

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Division

Minutes of the Board of Health

Meeting No. 4

Thursday, May 6, 1999

The Board of Health met on Thursday, May 6, 1999, in Committee Room 1, 2nd Floor, City Hall, Toronto, commencing at 12:15 p.m.

Members Present:

12:15 p.m.-1:40 p.m.

Councillor John Filion, Chair	x
Councillor Irene Jones, Vice-Chair	x
Councillor Gerry Altobello	
Ms. Jan Campbell	x
Mr. Robert Davies	x
Councillor Anne Johnston	x
Councillor Joan King	x
Ms. Gail Lindsay	x
Mr. Brian MacKay	x
Councillor Joe Mihevc	x
Mr. Steven Pinnock	x
Councillor Michael Prue	x
Mr. Lee Zaslofsky	x

Observers:

Trustee Gerri Gershon, Toronto District School Board
Ms. Fiona Nelson

Members were present for some or all of the time period indicated.

4.1 Ventilation Option for the Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) By-law.

The Board of Health had before it a report (April 28, 1999) from Councillor John Filion, Chair, Board of Health, recommending that:

- (1) the Ontario Restaurant Association provide to the Medical Officer of Health, by May 31, 1999, specific details on the ventilation technology which they believe to be an effective alternative to 100 percent smoke-free status for hospitality establishments, along with independent scientific evidence supporting the effectiveness of this technology; and
- (2) the Medical Officer of Health report to the Board of Health by June 28, 1999, regarding the appropriateness of including a ventilation option in the proposed ETS by-law.

Councillor Mihevc moved:

- (1) the adoption of the forementioned report; and
- (2) that the Medical Officer of Health be requested to report back to the next meeting of the Board on whether the Ontario Restaurant Association has responded. **(Carried)**

Mr. MacKay moved that the Medical Officer of Health be requested to circulate the final consolidated report on the ETS By-law in sufficient time to provide members of the Board the opportunity for review prior to the Board meeting on June 28 and 29, 1999. **(Carried)**

(Mr. Terry Mundell, President, Ontario Restaurant Association; Medical Officer of Health; Community Councils)

4.2 Renewal of the Ontario Tobacco Strategy.

The Board of Health had before it a report (April 29, 1999) from the Medical Officer of Health advising the Board of recent steps taken by the Province to strengthen tobacco control and prevention in Ontario; and recommending that:

- (1) the Board write to the Ontario Minister of Health to acknowledge her efforts to renew the Ontario Tobacco Strategy and to urge her to ensure early implementation of the remaining recommendations from the Expert Panel; and

- (2) the Board's position be communicated to City Council, to local MPP's in the Toronto area, and to the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA) in the form of a draft resolution on this matter.

On motion by Councillor Prue, the Board of Health deferred consideration of the aforementioned report until its next meeting, scheduled to be held on June 3, 1999.

(Medical Officer of Health)

DEFERRED

4.3 Changes in Ontario's Electrical Sector and Air Quality - Follow-up.

The Board of Health had before it a report (April 28, 1999) from the Medical Officer of Health responding to the requests of the Board at its meeting on April 6, 1999, during consideration of her report dated March 25, 1999, entitled "Changes in Ontario's Electrical Sector and Air Quality"; and recommending that the Board:

- (1) revise the first and second recommendations embodied in the communication dated April 6, 1999, from Councillor Jack Layton, to indicate that air conditioners in City buildings, and in buildings belonging to others in the City, be set at an average temperature of 23 degrees Celsius during summer months; and
- (2) encourage the Ministry of Environment to take all steps necessary to shorten the time frame between the collection of air samples and the reporting of air sampling results to the public.

The Board also had before it a report (May 6, 1999) from the Medical Officer of Health recommending that:

- (1) Recommendation No. (1) of the report dated April 28, 1999, be deleted; and
- (2) the first and second recommendations contained in the communication from Councillor Jack Layton (April 6, 1999) be revised as follows:
 - (a) that the Commissioner of Corporate Services and the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services consider setting thermostats in City buildings at a minimum of 23 degrees Celsius (73.4 degrees Fahrenheit) during summer months to conserve energy and minimize air pollution from coal-generated electricity, while ensuring that air temperatures within City buildings are maintained within the comfort range of 23 to 26 degrees Celsius (73 to 79 degrees Fahrenheit); and

- (b) that the City of Toronto promote this practice to other building owners and tenants through the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA).

On motion by Councillor King, the Board of Health:

- (a) adopted the aforementioned report dated May 6, 1999, and in so doing recommended to City Council that:

(1) the Commissioner of Corporate Services and the Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services consider setting thermostats in City buildings at a minimum of 23 degrees Celsius (73.4 degrees Fahrenheit) during summer months to conserve energy and minimize air pollution from coal-generated electricity, while ensuring that air temperatures within City buildings are maintained within the comfort range of 23 to 26 degrees Celsius (73 to 79 degrees Fahrenheit); and

(2) the City of Toronto promote this practice to other building owners and tenants through the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA); and

- (b) adopted Recommendation No. (2) of the aforementioned report dated April 28, 1999, subject to amending the recommendation to provide that the Board of Health:

“(2) encourage the Ministry of the Environment to take all steps necessary to shorten the time frame between the collection of air samples and the reporting of air sampling results to the public, and further request the Ministry of the Environment to prepare an annual report on the air quality within the City of Toronto”.

(Minister of the Environment; Medical Officer of Health; c: Councillor Jack Layton)

(Clause No. 1, Report No. 3)

4.4 Community Consultations on Public Health.

The Board of Health had before it a report (April 26, 1999) from the Medical Officer of Health outlining a proposed process for community consultations on public health issues, in the context of Real Time Strategic Change, including special meetings to be held in each Community Council area; and recommending that the Board approve the community consultation process as set out in this report.

On motion by Ms. Lindsay, the Board of Health approved the community consultation process as set out in the aforementioned report, and requested the Medical Officer of Health to incorporate the suggestions made by the Members of the Board.

(Medical Officer of Health; c: Administrators, Community Councils)

4.5 1999 Operating Budget - Update.

The Board of Health had before it a report (April 29, 1999) from the Medical Officer of Health respecting the 1999 Operating Budget approved by City Council and the provisional estimates of provincial funding for public health programs and services; and recommending that:

- (1) the Board receive for information the 1999 operating budget approved by City Council.
- (2) the Board request the Chief Administrative Officer to report the results of his upcoming review of Public Health to City Council through the Board of Health, in addition to any applicable standing committees; and
- (3) the Board express its appreciation to the Minister of Health for her efforts to strengthen public health through a return to cost shared funding for general programs and for increased support for provincial priorities.

On motion by Councillor Prue, the Board of Health adopted Recommendations Nos. (1) and (2) of the aforementioned report, and deferred consideration of Recommendation No. (3) until its next meeting, scheduled to be held on June 3, 1999.

(Chief Administrative Officer; c: Medical Officer of Health)

4.6 Expansion of Hostel Services.

The Board of Health had before it a communication (April 29, 1999) from the Medical Officer of Health forwarding, for information, a report (March 26, 1999) addressed to the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee, respecting expansion of hostel services and Public Health initiatives to reduce the spread of communicable diseases, in particular TB, wherein it is recommended that:

- (1) the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee continue to support the optimal service level for Toronto Public Health's TB program;
- (2) current Public Health initiatives pertaining to communicable diseases other than TB should be harmonized across the City and workloads associated with both the current and new hostels should be monitored with a view to considering provincial cost-sharing of hostel-specific public health services;
- (3) prior to the construction of any new hostels, Toronto Public Health should be consulted regarding ways to minimize the risk of communicable diseases within the new environments;
- (4) the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee continue to advocate with the Province for provincial funding for appropriate accommodation for people without housing who have active TB in order to reduce disease transmission and promote stability and health, as requested by the Board of Health on January 25, 1999; and
- (5) the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee continue to support the recommendations in the Report of the Mayor's Homelessness Action Task Force, which states that no-one should be discharged from an institution to the street and that the Ministry of Health should fund infirmary beds in appropriate locations for homeless people recovering from illness or surgery.

On motion by Councillor King, the Board of Health received the aforementioned communication.

(Medical Officer of Health)

4.7 Appointment of Board of Health Member to Toronto District Health Council (TDHC).

The Board of Health had before it a communication (March 22, 1999) from Mr. Michael J. O'Keefe, Chair, Toronto District Health Council, requesting nominations from the Board of Health for membership on the Toronto District Health Council.

An information package on the Toronto District Health Council was also circulated to members of the Board under separate cover.

On motion by Councillor Jones, the Board of Health deferred consideration of the aforementioned communication until its next meeting, scheduled to be held on June 3, 1999.

(Chair, Toronto District Health Council; c: Medical Officer of Health)

DEFERRED

4.8 Attendance of Board of Health Members at Annual ALPHA Conference - June 13-15, 1999.

The Board of Health had before it a communication (April 22, 1999) from the Coordinator, Association Services, Association of Local Public Health Agencies, (ALPHA) forwarding conference package, registration and additional information for the upcoming ALPHA Annual Conference, June 13-15, 1999, in London, Ontario.

On motion by Councillor King, the Board of Health authorized funds for interested Members of the Board to attend the aforementioned conference, to be funded from the Board budget.

(Members of the Board of Health; c: Medical Officer of Health)

4.9 Schedule of Board Meetings to October 2000.

The Board of Health had before it a communication (April 21, 1999) from the Secretary, Board of Health, submitting the following meeting dates for consideration:

Tuesday, September 21, 1999	-	1:00 p.m.
Monday, October 18, 1999	-	1:00 p.m.
Monday, November 15, 1999	-	1:00 p.m.
Monday, December 6, 1999	-	1:00 p.m.

Monday, January 24, 2000	-	1:00 p.m.
Monday, February 21, 2000	-	1:00 p.m.
Monday, April 3, 2000	-	1:00 p.m.
Monday, May 1, 2000	-	1:00 p.m.
Monday, May 29, 2000	-	1:00 p.m.
Monday, June 26, 2000	-	1:00 p.m.
Monday, July 24, 2000	-	1:00 p.m.
Monday, September 25, 2000	-	1:00 p.m.

The Board also had before it a communication (April 22, 1999) from the City Clerk, forwarding the revised 1999-2000 Schedule of Meetings of the City of Toronto Council, Community Councils and its Committees; and advising that in adopting the Clause, as amended, Council adopted the recommendation to include the regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Health once the Board has determined its schedule.

The Board of Health adopted the foregoing meeting schedule.

(Members of the Board of Health; c: Medical Officer of Health; Ms. Jane Speakman, Legal Services)

4.10 Medical Officer of Health Performance Appraisal Process.

The Board of Health had before it a confidential report (April 30, 1999) from Councillor John Filion, Chair, Board of Health, respecting a process by which to conduct a performance appraisal for the Medical Officer of Health; and recommending that a three member ad hoc sub-committee of the Board be struck to implement the process described therein, with membership to include the Chair and at least one citizen representative.

On motion by Councillor Prue, the Board of Health decided to consider the foregoing matter in public session.

On motion by Councillor Johnston, the Board of Health:

- (1) adopted the aforementioned report; and
- (2) appointed Councillor Irene Jones and Ms. Gail Lindsay to the sub-committee in addition to the Chair of the Board.

(Chair, Board of Health; Councillor Irene Jones; Ms. Gail Lindsay;
c: Medical Officer of Health)

4.11 Appointment of School Board Trustee to Board of Health.

The Board of Health had before it a confidential communication (May 4, 1999) from the Nominating Sub-Committee of the Board of Health, recommending the appointment of a School Board Trustee to the Board.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Board of Health recommended to the Nominating Committee the adoption of the recommendation of the Nominating Sub-Committee of the Board of Health.

(Nominating Committee)

4.12 Environmental Tobacco Smoke By-law.

The Board of Health had before it a communication (April 28, 1999) from the City Clerk advising that the Scarborough Community Council at its meeting on April 28, 1999, directed that the following Resolution be forwarded to the Board of Health:

“RESOLVED that the Scarborough Community Council request the Board of Health to conduct a Public Meeting in Scarborough to hear public deputations on a Harmonized Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) By-law for the City of Toronto.”

The Board also had before it copies of correspondence between the Chair of the Board of Health and the Chair of the Scarborough Community Council regarding the options available regarding the holding of a public meeting on the Environmental Tobacco Smoke By-law.

On motion by Councillor King, the Board of Health received the aforementioned communication and correspondence; and directed that the Scarborough Community Council be advised that interested parties will be invited to attend meetings of other Community Councils or the meeting of the Board of Health on June 28, 1999.

(Scarborough Community Council; c: Medical Officer of Health)

Subsequent to the meeting of the Board of Health, the Chair of the Scarborough Community Council revisited the issue with members of the Community Council, and advised that they have amended their original position and have agreed to hold a public meeting on the by-law on Thursday, May 27, 1999, at 7:00 p.m.

**4.13 Toronto Star Article on Addition of
Fluoride to City's Water Supply.**

The Board of Health had before it a communication (May 6, 1999) from the Medical Officer of Health respecting an article entitled "A Crack Appears in the Fluoride Front", which appeared in the Toronto Star on April 25, 1999.

On motion by Councillor King, the Board of Health received the
aforementioned communication.

(Medical Officer of Health)

The Board of Health adjourned its meeting at 1:40 p.m.

Chair.