

THE CITY OF TORONTO

Clerk's Department

Minutes of the Board of Health

Meeting No. 8

Tuesday, June 23, 1998.

The Board of Health met on Tuesday, June 23, 1998, in Committee Room C, 2nd Floor, Metro Hall, Toronto, commencing at 9:30 a.m.

Members Present:

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

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

Confirmation of Minutes.

The Board approved the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Health held on May 12, 1998.

Business arising from last meeting

With respect to Min. No. 80 - Child Nutrition Programs: Meeting the Needs, the Medical Officer of Health was requested to provide the Board of Health with bi-monthly updates on the progress of this program.

89. Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) By-law Stakeholder Consultation Plan

The Board had before it a report (June 12, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health recommending that this report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Jones, the Board received the report (June 12, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health for information.

Later in the meeting the following motion placed by Councillor Johnston was voted on and lost:

“That agenda item 5 being a report (June 12, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health respecting environmental tobacco smoke (ETS) by-law stakeholder consultation place, be reopened”.

90. Proposed mandate and structure of the amalgamated Toronto Food Policy Council

The Board had before it a report (June 15, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health recommending that:

- (1) The Board of Health approve the mandate, terms of reference, and composition of the Toronto Food Policy Council;
- (2) That the Board of Health appoint to the Toronto Food Policy Council until November 30, 2000, and until their successors are appointed:

City Council

- Councillor McConnell
- Councillor Mihevc

From a food policy research network

- Dr. Mustafa Koc, Toronto Food Research Network

From agricultural/rural networks or associations

- Ineke Booy, Ontario Farm Women's Network
- Vic Daniel, Holstein Canada

From food business/industry associations

- Darryn Sceeles, Canadian Health Food Association

From a community economic development network

- Mike Schreiner, Local Exchange Trading Systems

From health networks

- Sonja Nerad, Association of Ontario Health Centres
- Lee Zaslofsky, Citizens for Public Health

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From the food networks

- Cindy Anthony, Food Access Community Task Force of East York (Alternate: Denise Vararoutsos)
- Debbie Field, Toronto Food Access Network (Alternates: Kathryn Scarfe, Sylvia Kerr)

- (3) the Toronto Food Policy Council report to the Board of Health in the Fall of 1998, with additional appointments to fill the remaining positions on the amalgamated Toronto Food Policy Council; and
- (4) the Board of Health forward this report to City Council for information.

A technical amendment was made to Recommendation (2) of the report (June 15, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health by substituting the name of the association represented by Vic Daniel of "Holstein Canada" with the name "National Farmers' Union".

On motion by Councillor Jones, the Board took the following action and forwarded notice of its action in this respect to City Council for its information:

- (1) Approved the mandate, terms of reference and composition of the Toronto Food Policy Council as outlined in the report (June 15, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health.
- (2) Appointed to the Toronto Food Policy Council for the period ending November 30, 2000 and until their successors are appointed, the following persons:

City Council

- Councillor McConnell
- Councillor Mihevc

From a food policy research network

- Dr. Mustafa Koc, Toronto Food Research Network

From agricultural/rural networks or associations

- Ineke Booy, Ontario Farm Women's Network
- Vic Daniel, National Farmers' Union

From food business/industry associations

- Darryn Sceeles, Canadian Health Food Association

From a community economic development network

- Mike Schreiner, Local Exchange Trading Systems

From health networks

- Sonja Nerad, Association of Ontario Health Centres
- Lee Zaslofsky, Citizens for Public Health

From the food networks

- Cindy Anthony, Food Access Community Task Force of East York (Alternate: Denise Vararoutsos)
- Debbie Field, Toronto Food Access Network (Alternates: Kathryn Scarfe, Sylvia Kerr)

- (3) Requested the Toronto Food Policy Council to report to the Board of Health in the Fall of 1998 with additional appointees to fill the remaining positions on the amalgamated Council.

(Report No. 9, Clause 3)

91. Purchase of Service Agreements with AIDS Committee of Toronto and Youthlink Inner City for the period July 1, 1998 to June 30, 1999

The Board had before it a report (June 12, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health recommending that:

- (1) A purchase of service agreement for the provision of HIV/AIDS prevention services by the AIDS Committee of Toronto be entered into for the period of July 1, 1998 to June 30, 1999, at a cost not to exceed \$256,808, inclusive of GST;
- (2) a purchase of service agreement for the provision of HIV/AIDS prevention services by YOUTHLINK Inner City be entered into for the period July 1, 1998 to June 30, 1999, at a cost not to exceed \$149,608, inclusive of GST; and
- (3) the appropriate City of Toronto officials be authorized to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Prue, the Board recommended the adoption of the report (June 12, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health, and forwarded this matter to the Budget Committee for consideration of 50% of the required funding in the amount of \$203,208 being drawn from the 1999 fiscal year.

92. Board of Health Procedure By-law and Expense By-law

The Board had before it a report (June 2, 1998) from the City Solicitor recommending that:

- (1) Authority be granted to introduce the necessary Bill at the Board of Health to govern the proceedings of the Board of Health for the City of Toronto Health Unit; and
 - (2) authority be granted to provide for the payment of certain expenses of the members of the Board of Health.
- (A) Procedure By-law
 - (B) Expense By-law

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Board granted authority for the introduction of the necessary bills at the Board of Health to:

- a. govern the proceedings of the Board of Health for the City of Toronto Health Unit; and
- b. provide for the payment of certain expenses of the members of the Board of Health.

and adopted the by-laws.

93. 1998/99 Community-based AIDS Prevention funding report

The Board had before it a report (June 5, 1998) from the AIDS Prevention Fund Review Panel recommending that:

- (1) Community-based AIDS Prevention Funding totalling \$1,052,808 be provided to 41 projects as recommended in Appendices A and B of this report;
- (2) release of funds be subject to the satisfactory completion of a Declaration Form regarding the adoption of the former City of Toronto's Non-Discrimination Policy;
- (3) authority be granted to the Medical Officer of Health to take the necessary action to give effect thereto, including to execute the letters of understanding on behalf of the City, on the terms and conditions as outlined in this report (see Appendices C and D);

- (4) the Board of Health request the Minister of Health to create mechanisms, in keeping with provision of sexually transmitted disease medications and vaccines, to provide condoms to health units for HIV, sexually transmitted disease and pregnancy prevention; and
- (5) the Board of Health request the Minister of Health to review decisions related to restructuring of Toronto hospitals to ensure that services related to HIV and AIDS, reproductive and sexual health are maintained at levels existing in Toronto prior to hospital restructuring and required to meet local needs.

On motion by Councillor Jones, the Board recommended:

1. The adoption of the following recommendations 1 and 2 and forwards this matter to the Budget Committee for consideration of approval of 50% of the required funding, in the amount of \$526,404, being drawn from the 1999 fiscal year:
 - a. That Community-based AIDS Prevention Funding totalling \$1,052,808 be provided to 41 projects as recommended in Appendices A and B of the report (June 5, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health;
 - b. release of funds be subject to the satisfactory completion of a Declaration Form regarding the adoption of the former City of Toronto's Non-Discrimination Policy;and
 - c. authority be granted to the Medical Officer of Health to take the necessary action to give effect to the foregoing recommendations including the execution of letters of understanding on behalf of the City on the terms and conditions, as outlined in the aforementioned report from the Medical Officer of Health (Appendices C and D contained therein refers);
2. that the Community-Based AIDS Prevention Funding Program be expanded across the new City of Toronto with appropriate funding, and that this expansion be reflected in the Toronto Public Health 1999 budget, and that a panel comprised of citizen members, with staff support, continue to make recommendations on the allocation of these grants;

3. requested the Minister of Health to create mechanisms, in keeping with provision of sexually transmitted disease medications and vaccines, to provide condoms to health units for HIV, sexually transmitted disease and pregnancy prevention;
4. requested the Minister of Health to review decisions related to restructuring of Toronto hospitals to ensure that services related to HIV and AIDS, reproductive and sexual health are maintained at levels existing in Toronto prior to hospital restructuring and required to meet local needs; and

On motion by Councillor King, the Board:

5. requested the Medical Officer of Health to report back to the Board for its September 15, 1998 meeting on the current activities and programs aimed at AIDS prevention being provided by the City of Toronto showing how much the City of Toronto contributes to the total provincial-wide AIDS prevention programs and indicate the potential likelihood of increased provincial funding in this area.

94. 1998 Community-based drug abuse prevention Grants Report

The Board had before it a report (June 4, 1998) from the Drug Abuse Prevention Grants Review Panel recommending that:

- (1) Community-based Drug Abuse Prevention funding in the total amount of \$500,000 be provided to 62 projects listed in Appendix A and B of this report. Funds are in the 1998 Consolidated Grants Program Budget;
- (2) release of funds be subject to the satisfactory completion by the various grant applicants of a Declaration Form regarding the adoption of the former City of Toronto's Non-Discrimination Policy; and
- (3) authority be granted to the Medical Officer of Health to take the necessary action to give effect thereto, including to execute the Letters of Understanding on behalf of the City, on the terms and conditions as outlined in this report (see Appendices C and D).

The Board also had before it a communication (June 15, 1998) from Rita Luty, Chairperson, Northern Health Area Community Health Board recommending that:

- (1) The Drug Abuse Prevention Program be expanded across the new City, with appropriate funding, and that this expansion be reflected in the Toronto Public Health 1999 budget; and
- (2) A panel comprised of citizens, supported by staff, continue to make recommendations on the allocation of grants.

On motion by Councillor Jones, the Board recommended that:

1. Community-based Drug Abuse Prevention funding in the total amount of \$500,000 be provided to 62 projects listed in Appendix A and B of the report (June 4, 1998) from the Co-Chairs, Drug Abuse Prevention Grants Review Panel. Funds are available in the 1998 Consolidated Grants Program Budget;
2. release of funds be subject to the satisfactory completion by the various grant applicants of a Declaration Form regarding the adoption of the former City of Toronto's Non-Discrimination Policy;
3. authority be granted to the Medical Officer of Health to take the necessary action to give effect to the foregoing Recommendations 1 and 2 including the execution of Letters of Understanding on behalf of the City on the terms and conditions, as outlined in the aforementioned report from the Medical Officer of Health (Appendices C and D contained therein refers);
4. the Drug Abuse Prevention Program be expanded across the new City of Toronto with appropriate funding, and that this expansion be reflected in the Toronto Public Health Department 1999 Budget, and a panel comprised of citizen members, with staff support, continue to make recommendations on the allocation of these grants.

(Report No. 9, Clause 1)

95. Update on Cyclospora Outbreak

Dr. Barbara Jaffe provided a verbal update on the recent Cyclospora outbreak.

Councillor Jones assumed the Chair.

On motion by Councillor Filion, the Board requested the Medical Officer of Health to report back to the Board as soon as possible with recommendations on how to reduce this and any further outbreaks of Cyclospora including recommendations that would require fresh produce to be labelled as to its source and country of origin, and possible recommendations on banning the importation of Guatemalan raspberries.

Councillor Filion resumed the Chair.

96. Interim Administration of Mandatory Dental benefits for children under Ontario Works

The Board had before it a report (June 15, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health recommending that:

- (1) Toronto Public Health be authorized to contract with Social Services Division, Community and Neighbourhood Services Department, to administer, on an interim basis, the Ontario Works Mandatory Dental Benefit Program For Children Age (0-17) effective July 1, 1998 subject to final concurrence of the Ministry of Community & Social Services; and
- (2) Toronto Public Health staff be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to implement this report.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Board recommended the adoption of the report (June 15, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health.

(Report No. 9, Clause 2)

97. Special diet allowance for pre- and postnatal care

The Board had before it a report (June 16, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health recommending that this report be received for information.

The Board also had before it:

- (a) a communication (May 19, 1998) from John Stapleton, Manager, Operational Policy, Ministry of Community and Social Services responding to a letter (April 26, 1998) from Councillor Filion, Chair, Board of Health, addressed

to The Honourable Mike Harris respecting the recent announcement that the Provincial Government would be cutting the \$37 pregnancy allowance for nutrition for pregnant women

- (b) a communication (April 26, 1998) from Councillor Filion, Chair, Board of Health advising the Premier of Ontario of the Board of Health's action taken at its meeting on April 21, 1998

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Board received the report (June 16, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health and related material for information.

98. Final Report on Management Restructuring

The Board had before it a report (June 19, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health recommending that this report be received for information.

Re:4 - Amended pages 6 and 9 of the report (June 19, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health

Dr. Sheela Basrur gave a presentation on the process and outcomes of management restructuring in Public Health.

On motion by Councillor Prue, the Board of Health received the report (June 19, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health for information.

99. Selection process for appointing citizen members to the current Board of Health

The Board had before it a report (June 15, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health recommending that:

- (1) The Board of Health adopt the outreach strategy and selection criteria for citizen appointments to the Board of Health;
- (2) the Board of Health choose one of the following three options for a selection process for the appointment of citizen members:
 - (a) the Board of Health will form a Selection Subcommittee to screen citizen applicants. The Subcommittee will nominate a slate of six citizen members to the Board of Health which will forward the recommended slate to City Council for appointment;

- (b) the Subcommittee will nominate six citizen members to the Board of Health which will forward the slate with its recommendations to the Nominating Committee for approval and to City Council for appointment; and
 - (c) the Board of Health will refer the outreach strategy and selection criteria outlined in this report to the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee will nominate a slate of six citizen members and forward the recommended slate to City Council for appointment;
- (3) the Board of Health direct the City Clerk to forward its decision with this report to the Miller Committee for approval of the proposed selection process for citizen appointments and subsequently to City Council; and
 - (4) the Board of Health consider strategies for effective, meaningful and ongoing citizen participation as a key component of its strategic planning.

The Board also had before it a communication (June 15, 1998) from Rita Luty, Chairperson, Northern Health Area Community Health Board recommending that the report from the Medical Officer of Health which proposes a process for citizen participation in Board of Health activities be considered a deputation item at the Board of Health.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Board:

- 1. Adopted the outreach strategy and selection criteria for citizen appointments to the Board of Health as outlined in the report (June 15, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health.
- 2. Considered strategies for effective, meaningful and ongoing citizen participation as a key component to its strategic planning.
- 3. With respect to the selection process for the appointment of citizen members, the Board amended option 2(b) of the report (June 15, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health by deleting the words "for approval", and in so doing adopted the option of establishing a sub-committee with a mandate to screen citizen applicants and nominate a slate of citizen appointees to the Board of Health. These recommended appointees would then be forwarded to the Nominating Committee and to City Council for appointment. The Board further requested that its decision in this respect be forwarded to the Special Committee to Review the Final Report of the Toronto Transition Team and subsequently to City Council

for approval of the proposed selection process for citizen appointments.

The following amendment to Councillor Mihevc's motion was placed by Robert Davies and was voted on and lost:

“That the words “for approval” contained in option 2(b) of the report (June 15, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health, be substituted with the words “for endorsement”

The following motion was placed by Councillor King, but not voted upon:

“That option 2(a) of the report (June 15, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health, be adopted”.

100. Strategic Planning process for the Board of Health

The Board had before it a report (June 17, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health recommending that:

- (1) The Board of Health endorse the proposed three phase strategic planning process; and
- (2) the Medical Officer of Health, in consultation with the Chair of the Board of Health, begin to implement phase one, board development, of the strategic planning process.

On motion by Councillor Johnston, the Board adopted the report (June 17, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health.

101. ALPHA Membership

The Board had before it a report (May 4, 1998) from the Medical Officer of Health recommending that the Toronto Board of Health approve its membership in the Association of Public Health Agencies (ALPHA).

The Board also had before it a list of proposed Membership Fees.

The following motion placed by Councillor Altobello was voted on and lost:

“That the matter of approving the 1998/99 membership in ALPHA be deferred to the next meeting, and the Medical Officer of Health be

requested to report to that meeting on the benefits of membership in ALPHA for the Board of Health of the City of Toronto Health Unit, and comment upon the status of the Board's potential membership in comparison to other health units".

On motion by Elca Rennick, the Board approved its 1998/99 membership in the Association of Public Health Agencies (ALPHA).

102. Help line telephone system for seniors

The Board had before it a report (June 23, 1998) from Councillor Anne Johnston recommending that the Board endorse a request to give priority to the City launching an emergency plan to help seniors cope with a summer heat wave and direct staff to review the possibility of providing a help line telephone system this summer as a beginning to the proposed emergency plan.

On motion by Councillor Johnston, the Board requested the Medical Officer of Health to review the possibility of providing a help line telephone system this summer as a beginning to a proposed emergency plan to help seniors cope with a summer heat wave, and requested her to report to the July 27, 1998 Board of Health meeting, and to the Seniors' Task Force, on this request and on proposals for a longer term comprehensive emergency response plan.

The Board adjourned its meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Chair.