BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES 10-007
9:30 a.m.
September 27, 2010
Council Chambers
Hamilton City Hall

Present: Mayor F. Eisenberger, Chair
Councillor C. Collins, Deputy Mayor (Vice-Chair)
Councillors B. Bratina, B. Clark, S. Duvall, M. McCarthy,
B. McHattie, S. Merulla, D. Mitchell, B. Morelli, R. Pasuta,
M. Pearson, and R. Powers,
Absent with regrets: Councillors L. Ferguson, T. Jackson, and T. Whitehead,
Personal
Also Present: Dr. E. Richardson, Medical Officer of Health
Dr. C. Mackie, Associate Medical Officer of Health
Dr. N Tran, Associate Medical Officer of Health
D. Barr-Eliott, Director, V. Edwards, Healthy Living Division
T. Bendo, Director, Planning and Continuous Improvement Division
R. Hall, Director, M. Lawson, Health Protection Branch
G. McArthur, Director, Clinical and Preventative Services Division
D. Sheehan, Director, Family Health Division
I. Bedioui, A. Grozelle, Legislative Assistants, City Clerk’s

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REFERRED TO COUNCIL FOR ITS CONSIDERATION:

1. Child and Adolescent Services Situational Assessment BOH10027 (City Wide) (Item 5.1)
   (McHattie/Bratina)
   That Report BOH10027 entitled Child and Adolescent Services Situational Assessment be received.
   CARRIED
2. Pedestrian Initiatives BOH10026/PW10091/PED10237 (City Wide) (Item 5.2)

(McHattie/Bratina)
That Report BOH10026/PW10091/PED10237 respecting Pedestrian Initiatives, be received.

CARRIED

3. Smoking in Movies Policy Action BOH10028 (City Wide) (Item 5.3)

(McHattie/Bratina)
That Report BOH10028 respecting Smoking in Movies Policy Action, be received.

CARRIED

4. Communicable Disease and Health Hazard Investigations Quarterly Report Q2 (April 1, 2010 – June 30, 2010) BOH10017(b) (City Wide) (Item 5.4)

(McHattie/Bratina)
That Report BOH10017(b) entitled Communicable Disease and Health Hazard Investigations Quarterly Report (Q2) (April 1, 2010 – June 30, 2010), be received.

CARRIED

5. Public Health School Asthma Project Budget BOH10025 (City Wide)(Item 5.5)

(McHattie/Bratina)
That the 2010-2011 budget for the Public Health School Asthma Project (PHSAP) in the amount of $100,200, which is 100% funded by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, be approved.

CARRIED

6. Re-establishment of Sub-Committees Reporting to the Board of Health CL10007(e) (City Wide) (Item 8.1)

(Merulla/Powers)
(a) That the Sub-Committees, as outlined in Appendix “A”, as amended, attached to Report CL10007(e), be re-established to report to the Board of Health, for the 2010-2014 term of Council;

(b) That the Sub-Committee, as outlined in Appendix “B” attached to Report CL10007(e), not be re-established;

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(c) That the required Council appointments for each Sub-Committee, in accordance with the composition as shown, be determined at the Nominating Committee meeting of the new term of Council;

(d) That the terms for the citizen members be for the term of the 2010-2014 Council, or until such time as their respective mandates have been completed, or successors have been appointed by Council.

(e) That the following Sub-Committee be disbanded as its mandate is now complete:

(i) Pesticide Sub-Committee

CARRIED

7. Emergency Air Monitoring (verbal Update) (Item 8.2)

(Merulla/Collins)
That the Mayor send a letter to the Premier of Ontario, with copies to the area Members of Provincial Parliament (MPP’s) reaffirming the position of the City of Hamilton with respect to Bill 164, the proposed “Community Right to Know” legislation.

CARRIED

8. Pilot Project for Air Monitoring in the East End of Hamilton BOH10022 (Ward 5) (Item 8.3)

(Collins/Merulla)
(a) That one-time funding, in the amount of $69,500, for a Pilot Air Monitoring Project for the East End of Hamilton, be referred to the 2011 Budget Process for consideration;

(b) That the Mayor write to the area Ministers of Provincial Parliament (MPP’s) requesting assistance for the Pilot Air Monitoring Project for the East End of Hamilton;

CARRIED

9. Nutritious Food Basket BOH10024 (City Wide) (Item 8.4)

(McCarthy/Clark)
(a) That the Board of Health correspond with the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Community and Social Services to request that the Ministry of Community and Social Services include the following recommendations in their Poverty Reduction Strategy:

(i) Introduce a $100 Healthy Food Supplement, and a Housing Benefit for those receiving Social Assistance; and,
(ii) Implement Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program rates that reflect the real cost of healthy living, including nutritious food, and adjust index rates annually to reflect the current rate of inflation.

(b) That the Board of Health correspond with the Minister of Children and Youth Services to request the expansion of provincial Student Nutrition Programs to all elementary and secondary school students;

(c) That the Board of Health correspond with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Minister of Human Resources & Skills Development and Canada Mortgage & Housing Corporation requesting that funding for the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program be renewed.

(d) That the Board of Health and the Medical Officer of Health request that the President and Chief Executive Officer and the Director of Surveillance and Epidemiology of the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (OAHPP) explore the development of a long-term system to monitor access to safe, nutritious and culturally-acceptable food.

(e) That staff be directed to assess the feasibility of implementing a model program for nutritious food and report back to the Board of Health;

(f) That the implementation of a universal school food program be made a City priority.

CARRIED

10. Correspondence (Item 11.1)

(Powers/Pasuta)
That the dispositions for the following Items of communication be approved:

(a) Correspondence from the Honourable Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long Term Care, dated July 29, 2010 respecting 2010 Provincial funding for the provision of mandatory and related public health programs and services in the City.

Recommendation: Be received.

(b) Copy of letter to the Minister of Health Promotion and Sport from Dennis Roughley, Chair of the Simcoe Muskoka District Board of Health respecting the Harmful Effects of Artificial Tanning along with attached briefing note.
Recommendation: Be received. CARRIED

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

The Clerk advised of the following changes to the agenda:

(i) Delegation request from Valerie Sturrock respecting agenda Item 8.4, regarding Nutritious Food Basket, was added to the agenda as Item 4.3.

(ii) Appendix “A” to Item 8.1 respecting the Re-establishment of Sub-Committees Reporting to the Board of Health (CL1007(e)) was amended as follows:

(1) the words adequate diet for health were added to the end of the mandate of the Community Food Security Stakeholder Committee;

(2) The composition of the Community Food Security Stakeholder Committee was changed from 5 citizen members to 10 to 12 citizen members

(Pasuta/Mitchell)
That the agenda be approved as amended. CARRIED

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

(c) MINUTES (Item 3)

(Clark/Merulla)
That the Minutes of the July 7, 2010 meeting be approved as presented. CARRIED

(d) DELEGATION REQUESTS

(i) (Item 4.1) Diane Chiarelli, Social Action Committee of the Ontario Association of Social Workers, Hamilton and District Branch respecting Report BOH10024 - Nutritious Food Basket (Item 8.4)

(McHattie/Bratina)
That the Delegation Request by Diane Chiarelli, Social Action Committee of the Ontario Association of Social Workers, Hamilton and District Branch
(McCarthy/Merulla)
That the rules of order be waived to allow the delegation by Diane Chiarelli, Social Action Committee of the Ontario Association of Social Workers, Hamilton and District Branch respecting Report BOH10024 - Nutritious Food Basket (Item 8.4), to be heard today.

CARRIED

(ii) (Item 4.2) Sally Palmer, CAWDB, respecting Report BOH10024 - Nutritious Food Basket (Item 8.4)

(Pasuta/McCarthy)
That the Delegation Request by Sally Palmer, CAWDB, respecting Report BOH10024 – Nutritious Food Basket (Item 8.4), be approved.

CARRIED

(McCarthy/Merulla)
That the rules of order be waived to allow the delegation by Sally Palmer, CAWDB, respecting Report BOH10024 – Nutritious Food Basket (Item 8.4), to be heard today.

CARRIED

(iii) (Added Item 4.3) Valerie Sturrock respecting Report BOH10024 – Nutritious Food Basket (Item 8.4)

(Duvall/McHattie)
That the Delegation Request by Valerie Sturrock respecting agenda Item 8.4, Report BOH10024 – Nutritious Food Basket, be approved.

CARRIED

(McCarthy/Merulla)
That the rules of order be waived to allow the delegation by Valerie Sturrock respecting agenda Item 8.4, Report BOH10024 – Nutritious Food Basket, to be heard today.

CARRIED

(e) PUBLIC HEARINGS/DELEGATIONS (Item 6)

(i) Delegation by Doctor Bryon DeFrance, McMaster University Council – September 29, 2010
respecting Hamilton Health Sciences’ “Access to Best Care” Plan and the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology’s petition to the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant LHIN. (Item 6.1)

Doctor DeFrance was not in attendance. Councillor McHattie explained that there have been new developments recently with respect to the proposed “Access to Best Care” plan that may address the concerns of Doctor DeFrance and the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

(ii) Delegation by Diane Chiarelli, Social Action Committee of the Ontario Association of Social Workers, Hamilton and District Branch respecting Item 8.4, Report BOH10024 - Nutritious Food Basket (Item 6.2)

Chair Eisenberger called the delegate Diane Chiarelli, Social Action Committee of the Ontario Association of Social Workers, Hamilton and District Branch to the podium. Her comments included but were not limited to the following:

- Hamilton residents continue to face challenges in meeting their nutritional needs;
- Social workers are concerned with those residents on social assistance do not have the necessary funds to purchase nutritional food;
- Food banks do not always provide quality food;
- The demand for food is higher than the supply in the food banks;
- Small efforts can address these problems and these problems must be resolved.

The Board thanked Diane Chiarelli for her presentation on this matter.

(Merulla/Collins)
That the delegation by Diane Chiarelli, Social Action Committee of the Ontario Association of Social Workers, Hamilton and District Branch respecting Report BOH10024 - Nutritious Food Basket, be received.

CARRIED

(iii) Delegation by Sally Palmer, CAWDB, respecting Item 8.4, Report BOH10024 - Nutritious Food Basket (Item 6.3)

Chair Eisenberger called the delegate Barbara LaFleshe of CAWDB who was in attendance to speak on behalf of Sally Palmer to the podium. Her comments included but were not limited to the following:

- The staff report does not comment on the inability of some
Residents to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables due to the lack of finances;
- Some people are forced to eat food that is low in nutritional value to stop the hunger.

Barbara LaFleshe responded to questions from the Board and indicated that in order to address this problem; the City should obtain input from the residents who are living in poverty. The Board thanked Barbara LaFleshe for her presentation on this matter.

(Morelli/Pasuta)
That the delegation by Barbara LaFleshe, CAWDB respecting Report BOH10024 - Nutritious Food Basket, be received.  

CARRIED

(iv) Delegation by Valerie Sturrock, respecting Item 8.4 Report BOH10024 - Nutritious Food Basket (Added Item 6.4)

Chair Eisenberger called the delegate Valerie Sturrock to the podium. Her comments included but were not limited to the following:

- The last time she appeared before Committee of the Whole was on February 10, 2006;
- She addressed Committee with respect to the changes to the legislation at that time;
- Many people in poverty have mental disorders;
- It is essential that good food is made available to people who are poor;
- The Poverty Round Table should obtain input from people who are affected by poverty;
- In order to qualify for assistance, one must deplete all their finances.

The Board thanked Valerie Sturrock for her presentation on this matter.

(Pearson/Merulla)
That the delegation by Valerie Sturrock respecting Report BOH10024 - Nutritious Food Basket, be received.  

CARRIED

(f) Re-establishment of Sub-Committees Reporting to the Board of Health

CL10007(e) (City Wide) (Item 8.1)
The Board approved the staff report as amended as outlined under the Changes to the Agenda section.

(g) Emergency Air Monitoring (verbal Update) (Item 8.2)

Rob Hall provided a verbal update respecting Emergency Air Monitoring. He advised that staff have been working on a Request for Proposal (RFP) as requested by Council and a report will be brought forward sometime next year.

(Merulla/Powers)
That the update respecting Emergency Air Monitoring be received. CARRIED

The Board approved a motion as outlined in Item 7 of these Minutes reaffirming the City’s position with respect to the proposed Community Right to Know legislation being debated by Provincial parliament.

(h) Pilot Project for Air Monitoring in the East End of Hamilton BOH10022 (Ward 5) (Item 8.3)

(Collins/Merulla)
(a) That the staff recommendation be amended by adding a subsection (b) as follows:

(b) That the Mayor write to the area Ministers of Provincial Parliament (MPP’s) requesting assistance for the Pilot Air Monitoring Project for the East End of Hamilton;

(b) That the subsequent subsection as follows be re-lettered accordingly:

(c) That the Item respecting the investigation of an air monitoring pilot project in the east end of Hamilton be identified as completed and removed from the Board of Health’s Outstanding Business List. Amendment CARRIED

The main motion CARRIED as amended.

(i) Nutritious Food Basket BOH10024 (City Wide) (Item 8.4)

(Clark/McCarthy)
That the staff recommendation be amended by adding a subsection (e) as follows:

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(e) That staff be directed to assess the feasibility of implementing a model program for nutritious food and report back to the Board of Health.

Amendment CARRIED

Mayor Eisenberger relinquished the Chair to Deputy Mayor Collins to move the following motion:

(Eisenberger/McCarthy)
That the staff recommendation be further amended by adding a subsection (f) as follows:

(f) That the implementation of a universal school food program be made a City priority.

Amendment CARRIED

Mayor Eisenberger assumed the Chair.

The Main motion as amended CARRIED.

(j) Concerns respecting the Access to Best Care (ABC) Plan for the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Department, Hamilton Health Sciences (Item 9.1)

(McHattie/Clark)
That the following motion be TABLED until the September 29, 2010 Council meeting:

Whereas, in January 2008, Hamilton Health Sciences’ (HHS) announced the Access to the Best Care (ABC) Plan for the amalgamation and reorganization of virtually every one of its medical departments; and,

Whereas, McMaster University Medical Centre (MUMC) is the regional referral centre for high-risk obstetric patients from Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) 3 and 4; and,

Whereas, the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Department is not a stand-alone program like the Children’s Hospital, and is critically dependent on other major adult services such as Critical Care Medicine, Anaesthesia, etc.; and,

Whereas, the Obstetricians in Hamilton have unanimously opposed the ABC Plan as unsafe for patients coming under their care, and have communicated this concern to HHS, LHIN 3 members, and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care; and,

Whereas, the Physicians Advisory Committee on Obstetrics and Gynaecology (PACOG), working with HHS administration and using objective criteria, found
the ABC Plan for the HHS Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology to be both medically impractical and medically unsound as it pertains to patient safety; and,
Whereas, PACOG working with HHS administration recommended that HHS women’s reproductive health services relocate to a full-service adult hospital, either the Henderson Hospital or to St. Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton (SJHH), and preferably amalgamate with the women’s reproductive services now located at SJHH; and,

Whereas, HHS has stated that such a move may not happen for ten years or longer, if at all; and,

Whereas, implementation of the ABC Plan would result in the only level three obstetric unit in the Province to function outside of a full-service adult hospital, with no clear plan for relocation to a full-service adult hospital, representing a failure to meet Provincial standards of care in this respect; and,

Whereas, the City of Hamilton has concern for the health and safety of our citizens, and in particular, the women and children who could be affected by changes to the Obstetrics and Gynaecology services in Hamilton;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

(a) That the City of Hamilton requests that Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS), St. Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton (SJHH) and key stakeholders, including HHS and SJHH Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, Family Medicine, Midwifery, Pediatricians and Pediatric Subspecialties, Neonatology, and regional care providers; commit to convene and implement a process to identify the optimal model for Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Neonatology services within Hamilton that can be reasonably achieved with capital changes if necessary;

(b) That the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network participate in the process in keeping with their regional mandate;

(c) That, until such time as the optimal solution identified through the process, outlined in recommendation (a) above, can be implemented, the parties ensure that the necessary supports are in place and continue to be in place within Hamilton Health Sciences and St Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton to ensure that patient health and safety within the Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Neonatology Services are protected and maintained; and,

(d) That the Medical Officer of Health report back to the Board of Health respecting the progress made in this area in June of 2011.

CARRIED
(k) GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS (Item 11)

Outstanding Business List (Item 11.2)

(i) Proposed New Due Date:
   (Powers/Merulla)
   (i) That the Due Date for item “B” – Report respecting the accreditation application process, timelines and the Board’s participation be changed from September 27, 2010 to February 2011.

   CARRIED

(ii) Items Requiring Approval for Removal:
    (Mitchell/Morelli)
    (i) That Item “E” – Respecting Collaborative Pedestrian and Walkability Initiatives be removed from the Outstanding Business List.

   CARRIED

(l) Adjournment
    (Morelli/Pasuta)
    There being no further business, that the meeting be adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

   CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor F. Eisenberger, Chair  
Board of Health

Ida Bediou
Legislative Assistant  
Board of Health  
September 27, 2010