

**Rooming House Working Group Meeting Notes
September 12, 2011, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Metro Hall Room 309**

Present:

Rosemary Foulds	Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, Chair
Sandra Vaughan	Shelter, Support and Housing Administration
Michael Boyle	Tenant
Ken Kennedy	Kennedy Residence
Paulene Kennedy	Kennedy Residence
Phil Nazar	Toronto Christian Resource Centre
Pablo Escobar	WoodGreen Community Services
Harvey Stein	WoodGreen Community Services
Maggie Asselstine	Native Child and Family Services
Elis Ziegler	East York East Toronto Family Resources
Thania Valle	East York East Toronto Family Resources
David Raponi-Monk	John Howard Society
Joe Magalhaes	Municipal Licensing and Standards
Tracey Smith	Shelter, Support and Housing Administration
Chris Persaud	Habitat Services

Regrets:

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. Members were welcomed to the meeting and there was a round of introductions.

Sandra Vaughan introduced herself and announced that she will be taking over from Rosemary Foulds as the Chair of the Rooming House Working Group.

2. Minutes of Meeting of July 11, 2011

The minutes the meeting were approved as circulated.

3. Business Arising

1725 and 1723 Dufferin Road (Ward 17) Community Meeting

Joe Magalhaes reported. Councillor Palacio held a community meeting to discuss issues at the existing rooming house at 1725 Dufferin and the application for a licensed rooming house at 1723 Dufferin. Both locations are owned by the same rooming house landlord. A few hundred people attended along with the Commissioner of ML&S Mr. Colle. Habitat has been working with the landlord to rectify key issues.

Some members raised concern that they were not notified of the meeting so they could attend. Sandra will contact the Commissioner's Assistant Shanta Persaud to request the RHWG be added to the notification list for any hearing regarding

rooming houses in the City of Toronto. Meetings held in the community are not the norm but they have been held in the community in the past.

4. Rooming House Support Project Update

The Rooming House Support Project Proposal (attached) was presented for review and approval. The RHWG endorsed the proposal and endorsed the creation of a Steering Committee made up of RHWG members to evaluate the project.

Questions arose for the Affordable Housing Office which had no representation at the meeting. Tracey Smith will follow-up with Donald Jones, who took over for Arnie Rose, to see if he or a designate can attend the RHWG meetings on a regular basis.

5. List of Current and Applied for Rooming Houses in Toronto

The RHWG reviewed the quarterly report from ML&S (see attached). Joe Magalhaes reported that the Parkdale Pilot Project was no longer accepting applications from rooming house landlords and that they currently had a couple of applications in their queue. Some noteworthy items:

- Converted houses are Class 5s and are not run by non-profit housing providers
- Personal care units are not increasing
- Parkdale Pilot Project (PPP) has converted houses that were illegal and are now legal and properly licenced. Eighty rooming houses have become legal and are now included in the quarterly rooming house statistics
- The current number of licenced rooming houses in the city of Toronto is 440.

Sandra will tidy up the list and Joe Magalhaes will see if he can provide the actual number of units per building and send this information to Sandra. Joe will provide Sandra with an explanation of each unit class. Sandra will include a legend on the list explaining the definition of each type of housing (e.g., class 1 vs class 5).

Rosemary Foulds will check on the number of personal care units in Toronto.

6. Announcements

Paul Denison has accepted a full time position at the Parkdale Activity Recreation Centre and can no longer participate as the Community Co-Chair. Interested members who would like to act as the RHWG Community Chair should contact Sandra. The responsibilities of this position include chairing meetings when the staff chair cannot participate in a discussion and contribute and review agenda items before meeting. This will be discussed at the next meeting. Sandra will email the Terms of Reference to the RHWG for review.

New Location: the RHWG requires a new location to meet as the rooms at Metro hall have been booked for the remainder of the year. Joe Magalhaes offered the room at 45 Strachan Ave.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:36 p.m.

8. **Next Meeting: November 14, 2011, 2-4 p.m., 45 Strachan Ave. (West of Bathurst and South of King St. W.)**