T. Whitehead

Absent with Regrets: Councillor J. Farr – Personal

Also Present: G. Hendry, Director, Social Housing & Homelessness
A. Bradford, Director, Culture Division
J. Kaye, Manager, Arts and Culture
B. Browett, Director, EMS
C. Newman, Legislative Assistant, City Clerk’s Office

THE EMERGENCY & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT 11-009 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS::

1. Summary of Operational Reviews for Social Housing Providers in 2010 (CS11044) (City Wide) (Item 5.2)

That Report CS11044 respecting the Summary of Operational Reviews for Social Housing Providers in 2010, be received.

2. Outdoor Recreation Facilities & Sports Field Provision Plan (previously the Sports Field Management Strategy) (CS11064) (City Wide) (Item 5.3)

That Report CS11064 respecting the Outdoor Recreation Facilities & Sports Field Provision Plan, be received.
3. Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion - Funding Agreement (CS11023(a)) (City Wide) (Item 5.4)

That Report CS11023(a) respecting the Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion - Funding Agreement, be received.

4. Overview of the Impact of Federal Homelessness Funding in the City of Hamilton (CS11062) (City Wide) (Due to bulk, Appendix A has not been printed in the agenda, but is available for viewing on the City’s website at www.hamilton.ca. Hard copies are available by contacting the Clerk’s Office) (Item 7.1)

That Report CS11062 respecting the Overview of the Impact of Federal Homelessness Funding in the City of Hamilton, be received.

5. Domiciliary Hostel Program Re-Investment (CS11050) (City Wide) (Item 8.1)

That Report CS11050 respecting the Domiciliary Hostel Program Re-Investment, be received.

6. Community Heat Response Plan (CS11063) (City Wide) (Item 8.2)

That Report CS11063 respecting the Community Heat Response Plan, be received.

7. One time funding request for the Boys and Girls Club of Hamilton (Kiwanis) Recreation Centre (CS11032) (Ward 4) (No copy - To be distributed.) (Item 8.3)

(a) That a one time funding increase in the amount of $25,000 be approved for the Boys and Girls Club of Hamilton (Kiwanis) for the operation of the Boys and Girls Club;

(b) That the one time funding payment of $25,000, as outlined in Recommendation (a) of Report CS11032, be funded first from any 2011 Community Services Department surplus, second from any 2011 Corporate surplus and lastly from the Tax Stabilization Reserve; and,

(c) That a Fee for Service Agreement, a framework for program delivery and an evaluation process for the Recreation Division operating grants be developed prior to the 2012 budget process.


FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

7. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

7.1 Overview of the Impact of Federal Homelessness Funding in the City of Hamilton – copies of presentation distributed to Committee

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

8.3 One time funding request for the Boys and Girls Club of Hamilton (Kiwanis) Recreation Centre – copies of report CS11032 distributed to Committee

On a motion the agenda for the June 8, 2011 Emergency & Community Services Committee meeting was approved, as amended.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

There were none declared.

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

On a motion the Minutes of the June 8, 2011 meeting were approved as presented.

(d) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 4)

(i) Cindy Sue McCormack, Social Planning and Research Council/Hamilton Executive Director’s Aboriginal Coalition, to present the findings of “Our Health Counts - First Nations Aboriginal Health Survey” as it relates to the housing and homelessness status of the Aboriginal Community of Hamilton. To speak at today’s meeting regarding Item 7.1. (Item 4.1)

On a motion the rules of order were waived to allow Ms. McCormak to address the Committee at today’s meeting with respect to item 7.1
(ii) Kate Crerar Bell, PEMEvents, to present research regarding value-for-money assessment of social services in Hamilton and suggest a means of improving those systems as a whole to reduce poverty while improving infrastructure. (Item 4.2)

On a motion the delegation request by Kate Crerar was approved to speak at a future meeting.

(e) CONSENT ITEMS (Item 5)

(i) Seniors’ Advisory Committee Minutes, May 6, 2011 (FOR INFORMATION ONLY) (Item 5.1)

On a motion the Seniors’ Advisory Committee Minutes of May 6, 2011 were received.

(f) PUBLIC HEARING/DELEGATIONS (Item 6)

(i) Peter Hasek, independent citizen, to request the establishment of a task force to study, define and create binding recommendations for the development and founding of a non-profit, “tenant support” organization for Hamilton’s 13,000 social housing tenants. (Approved April 6, 2011) (Item 6.1)

Mr. Hasek gave a presentation to Committee. His comments included but were not limited to the following:

Mr. Hasek indicated that he has had a long history working with CityHousing Hamilton. The purpose of his delegation is to request that Emergency & Community Services Committee create a task force to study, define, and make recommendations for the creation of a non-profit tenant support organization and a fund raising foundation to support social housing tenants.

Mr. Hasek felt that this was a much-needed program, as it would go beyond what CityHousing Hamilton is already doing.

The Committee indicated that CityHousing Hamilton was currently working on a tenant engagement strategy to address tenants issues, with the assistance of consultants. Staff indicated that a report will respecting tenant engagement will be presented to Committee before the end of the year.

On a motion the presentation by Peter Hasek respecting the establishment of a task force to study, define and create binding
recommendations for the development and founding of a non-profit, “tenant support” organization for Hamilton’s social housing tenants was received.

(g) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 7)

(i) Overview of the Impact of Federal Homelessness Funding in the City of Hamilton (CS11062) (City Wide) (Due to bulk, Appendix A has not been printed in the agenda, but is available for viewing on the City's website at www.hamilton.ca. Hard copies are available by contacting the Clerk’s Office) (Item 7.1)

Molly Elliott, Senior Policy Analyst in the Social Housing and Homelessness Division, made a presentation to Committee with the aid of PowerPoint presentation. Her comments included but were not limited to the following:

Impacts of Federal Homelessness Funding in the City of Hamilton

“Designated Communities” Stream History in Hamilton

Two streams of funding:
- Aboriginal stream of funding
- Designated community stream

A portion of funds from the designated communities stream has been redirected to the Aboriginal stream of funding.

Phrases of Homelessness Response
- Emergency shelter system
- Transitional Housing
- Housing First

HPS in Filling the Gaps
- Capital investment in existing infrastructure
- Core program funding
- System planning & development
- Pilot projects to test innovation

Implementing the 2011 – 2014 HPS Program

HPS Community Advisory Board
- Housing & Homelessness Planning Group
- HPS Funding Review Panel

The Committee thanked Ms. Elliott for her presentation.
(i)(a) Cindy Sue McCormack, Social Planning and Research Council/Hamilton Executive Director's Aboriginal Coalition, to present the findings of “Our Health Counts” - First Nations Aboriginal Health Survey” as it relates to the housing and homelessness status of the Aboriginal Community of Hamilton.

Ms. McCormack gave a presentation to Committee on behalf of the Hamilton Executive Directors’ Aboriginal Coalition. Her comments included but were not limited to the following:

- The population of Hamilton’s urban aboriginal community is approximately 14,000, of which 40% is under the age of 25.
- Ms. McCormack discussed the methods of the “Our Health Counts” report and proceeded to go through some of the findings of the report as it related to Aboriginal peoples.
- Ms. McCormack indicated that a very good relationship has been built between the Aboriginal community and the City, and she hopes for further cooperation.

The Committee asked Ms. McCormack if she had any suggestions for Committee on the issues raised during the presentation. Ms. McCormack indicated that she is currently working with City staff on a number of the issues, and plans on bring more presentations to E&CS as needed.

On a motion, the delegation by Cindy Sue McCormack, respecting “Our Health Counts” - First Nations Aboriginal Health Survey” as it relates to the housing and homelessness status of the Aboriginal Community of Hamilton was received.

(h) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 8)

(i) Domiciliary Hostel Program Re-Investment (CS11050) (City Wide) (Item 8.1)

Committee requested an update on meetings that have been occurring with respect to the re-investment in the Domiciliary Hostel. Staff indicated that consultants have been performing a review and a report will be brought to the September 8th meeting, along with options for Committee with respect to the next steps in assisting the hostel (eg. funding).
(ii) Community Heat Response Plan (CS11063) (City Wide) (Item 8.2)

The Committee asked staff for clarification as to why 3 of the 50 splash pad locations have extend hours. Staff indicated extended hours of these splash pads is to make up for a lack of other facilities such as swimming pools.

On a motion Report CS11063 respecting the Community Heat Response Plan was received.

(iii) One time funding request for the Boys and Girls Club of Hamilton (Kiwanis) Recreation Centre (CS11032) (Ward 4) (No copy - To be distributed.) (Item 8.3)

The Committee indicated support for the Kiwanis Boys and Girls Club of Hamilton and felt that an overall review of funding they receive from the City should be conducted.


Mr. Browett indicated that Hamilton’s EMS services are exhausted. Councillor McHattie suggested the issue of additional resources to Hamilton’s EMS services has been on the radar for quite some time. It is his intention to bring forward a motion respecting adding additional resources to Hamilton’s ambulance/paramedic services at a future meeting.

(i) GENERAL INFORMATION (Item 11)

11.1 Outstanding Business List (Item 11.1)

(i) Proposed New Due Date:

On a motion the due dates of the following Outstanding Business List Items were amended as outlined below:

(a) Item “K”, City of Hamilton Domiciliary Hostel Program Review
   Current Due Date: June 22, 2011
   Proposed New Due Date: September 8, 2011

(b) Item “L”, Sports Field Management Strategy
   Current Due Date: June 22, 2011
   Proposed New Due Date: November 23, 2011

Council – June 29, 2011
Councillor Morelli raised an issue of new business.

11.2 Summer Music Series at Gage Park

On a motion staff was directed to develop a framework for the delivery of a summer music series at Gage Park, including financial and staffing implications, and report back to the July 4 (or August 9) GIC meeting with options for program delivery.

(j) ADJOURNMENT

On a motion the Emergency & Community Services Committee meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor S. Merulla, Chair
Emergency & Community Services Committee

Christopher Newman
Legislative Assistant
June 22, 2011