

THE CITY OF TORONTO

Clerk's Department

Minutes of the Board of Health

Meeting No. 3

Monday, February 23, 1998.

The Board of Health met on Monday, February 23, 1998, in Committee Room C, 2nd Floor, Metro Hall, Toronto, commencing at 1:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Councillor John Filion, Chair
Councillor Gerry Altobello
Councillor Anne Johnston
Councillor Irene Jones
Councillor Joan King
Councillor Joe Mihevc
Councillor Michael Prue
Robert Davies
Dr. Rosana Pellizzari
Elca Rennick

No Declarations of Interest pursuant to the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act were declared.

Confirmation of Minutes.

On motion by Elca Rennick, the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Health held on January 26, 1998 were confirmed.

On motion by Dr. Rosana Pellizzari, the Board requested that matters arising from last meeting, be listed as an agenda item on future agendas.

32. Election of Chair of the Board of Health

The following motion by Councillor Johnston, was voted on and lost:

“That Councillor Filion continue as the Interim Chair of the Board of Health for a portion of this meeting to discuss the Public Health Budget,

and that election to appoint a new Chair be held immediately following the budget discussion”.

Nominations for Chair were invited. Councillor Filion and Councillor King were nominated. Ballots were completed and counted, and Councillor John Filion was appointed Chair of the Board of Health of the City of Toronto Health Unit for the period up to the Board's first meeting in 1999.

33. Election of Vice Chair of the Board of Health

Councillor Irene Jones was nominated and appointed as Vice Chair of the Board of Health of the City of Toronto Health Unit for the period up to the Board's first meeting in 1999.

34. Membership of the New Board of Health for the City of Toronto Health Unit

The Board had before it the Clause embodied in Report No. 2 of the Interim Board of Health, as considered by the Council of the City of Toronto at its meeting held on February 4, 5 and 6, 1998, titled Increase in Size of the Board of Health for the City of Toronto Health Unit

The Board also had before it Council's action taken at its meeting on February 4, 5 and 6, 1998 whereby it established the new Board of Health, the members of which are :

Councillor Gerry Altobello
Robert Davies
Councillor John Filion
Councillor Anne Johnston
Councillor Irene Jones
Councillor Joan King
Councillor Joe Mihevc
Dr. Rosana Pellizzari
Councillor Michael Prue
Elca Rennick

The Board received this report for information.

35. State of the City's Health

The Board had before it a report (February 19, 1998) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health recommending that this report be sent to the Community & Neighbourhood Services Committee, Budget Committee and City Council for consideration during the budget process.

The Board also had before it:

- (i) a report (October 6, 1997) from the Assistant City Clerk, former City of Toronto forwarding the former City of Toronto's action taken at its meeting on September 22 and 23, 1997 with respect to Clause 1 of Board of Health Report 9, entitled "Threats to Health in the Changing City: Choices for the Future", in which the former City of Toronto Council endorsed the actions of the former City of Toronto's Board of Health and:
 - 1. Directed that the report (September 9, 1997) from the Medical Officer of Health be forwarded to the Board of Health for the new City of Toronto.
 - 2. Forwarded the report (September 9, 1997) from the Medical Officer of Health to all Boards of Health in Metropolitan Toronto, the Liaison Committee of the Boards of Health in the Toronto area and to the Boards of Education in Metropolitan Toronto.
 - 3. Forwarded the report (September 9, 1997) from the Medical Officer of Health to the Ministers of Health, Community and Social Services, Education and Municipal Affairs with a request for an early conference to discuss the redeployment of potential savings from health services restructuring into community-based structures, including full service schools, as outlined in the "First Duty" report.
- (ii) a communication dated February 1998 from the Acting Medical Officer of Health, titled "The State of the City's Health: Implications for the Future".

The Acting Medical Officer of Health gave a presentation on this matter.

On motion by Councillor Johnston, the Board forwarded the report to the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee, Budget Committee and City Council for consideration during the budget process.

(Report 3, Clause No. 3(a))

36. Discussion on Public Health Budget Process

The Board had before it a report (February 20, 1998) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health recommending that:

- (1) the Board recommend to Council that current investments in public health be maintained and that any savings resulting from the amalgamation be reinvested back into public health to ensure that:
 - (a) the provincial Mandatory Health Programs and Services Guidelines are met; and
 - (b) local health needs are met, including emerging health needs;
- (2) the Acting Medical Officer of Health report back to the Board on the elements of a reinvestment strategy for public health;
- (3) the City Solicitor be requested to report back, in consultation with the Acting Medical Officer of Health, on the statutory requirements of the Board of Health and City Council regarding the provision and funding of public health programs and services; and
- (4) the Board consider holding public deputations on the health implications of the proposed 1998 budget.

The Board also had before it:

- (i) a communication (February 20, 1998) from Rita Luty, Chairperson, Northern Health Area Community Health Board of the former City of Toronto reaffirming the importance of the following resolutions, endorsed by the former City of Toronto City Council at its meeting held on July 14, 1997 (BOH Report 7, Clause 5):
 - (1) That there be no reduction in public health service levels in the amalgamated Toronto.
 - (2) That allocation of public health resources in the amalgamated Toronto be based on population needs.

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- (3) That any savings from amalgamation of public health services be reallocated first to address any existing gaps.
- (ii) a communication (undated) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health, titled "1998 Budget Presentation".
- (iii) a Press Release (February 20, 1998) from the Citizens for Public Health advocating for an expansion of public health programs to undeserved areas in the new City and the need to increase spending to two per cent of the total city budget on public health programs.

The Acting Medical Officer of Health gave a presentation on the Public Health Budget Proposal.

On motion by Councillor Johnston, the Board recommended to Council for its meeting on March 4, 1998, that:

- (1) the current investments in public health be maintained and any savings resulting from the amalgamation be reinvested back into public health to ensure that:
 - (a) the provincial Mandatory Health Programs and Services Guidelines are met; and
 - (b) local health needs are met, including emerging health needs;
- (2) standardization of user fees for Environmental Health Services be implemented to the highest level;
- (3) Council use as a guideline for future City budgets, the "two per cent solution", which is a proposal of the Citizens for Public Health that urges the new City of Toronto to allocate two per cent of its total budget to public health programs.

On motion by Dr. Rosana Pellizzari, the Board also:

- (1) found Council's directive to reduce the gross 1998 Public Health Operating Budget by fifteen per cent unachievable;
- (2) advised the Budget Committee of its support for the "two per cent solution", which is a proposal of the Citizens for Public Health that urges

the new City of Toronto to allocate two per cent of its total budget to public health programs;

On motion by Councillor Johnston, the Board also:

- (3) requested the Acting Medical Officer of Health, in accordance with the comments in her report (February 19, 1998) "State of the City's Health", to prepare a report to the Board which delineates where public health programs fall short of current requirements and where greater needs in Toronto require a higher level of service;
- (4) requested the Acting Medical Officer of Health to report back to the Board on elements of a reinvestment strategy for public health;

On motion by Dr. Rosana Pellizzari, the Board also:

- (5) (a) requested the Acting Medical Officer of Health to present the Public Health 1998 Operating Budget of \$84,663.30, inclusive of the savings within the "A" and "B" lists to the Budget Committee; and

On motion by Councillor King, the Board also:

- (b) established a sub-committee consisting of the Chair and Vice Chair, in conjunction with the Acting Medical Officer of Health, to prepare a presentation to the Budget Committee which would address the cost-savings of the "A" and "B" lists, and the need to reinvest these savings;

On motion by Dr. Rosana Pellizzari, the Board also:

- (6) requested the Acting Medical Officer of Health to prepare an alternative budget to reflect costs if services were expanded to address current gaps;

On motion by Councillor Johnston, the Board also:

- (7) agreed to hold public deputations on the health implications of the proposed 1998 budget and the alternative budget and invited members of the Budget Committee to attend that meeting;
- (8) requested the City Solicitor, in consultation with the Acting Medical Officer of Health, to report back to the Board on the statutory

requirements of the Board of Health and City Council regarding the provision and funding of public health programs.

For the purpose of the minutes, it was noted that the cost of providing the public health programme contained in the "A", "B" and "C" listing of the budget submission were as follows:

\$3.00 per person per year, or
\$37.00 per household per year

The Board at its meeting held on March 24, 1998 amended the minutes of its February 23, 1998 meeting by revising Point (8) of Minute No. 36 respecting the costs of providing public health programs to read:

*"\$3.13 per person
and \$8.26 per household"*

and approved the minutes as so amended.

(Report 3, Clause No. 2)

37. Current Gaps in Public Health Services for Children

The Board had before it a report (February 11, 1998) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health recommending that:

1. This report be received for information
2. The Board of Health take into account the issues and needs raised in this report when making decisions regarding the 1998 budget
3. This report be forwarded to the Children's Action Committee for consideration
4. This report be forwarded to the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee for consideration
5. This report be forwarded to the Budget Committee for approval of funds

The Board also had before it:

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- (i) a communication (February 20, 1998) from Rita Luty, Chairperson, Northern Health Area Community Health Board of the former City of Toronto recommending that the Board of Health advocate for additional funding to address gaps in public health services for children.

- (ii) a communication (February 20, 1998) from Gilles Barbeau, Acting Chair, French Language Services Committee, Metropolitan Toronto District Health Council recommending:
 - (1) Respecting Healthy Babies Outcome, a collaboration with the Centre Medico-Social Communautaire de Toronto (CMSC) (Community French-speaking Health Centre) should be established. The Board of Health should work with the CMSC to help with the public health in the delivery of prenatal classes in French. Their prenatal classes are delivered free of charge.

 - (2) Respecting Healthy Early Transition, asking if the services proposed by Public Health could also serve the French-speaking mother.

 - (3) Respecting Nurturing, suggesting a new program proposed by the Province should provide French Language Services. Toronto is designated by the Province under the French Language Services Act and it has to include the provision of French Language Services.

 - (4) Respecting Healthy and Safe Environment, noting a French-speaking Public Health nurse is presently located in North York to serve the school in North York. The Board of Health should consider using such services in every catholic and public, elementary and secondary, French School in the City of Toronto.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Board of Health amended Recommendation 5 of the report (February 11, 1998) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health by deleting the words “for approval of funds”, and adding therein, the words “and requested the Acting Medical Officer of Health to provide that Committee with the amount of funding required” and adopted the report as amended.

(Report 3, Clause No. 3 (b))

38. Strategies for the Prevention of Low Birthweight in Toronto

The Board had before it a report (February 11, 1998) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health recommending that:

1. This report be forwarded to the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee
2. This report be forwarded to the Children's Action Committee
3. The Medical Officer of Health be requested to report to a future Board of Health meeting as to how high risk prenatal programs can be linked with other relevant prenatal programs

The Board also had before it a report (October 6, 1997) from the Assistant City Clerk, former City of Toronto forwarding the former City of Toronto's action at its meeting on September 22 and 23, 1997, in which Council endorsed the actions of the former City of Toronto's Board of Health and:

1. Adopted the report (September 2, 1997) from the Medical Officer of Health and forwarded same to the Toronto Transition Team, the Board of Health of the new City of Toronto and the new City of Toronto Council with the recommendation that the Healthiest Babies Possible program be expanded to meet the need for low birthweight prevention in the new City of Toronto.
2. Distributed the report to all health units in Ontario, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Community and Social Services and the Office of Integrated Studies.
3. Recommended program strategies be put in place to enable women to enter the program earlier in their pregnancies, and to maintain their participation to the end of their pregnancies as much as possible.

The Board received this report for information.

39. Provincial Heart Health Program

The Board had before it a report (February 9, 1998) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health recommending that the report be received for information.

The Board received this report for information.

40. Business Plan for Toronto Animal Services for 1998-99

The Board had before it a report (February 11, 1998) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health recommending that:

1. The Board of Health receive the Proposed Business Plan for Toronto Animal Services for 1998-1999 for information.
2. The Acting Medical Officer of Health consult with appropriate City officials regarding the implementation of the Business Plan and report back to the next meeting of the Board of Health.

The Board also had before it a communication (February 20, 1998) from Jack Slibar, Chief Operating Officer, Toronto Humane Society forwarding recommendations therein.

The Board also had before it a communication (February 23, 1998) from Liz White, Director, Animal Alliance of Canada; Barry Kent MacKay, International Programme Director, Animal Protection Institute; and Rob Laidlaw, Director, Zoocheck Canada Inc. forwarding recommendations contained therein.

On motion by Councillor Jones, the Board of Health deferred consideration of the Animal Services Program component of the 1998 Operating Budget to its next meeting on March 24, 1998 and:

- (1) requested the Acting Medical Officer of Health to report to that meeting on an interim arrangement for the provision of Animal Services in the City of Toronto which could include an extension of the existing contract with the Toronto Humane Society for the provision of animal shelter services in the boundaries of the former City of Toronto;
- (2) requested the Acting Medical Officer of Health to consult with appropriate staff and report back to that meeting with a review of the two business plans for animal services prepared by the Toronto Animal Services Management Team, and by the Toronto Humane Society;

and requested that the Special Committee to Review the Recommendations of the Toronto Transition Team be so advised of the Board's action in this respect.

(Report 3, Clause No. 3(c))

41. Board of Health Reporting Relationship

The Board had before it a report (February 9, 1998) from the City Solicitor recommending that the report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Johnston, the Board:

1. Received this report for information.
2. Requested the City Clerk to report back to the Board on the Procedural By-laws used by the City's Agencies, Boards and Commissions.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Board:

3. Requested that the matter of permitting Members of Council to address the Board of Health be addressed in the draft Procedural By-law being prepared for the Board of Health.

42. Community Health Advisory Committees

The Board had before it a report (February 19, 1998) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health recommending that:

- (1) The Board of Health establish a subcommittee to identify the appropriate function and structure for CHACs; and
- (2) The attached terms of reference for the subcommittee be adopted (attached Appendix A).

The Board also had before it a communication (February 20, 1998) from Rita Luty, Chairperson, Northern Health Area Community Health Board of the former City of Toronto expressing interest in participating in any discussions about the development of Community Health Advisory Boards and their relationship to the Toronto Board of Health, and specifically suggesting that the Chairs of the Community Health Boards in the former City of Toronto be invited to provide their input.

On motion by Dr. Rosana Pellizzari, the Board:

1. Established a sub-committee consisting of Councillor John Filion, Councillor Joan King and Dr. Rosana Pellizzari with a mandate to identify the appropriate function and structure of Community Health Advisory Committees and to review the sub-committees which were formed by the former six Boards of Health.
2. Adopted the Terms of Reference for this sub-committee appended to the report (February 19, 1998) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health as it relates to the Community Health Advisory Committees.
3. Forwarded the following to that sub-committee for consideration:
 - a. The report (February 20, 1998) from the Northern Health Area Community Health Board of the former City of Toronto respecting Community Health Advisory Committees
 - b. A listing of Sub-Committees and Task Forces of Boards of Health units in the former six municipalities and including the additional East York Alcohol Task Force Advisory Committee, and any others which may not have been included.
 - c. The report (October 6, 1997) from the Assistant City Clerk of the former City of Toronto forwarding action taken by the former City of Toronto Council with respect to the establishment of a TB Sub-Committee.
 - d. The report (October 6, 1997) from the Assistant City Clerk of the former City of Toronto forwarding action taken by the former City of Toronto with respect to the establishment of a new Toronto Food Policy Council as a subcommittee of the new Board of Health.
 - e. The following motion placed by Councillor Irene Jones:

"That an Animal Services Sub-Committee of the Board of Health be established with membership from the Board of Health and citizen representation."

43. Inventory of Past Sub-Committees of the former Boards of Health

The Board had before it a report (February 19, 1998) from the City Clerk recommending that this report be received for information.

The Board also had before it the East York Alcohol Task Force Advisory Committee Terms of Reference for 1997.

(See minute 42)

44. Update on Amalgamation

The Board had before it a report (February 11, 1998) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health recommending:

1. This report be received for information.
2. The recommended interim designation of Associate Medical Officers of Health be forwarded to Council for approval
3. Authority be granted to introduce the necessary bill in Council to give effect to Recommendation 2.

The Board recommended that Council designate the Medical Officers of Health and Associate Medical Officers of Health of the former municipalities as Associate Medical Officers of Health for the City of Toronto Health Unit on an interim basis, and that authority be granted for the introduction of the necessary bill in Council to give effect thereto.

(Report 3, Clause No. 1)

45. Appointment of Medical Officer of Health

On motion by Councillor Prue, the Board adjourned to meet, in camera, to consider the matter of the appointment of the Medical Officer of Health.

At the resumption of the public meeting, on motion by Councillor Prue, the Board requested appropriate City staff to prepare a confidential report on this

matter for consideration at a special meeting of the Board of Health to be called during the week of March 2-6, 1998.

(Report 3, Clause No. 3(d))

46. Proposed Future Meetings of the Board of Health

The Board had before it a listing of proposed Board of Health meeting dates and agenda closings and distribution .

The Board also had before it a list of proposed Board of Health meeting dates from Councillor Joan King.

On motion by Councillor King, the Board did not approve the list of future meetings dates as presented, but decided to schedule the next meeting of the Board of Health at 12.30 pm on March 24, 1998 and requested that lunch be provided. The Board further requested its members to provide alternative meetings dates to those suggested for circulation and discussion at the Board's next meeting.

47. Issuance of Lodging House Licences in the Etobicoke Area

The Board had before it a report (February 9, 1998) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health recommending that the Board of Health authorize the Public Health Physician, Etobicoke Area Office to issue lodging house licences in the former City of Etobicoke in accordance with Etobicoke Code Chapter 166 - Lodging Houses.

The Board adopted the report (February 9, 1998) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health.

48. Tuberculosis in the new City of Toronto

The Board had before it a report (October 6, 1998) from the Assistant City Clerk, former City of Toronto forwarding the action taken by the former City of Toronto at its meeting on September 22 and 23, 1997 where it recommended that a TB sub-committee be established immediately by the new Board of Health in the amalgamated City of Toronto, with membership from the community, to monitor

and advise the Board of Health and City Council of the status of Tuberculosis in the new City.

The Board also had before it a communication (February 18, 1998) from Simone LeBreton, R.N. (On behalf of the Tuberculosis Action Group) requesting that the new Board of Health establish a TB Subcommittee so that the important issue of TB management in the City can be addressed.

The Board also had before it a communication (February 18, 1998) from Barbara Craig, R.N. (On behalf of Street Health) supporting the continuance of a TB Subcommittee of the new Board of Health.

(See minute No. 42)

49. Sexual Health Promotion 1994-1996 Activities

The Board had before it a report (October 6, 1997) from the Assistant City Clerk, former City of Toronto forwarding the action taken by the former City of Toronto Council at its meeting on September 22 and 23, 1997 where it endorsed the action taken by the Board of Health (of the former City of Toronto) and forwarded the report (September 2, 1997) from the Medical Officer of Health to the Board of Health for the new City of Toronto and the new City of Toronto Council.

The Board received this report.

50. Food - A Public Health Challenge

The Board had before it a report (October 6, 1997) from the Assistant City Clerk, former City of Toronto forwarding action taken by the former City of Toronto Council at its meeting on September 22 and 23, 1997 whereby Council, in part, forwarded this report to the Toronto Transition Team, the new Board of Health for the City of Toronto, and the new Toronto City Council and urged these bodies to establish a new Toronto Food Policy Council as a subcommittee of the new Board of Health.

(See minute No. 42)

51. Appointments to the Toronto District Health Council

The Board had before it a report (February 12, 1998) from the City Clerk recommending that:

- (1) the attached 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 Interim 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.

In accordance with the Toronto District Health Council's request for two Board of Health candidates for one position, on motion by Robert Davies, the Board endorsed the Striking Committee's nomination of Councillor Joan King as City Council's representative as it felt she could also represent the Board of Health on the Council. However, the Board also forwarded the name of Councillor Michael Prue as the Board's candidate in the event that the Toronto District Health Council required additional nominations.

The Board indicated that it may reconsider forwarding the name of a second candidate once the structure and citizen representation on the Board of Health has been finalised.

The Board adjourned its meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Chair.