

THE CITY OF TORONTO

Clerk's Department

Minutes of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee

Thursday, February 12, 1998

The Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee met on Thursday, February 12, 1998, in Committee Room A, 2nd Floor, Metro Hall, Toronto, commencing at 9:40 a.m.

Members Present:

Councillor Gordon Chong, Chair
Councillor Elizabeth Brown
Councillor Raymond Cho
Councillor Olivia Chow
Councillor Rob Davis
Councillor Michael Feldman
Councillor John Filion
Councillor Joan King
Councillor Chris Korwin-Kuczynski
Councillor George Mammoliti
Councillor Michael Prue

Regrets:

Mayor Mel Lastman

Also Present:

Councillor Pam McConnell
Councillor David Miller
Councillor Bill Saundercook

Confirmation of Minutes.

On motion By Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski, the Minutes of the meeting of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee held on January 15, 1998, were confirmed.

20. Briefing on Housing Issues.

The Committee had before it a report (January 29, 1998) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services advising, for information, that the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee will be considering a range of housing-related reports over the next several months; outlining the upcoming issues; and suggesting that it might be useful to have a briefing presentation providing background to the issues referred to.

Councillor George Mammoliti, North York Humber, declared his interest in the foregoing matter, in that he is technically employed by the Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority.

The Committee deferred consideration of the aforementioned report and presentation until a future meeting of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee.

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; c. General Manager, The Metropolitan Toronto Housing Company Limited - February 12, 1998)

(Clause No. 8(a), Report No. 2)

(DEFERRED)

21. Restructuring of the Supportive Housing Program, Homes for the Aged Division.

The Committee had before it a report (January 28, 1998) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services recommending that:

- (1) the Homes for the Aged Division be authorized to implement the three-year transition plan for restructuring the supportive housing program, as outlined in this report, contingent upon Ministry of Health approval;
- (2) subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health, as outlined in Recommendation No. (1), the per diem rates paid to supportive housing operators be revised effective April 1, 1998, or as soon as is practicable thereafter;
- (3) the Homes for the Aged Division be authorized to renew the current agreements for the provision of supportive housing services with the supportive housing site operators and community service agencies outlined in the body of this report;

- (4) the Homes for the Aged Division be authorized to enter into an agreement with The Meadowcroft Group, as the new owner of Livingston Lodge, for the purpose of continuing supportive housing services at that site;
- (5) the agreements with the supportive housing operators be in form and content acceptable to the City Solicitor; and
- (6) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Chow, the Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the aforementioned report.

(Clause No. 4, Report No. 2)

22. Proposed Composition and Mandate of the Children's Action Committee.

The Committee had before it a report (January 28, 1998) from the Children's Advocate recommending that:

- (1) the proposed composition and mandate of the Children's Action Committee be approved as outlined in this report and Appendix A;
- (2) the Children's Action Committee develop and submit a detailed workplan, schedule and outline of its resource needs to the March meeting of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee;
- (3) a copy of this report be submitted to the Special Committee to Review the Final Report of the Toronto Transition Team; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The Committee also had before it the following communications:

- (February 12, 1998) from the Children's Advocate advising of additions to the proposed membership of the Children's Action Committee; and
- (February 12, 1998) from Mr. Peter Clutterbuck and Ms. Karen Liberman, Co-Directors, Community Social Planning Council of Toronto, strongly endorsing the proposed mandate and composition of the Children's Action Committee.

On motion by Councillor Chow, the Committee recommended to the Special Committee to Review the Final Report of the Toronto Transition Team the adoption of the aforementioned report and communication from the Children's Advocate.

(Special Committee to Review the Final Report of the Toronto Transition Team - February 12, 1998)

(Clause No. 8(b), Report No. 2)

**23. Land Acquisition - Purchase of
No. 4 Wynnview Court, Scarborough.**

The Committee had before it a report (January 19, 1998) from the Interim Functional Lead, Parks and Recreation, advising that the owners of No. 4 Wynnview Court in Scarborough have recently finalized discussions with the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) regarding the purchase of their property; that this property is the last remaining privately-owned parcel located along the top of the bluffs between Rosetta McClain Gardens and Scarborough Heights Park; indicating that the TRCA has an option to purchase these lands which expires on April 2, 1998; and recommending that:

- (1) financing in the amount of \$250,000.00 be approved; this amount will be financed from the Parkland Acquisition Reserve;
- (2) funding, to a maximum of \$250,000.00, be made available to the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority for the purchase of No. 4 Wynnview Court, subject to TRCA approval of the purchase; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor King, the Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the aforementioned report, noting that the financing approval for the land acquisition was included in Clause No. 12 of Report No. 2 of The Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee, entitled "1998 Capital Budget Capital Projects Requiring Urgent Financing Approval," adopted by City Council on February 4, 5 and 6, 1998.

(Clause No. 6, Report No. 2)

**24. Amendment to Licence Agreement -
St. Andrew-by-the-Lake Church (Centre Island).**

The Committee had before it a report (January 19, 1998) from the Interim Functional Lead, Parks and Recreation, recommending that, subject to any approvals required by the City of Toronto Act, 1997:

- (1) the proposal by the Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Toronto to assume full entitlement, along with full obligations, under the Licence Agreement for the St. Andrew-by-the-Lake Church be approved, with the result that the Roman Catholic Church be relieved of its obligations with respect thereto;
- (2) the Licence Agreement be amended to give effect to the foregoing subject to the terms and conditions being satisfactory to the Acting Commissioner of Parks and Culture and the City Solicitor; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor King, the Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the aforementioned report.

(Clause No. 7, Report No. 2)

25. Consolidation of City-Owned Art Collections.

The Committee had before it a communication (January 26, 1998) from Councillor Howard Moscoe, North York-Spadina, respecting the consolidation of City-owned art collections; requesting that the City of Toronto Culture Office report back to the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee on the process to bring the collections together; and suggesting that the monies presently used to lease art be consolidated into an acquisition fund.

On motion by Councillor King, the Committee referred the aforementioned communication to the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services for a report thereon to the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee.

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; c. Interim Functional Lead, Arts, Culture and Heritage; Councillor Howard Moscoe - February 12, 1998)

(Clause No. 8(e), Report No. 2)

26. Fairbank Park Recreation Centre Project.

The Committee had before it a communication (February 5, 1998) from Councillor Rob Davis, York Eglinton, requesting that staff report on the process for the completion of Phase II and Phase III of the Fairbank Park Recreation Centre project.

On motion by Councillor King, the Committee referred the aforementioned communication to the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services for a report thereon to the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee.

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; c. Interim Functional Lead, Parks and Recreation; Councillor Rob Davis - February 12, 1998)

(Clause No. 8(f), Report No. 2)

27. Appointments to the Toronto District Health Council.

The Committee had before it a communication (January 20, 1998) from the Chair of the Volunteer Support Committee, Metropolitan Toronto District Health Council, advising that the District Health Council is proceeding to amend its by-laws to reflect the new municipal government structure in Toronto; indicating that it is proposed that the name be changed to the Toronto District Health Council; requesting that the City of Toronto Council give consideration to providing the following representation:

- one nomination to include a member of the City of Toronto Council;
- one nomination to include a member of the Board of Health; and
- two nominations to include staff members with knowledge of the health, social and human service issues facing the City of Toronto;

and noting that the Minister of Health's guidelines require that two candidates must be nominated for each position on the District Health Council.

On motion by Councillor King, the Committee recommended that:

- (1) the communication (January 20, 1998) from the Chair of the Volunteer Support Committee, Metropolitan Toronto District Health

Council, respecting appointments to the Toronto District Health Council be submitted to City Council without recommendation; and

- (2) the Striking Committee, the Board of Health, and the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be requested to submit directly to Council for its meeting on March 4, 1998, for consideration with the aforementioned communication their respective required number of candidates, in accordance with the Minister of Health's guidelines, for nomination to the Toronto District Health Council, as outlined therein.

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; Board of Health; Striking Committee - February 12, 1998)

(Clause No. 1, Report No. 2)

28. Immigration Legislative Review.

The Committee had before it a report (February 3, 1998) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services identifying implications for the City of Toronto arising from proposed changes to Canada's immigration legislation as outlined in the report "Not Just Numbers: A Canadian Framework for Future Immigration," commissioned by The Honourable Lucienne Robillard, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration and released on January 6, 1998; and recommending that:

- (1) this report be forwarded to the Advisory Committee on Immigration and Refugee Issues to be incorporated into the submission to the Citizenship and Immigration Canada, legislative review consultation on March 3, 1998;
- (2) Council support recommendations contained in the report, "Not Just Numbers: A Canadian Framework for Future Immigration," which pertain to municipalities, specifically:
 - (i) the inclusion of municipalities in formal consultations on relevant policy issues;
 - (ii) the maintenance of an ongoing Federal role in settlement and integration services along with a commitment to adequate funds to ensure equitable access to settlement services; and

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- (iii) the reimbursement to municipalities for social assistance, hostel and other service costs borne by the municipality for services and programs provided to immigrants and refugees;
- (3) Council encourage the Federal Government to conduct broad and public consultation on the proposed immigration legislative review to ensure all relevant stakeholders have an opportunity for input; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The Committee also had before it during consideration of the foregoing matter a communication (February 12, 1998) from Mr. Peter Clutterbuck and Ms. Karen Liberman, Co-Directors, Community Social Planning Council of Toronto, noting that they will be seeking an opportunity to comment and offer input on the Immigration Legislative Review at a later date.

Councillor David Miller, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Immigration and Refugee Issues, appeared before the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee in connection with the foregoing matter.

The Committee deferred consideration of the aforementioned report and communication until later in the meeting.

(See also Minute No. 30)

29. Ontario Works Program.

The Committee had before it a communication (January 14, 1998) from Dr. Dale E. Shuttleworth, Executive Director, The Training Renewal Foundation, advising that the Foundation received a letter dated December 23, 1997, indicating that it would not be considered for the Skill Development option of Ontario Works; that, as a result, the General Educational Development Preparation Centre was faced with closure as of December 31, 1997; and requesting the opportunity to meet with the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee to discuss the implications of this decision.

The following persons appeared before the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee in connection with the foregoing matter:

- Dr. Dale E. Shuttleworth, Executive Director, The Training Renewal Foundation; and submitted a brief in regard thereto;

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- Mr. Dom Frasca, Vice-Principal, Monsignor Fraser College, Toronto Catholic School Board;
- Mr. Bryan Oxley, Board of Trade of Toronto and Ontario Chamber of Commerce;
- Councillor Pam McConnell, Don River; and
- Councillor Bill Saundercook, York-Humber.

A. Councillor Chow moved that the communication from Dr. Shuttleworth be referred to:

- (1) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; and
- (2) Councillors Bussin, Jakobek, McConnell and Walker, the delegation appointed by Council to meet with officials of the Ministry of Education and Training with respect to education costs that are no longer covered by Provincial funding, with a request that this issue also be raised with the Province;

and further that they be requested to report thereon to the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee.

B. Councillor Davis moved that foregoing motion A. by Councillor Chow be amended to provide that the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be requested to report to the next meeting of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee.

C. Councillor Mammoliti moved that the foregoing motion A. by Councillor Chow be amended to provide that the Commissioner include in her report any information regarding potential private sector funding towards equivalent programs that might be in place.

D. Councillor King moved that:

- (1) the foregoing motion A. by Councillor Chow be amended to provide that the Commissioner include in her report the issue

of eligibility under both Ontario Works and the Municipal Grants Program; and

- (2) the Chair of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee request a meeting with the Minister of Education and Training to clarify why the Ministry believes the program offered by The Training Renewal Foundation should come under Ontario Works rather than the Ministry of Education and Training.

- E. Councillor Cho moved that the Council be requested to provide funds from the Contingency Account to cover the cost of rent of the building by The Training Renewal Foundation for one year.

Upon the question of the adoption of the foregoing motion C. by Councillor Mammoliti, amending the foregoing motion A. by Councillor Chow, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of part (1) of the foregoing motion D. by Councillor King, amending the foregoing motion A. by Councillor Chow, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of the foregoing motion B. by Councillor Davis, amending the foregoing motion A. by Councillor Chow, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of the foregoing motion A. by Councillor Chow, as amended, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of part (2) of the foregoing motion D. by Councillor King, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of the foregoing motion E. by Councillor Cho, it was lost.

The following is a summary of the action taken by the Committee:

“The Committee:

- (1) referred the aforementioned communication to:

- (i) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services for a report thereon to the next meeting of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee, such report to include:
 - (a) any information regarding potential private sector funding towards equivalent programs that might be in place; and
 - (b) the issue of eligibility under both Ontario Works and the Municipal Grants Program;
 - (ii) Councillors Bussin, Jakobek, McConnell and Walker, the delegation appointed by Council to meet with officials of the Ministry of Education and Training with respect to education costs that are no longer covered by Provincial funding, with a request that this issue also be raised with the Province; and further that they be requested to report thereon to the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee; and
- (2) directed that the Chair of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee request a meeting with the Minister of Education and Training to clarify why the Ministry believes the program offered by The Training Renewal Foundation should come under Ontario Works rather than the Ministry of Education and Training.”

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; Councillor Gordon Chong; Chair, Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee; Councillor Sandra Bussin, East Toronto; Councillor Tom Jakobek, East Toronto; Councillor Pam McConnell, Don River; Councillor Michael Walker, North Toronto; Dr. Dale E. Shuttleworth, Executive Director, The Training Renewal Foundation; Mr. Dom Frasca; Vice-Principal, Monsignor Fraser College, Toronto Catholic School Board; Mr. Bryan Oxley, Ontario Chamber of Commerce; c. General Manager, Social Services Division - February 12, 1998)

(Clause No. 8(c), Report No. 2)

**30. Immigration Legislative Review.
(See also Minute No. 28)**

The Committee resumed its consideration of the report dated February 3, 1998, from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, headed “Immigration Legislative Review,” identifying implications for the City of Toronto arising from proposed changes to Canada’s immigration legislation as outlined in the report “Not Just Numbers: A Canadian Framework for Future Immigration,” commissioned by The Honourable

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Lucienne Robillard, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration and released on January 6, 1998; and outlining recommendations in regard thereto.

A. Councillor Prue moved that:

- (1) the Committee recommend to Council the adoption of the report of the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, subject to Recommendation No. (2)(iii) being amended by deleting the words “immigrants and refugees” and inserting in lieu thereof the words “refugee claimants”;
- (2) Council set a timeframe of no later than the end of 1998 by which time the Federal Government will be required to provide the \$75.00 per person per night subsidy, and if this timeframe is not met the City of Toronto cease operating the services and programs provided to refugee claimants; and
- (3) Councillor David Miller, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Immigration and Refugee Issues, be requested to provide Members of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee with a copy of his submission to the March 3, 1998, Citizenship and Immigration Canada Legislative Review.

B. Councillor Davis moved that the following Recommendation No. (2)(iv) be added to the report of the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services:

- “(iv) the recovery of municipal costs in the situation of sponsorship breakdown,”.

Councillor Chong appointed Councillor Feldman Acting Chair, and vacated the Chair.

C. Councillor Cho moved that Recommendation No. (2)(iii) of the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be amended by adding thereto the words “and refugee claimants.”

Councillor Chong resumed the Chair.

Upon the question of the adoption of the foregoing motion C. by Councillor Cho, it was lost.

Councillor Davis requested that separate votes be taken on part (1) of the foregoing motion A. by Councillor Prue pertaining to:

- the deletion of the words “immigrants and refugees”; and
- the insertion in lieu thereof of the words “refugee claimants.”

Upon the question of the adoption of that portion of part (1) of the foregoing motion A. by Councillor Prue pertaining to the deletion of the words “immigrants and refugees”, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of that portion of part (1) of the foregoing motion A. by Councillor Prue pertaining to the insertion of the words “refugee claimants”, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of the foregoing motion B. by Councillor Davis, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of part (2) of the foregoing motion A. by Councillor Prue, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of part (3) of the foregoing motion A. by Councillor Prue, it was carried.

The following is a summary of the action taken by the Committee:

“The Committee recommended:

- (1) the adoption of the report dated February 3, 1998, from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, subject to:
 - (a) amending Recommendation No. (2)(iii) to read as follows:
 - “(iii) the reimbursement to municipalities for social assistance, hostel and other service costs borne by the municipality for services and programs provided to refugee claimants;”;
 - (b) adding the following Recommendation No. (2)(iv):

- “(iv) the recovery of municipal costs in the situation of sponsorship breakdown;”;
- (2) that Council set a timeframe of no later than the end of 1998 by which time the Federal Government will be required to provide the \$75.00 per person per night subsidy, and if this timeframe is not met the City of Toronto cease operating the services and programs provided to refugee claimants; and
- (3) Councillor David Miller, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Immigration and Refugee Issues, be requested to provide Members of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee with a copy of his submission to the March 3, 1998, Citizenship and Immigration Canada Legislative Review.”

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services;
Councillor David Miller, Chair, Advisory Committee on Immigration and
Refugee Issues - February 12, 1998)

(Clause No. 2, Report No. 2)

31. A Social Development Strategy for the City of Toronto.

The Committee had before it a report (January 29, 1998) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services recommending that:

- (1) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services consult with key community stakeholders regarding the development of a social development strategy; and
- (2) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services report to the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee in two months, following the consultation with stakeholders, to outline the elements, timelines, process and preliminary budget for developing a social development strategy.

On motion by Councillor Chow, the Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the aforementioned report, subject to amending Recommendation No. (2) by deleting the words “in two months” and inserting in lieu thereof the words “as soon as possible”, viz:

- “(2) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services report to the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee as soon as possible, following the consultation with stakeholders, to outline

the elements, timelines, process and preliminary budget for developing social development strategy.”

(Clause No. 3, Report No. 2)

32. Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority.

The Committee had before it a communication (December 22, 1997) from The Honourable Al Leach, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, responding to a communication dated November 3, 1997, forwarding Metropolitan Council’s motion regarding the intention of the Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority to develop a proposal to expand its private management programs; clarifying recent media reports regarding this issue; and noting that the Government of Ontario has not yet made any decisions regarding the Ontario Housing Corporation and its local housing authorities after devolution.

Councillor George Mammoliti, North York Humber, declared his interest in the foregoing matter, in that he is technically employed by the Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority.

On motion by Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski, the Committee received the aforementioned communication; and further directed that the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be requested to report to the April 23, 1998, meeting of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee on the Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority issues.

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; c. General Manager, The Metropolitan Toronto Housing Company Limited - February 12, 1998)

(Clause No. 8(d), Report No. 2)

33. General Welfare Assistance Regulation Changes.

The Committee had before it a report (February 4, 1998,) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services advising that the Minister of Community and Social Services on February 2, 1998, announced a number of changes to the social assistance system as part of the introduction of new regulations under Ontario Works; describing the proposed changes and the impacts on clients with respect to homelessness and housing, health benefits, program management and service delivery; noting that, upon the release of the new Ontario Works regulations, the Social Services Division will provide Council with an assessment of the impacts on clients, program management and service delivery in the affected service areas; and recommending that the report be received for information.

The Committee also had before it a communication (February 2, 1998) from The Honourable Janet Ecker, Minister of Community and Social Services, respecting the Ontario Works Act to be proclaimed in April 1998.

Councillor Chow moved that:

- (1) the Committee receive the report of the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, and that it be forwarded to Council for information; and
- (2) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be requested to provide a further report to the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee with respect to the impact on children, due to the proposed changes to the Ontario Works regulations.

Councillor Davis moved that part (2) of the foregoing motion by Councillor Chow be amended to provide that the Commissioner include in her report the impact on transportation costs for welfare recipients.

Councillor King moved that part (2) of the foregoing motion by Councillor Chow be amended to provide that the Commissioner include in her report the impact on the homeless.

Upon the question of the adoption of the foregoing motions by Councillors Davis and King, they were carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of the foregoing motion by Councillor Chow, as amended, it was carried.

The following is a summary of the action taken by the Committee:

“The Committee:

- (1) received the aforementioned report, and directed that it be forwarded to Council for information; and
- (2) directed that the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be requested to provide a further report to the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee with respect to the impacts on:

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- (a) children, due to the proposed changes to the Ontario Works regulations;
- (b) transportation costs for welfare recipients; and
- (c) the homeless.”

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services - February 12, 1998)

(Clause No. 5, Report No. 2)

The Committee adjourned its meeting at 12:20 p.m.

Chair.