

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Office

Minutes of the Community Services Committee

Meeting 3

Wednesday, April 27, 2005

The Community Services Committee met on Wednesday, April 27, 2005, in Committee Room 2, 2nd Floor, City Hall, Toronto, commencing at 9:45 a.m.

Members Present: 9:45 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Councillor Olivia Chow, Chair	x	
Councillor Raymond Cho		x
Councillor Gay Cowbourne		x
Councillor Joe Mihevc, Vice-Chair		x
Councillor Denzil Minnan-Wong		x
Councillor David Shiner		x

Regrets:

Councillor Norm Kelly
Councillor Giorgio Mammoliti

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

Confirmation of Minutes

On motion by Councillor Cowbourne, the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on March 9, 2005, were confirmed.

3.1 Emergency Response – Jurisdictional Protocol for Dispute Resolution

The Community Services Committee considered a report (March 14, 2005) from the Acting Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services and the City Solicitor responding to a request by the Community Services Committee to report on a jurisdictional protocol in the event of any staff/board dispute during an emergency.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

The Community Services Committee received the report for information.

Report 4, Clause 6(a)

3.2 2005-2009 Child Care Service Plan

The Community Services Committee considered a report (April 11, 2005) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services requesting approval for the City of Toronto 2005-2009 Child Care Service Plan and providing a preliminary description of the impact of the Best Start Program on the Plan.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the recommendations contained in the attached 2005-2009 Child Care Service Plan be approved, forwarded to the Ministry of Children and Youth Services and be incorporated into subsequent budget submissions for the Children's Services Division;
- (2) the 2005-2009 Child Care Service Plan principles and recommendations be used to guide the implementation of the Ontario Best Start program in Toronto;
- (3) the City continue to advocate for funding flexibility in the implementation of Best Start to support equitable access to early learning and child care, increased program funding to

Community Services Committee Minutes
Wednesday, April 27, 2005

assure improved quality and ongoing viability of the existing child care system;

- (4) new child care funding be used to ensure equitable access to services for children with special needs by allocating increased funding for special needs resourcing over the term of this Service Plan from \$7.3 million to \$15 million by 2009;
- (5) any future year financial implications to the City beyond 2005 be reported to Community Services Committee, Budget Advisory Committee and Policy and Finance Committee and subject to future budget approval processes;
- (6) the City continue to advocate for inclusion of Ontario Early Years Centres within the overall child care system managed by the City of Toronto; and
- (7) the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Petr Varmuza, Director, Service Planning and Support, gave a presentation to the Community Services Committee.

The following persons addressed the Community Services Committee:

- Kirsten Schwarzkopf, Parent, South Riverdale Child Parent Centre, representing the Family Resource Programs, and filed a written submission; and
- Jane Mercer, representing the Toronto Coalition for Better Child Care and the Child Care Advisory Committee.

Councillor Janet Davis, Ward 31 - Beaches-East York, also addressed the Community Services Committee.

The Community Services Community recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee that City Council:

- (I) adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (April 11, 2005) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, subject to amending Recommendations (1) and (5) relating to Access and Equity in the draft 2005-2009 Toronto Child

Community Services Committee Minutes
Wednesday, April 27, 2005

Care Service Plan to read as follows:

“(1) The City will ensure equitable access for all children by developing a range of programs and services, including part-time options, and by actively pursuing development in communities that are underserved.”; and

“(5) The City will continue to work to rationalize family resource programs in the future.”;

(Motion by Councillor Shiner on behalf of Councillor Davis)

(II) request the federal Minister of Social Development and the Ontario Minister of Children and Youth Services to expedite negotiations to secure an agreement in Ontario, and Toronto, on child care as soon as possible as the Province of Manitoba has done;

(Motion by Councillor Shiner on behalf of Councillor Davis)

(III) forward a copy of this report to the federal Minister of Social Development and the Ontario Minister of Children and Youth Services with a sincere request that they give back to the children of Toronto some of the funds that parents continue to give to the provincial and federal governments, through their taxes, so that appropriate, safe child care can be provided to the 50,000 children who need it in the City of Toronto;

(IV) write a letter to the leaders of the provincial and federal parties requesting a direct response outlining their positions and commitments to child care, and children in need of subsidized child care, in Toronto; and

(Motion by Councillor Shiner)

(V) forward a copy of this report to the Roundtable on Children, Youth and Education.

(Motion by Councillor Chow)

(Policy and Finance Committee – April 27, 2005)

Report 4, Clause 6(b)

3.3 Snowshovelling and Grass Cutting Supports to Seniors and People with Disabilities

The Community Services Committee considered a report (April 4, 2005) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services and the Acting Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services updating the Committee on the transfer of the delivery of community-based snowshovelling and grass cutting services for seniors and people with disabilities from the Works and Emergency Services Department to the Community Services Department.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the review of snowshovelling/grass cutting programs be undertaken as described in this report and reported to the appropriate standing committee prior to the 2006 budget process;
- (2) funds in the amount of \$304,000.00 be transferred from the Transportation Services Program – Winter Maintenance 2005 Operating Budget to:
 - (a) the Community Services grants service envelope of the Community Partnership and Investment Program 2005 Operating Budget for the provision of community based snow shovelling and grass cutting services for seniors and people with disabilities to the amount of \$264,000.00; and
 - (b) the Social Development and Administration Division Budget to the amount of \$40,000.00;
- (3) the staffing complement of the Social Development and Administration Division be increased by a temporary half-time Program Support Analyst position to undertake the service review and develop options for administration of a harmonized program to provide snow shovelling and grass cutting grant services for seniors and people with disabilities; and

Community Services Committee Minutes
Wednesday, April 27, 2005

- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The Committee also considered a communication (April 26, 2005) from Councillor Gay Cowbourne, Chair, Roundtable on Seniors, advising that the Roundtable on Seniors at its meeting on April 22, 2005, requested the Chair to forward the following suggestion to the Community Services Committee for consideration at its meeting on April 27, 2005:

“That lawn care be incorporated into the harmonized community-based outdoor maintenance/support programs for seniors and people with disabilities supported by the City of Toronto.”

On motion by Councillor Cowbourne, the Community Services Committee recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (April 4, 2005) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services and the Acting Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services, subject to:

- (a) amending Recommendation (1) by adding “and that such report outline an implementation and communication plan”, so that Recommendation (1) reads as follows:

“(1) the review of snowshovelling/grass cutting programs be undertaken as described in this report and reported to the appropriate standing committee prior to the 2006 budget process, and that such report outline an implementation and communication plan;”;
and

- (b) lawn care being incorporated into the harmonized community-based outdoor maintenance/support program for seniors and people with disabilities supported by the City of Toronto.

(Policy and Finance Committee – April 27, 2005)

Report 4, Clause 6(c)

3.4 2005 Community Services Grant Program (CSGP) – Changes in Allocation Patterns Due

to Allocation Pressures as a Result of 2004 Budget Increases to CSGP

The Community Services Committee considered a report (April 11, 2005) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services identifying changes in the allocation patterns for the 2005 Community Services Grant Program as a result of annualization pressures within the approved CSGP funding envelope.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) this report be sent to all 2005 CSGP applicants that made a request for new or increased funding; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Councillor Michael Walker, Ward 22 - St. Paul's, addressed the Community Services Committee.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Community Services Committee recommended that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (April 11, 2005) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services.

Report 4, Clause 1

3.5 Proposed Restriction on Access to Newer Medications under the Ontario Drug Benefit Program

The Community Services Committee considered a report (April 13, 2005) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services identifying concerns related to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) review of atypical drug products in the Ontario Drug Benefit Formulary.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

Lembi Buchanan addressed the Community Services Committee.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, as amended by Councillor Shiner, the Community Services Committee recommended that the Chair of the Community Services Committee and the Mayor, on behalf of City Council, request the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care in the review of the Ontario Drug Benefit Formulary, to maintain access to all current medications and include new medications being developed; and further, that the Minister be requested to treat all Ontarians and seniors in a fair and equitable manner so that there are no greater barriers to good health due to the introduction of new drugs.

Report 4, Clause 2

**3.6 Status of the Property and Related Tenant Issues at 1765 and 1775 Weston Road
(Ward 11 – York South-Weston)**

The Community Services Committee considered a report (April 12, 2005) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services and the Executive Director of Municipal Licensing and Standards, responding to a request from the Tenant Defence Sub-Committee for a report to the Community Services Committee meeting of April 27, 2005, about the status of the property and related tenant issues at 1765 and 1775 Weston Road.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) a grant of up to \$5,000.00 be approved and allocated from the Tenant Support Grants

Community Services Committee Minutes
Wednesday, April 27, 2005

Program for assisting tenants in their dispute with the owner of the property at 1765 and 1775 Weston Road; and

- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The Committee also had before it the following communications:

- (i) (March 11, 2005) from the City Clerk advising that the Tenant Defence Sub-Committee at its meeting on March 11, 2005, recommended to the Community Services Committee that City Council approve a grant up to \$5,000.00 to the tenants of 1765 and 1775 Weston Road, to cover all reasonable costs not covered by the York Community Legal Clinic, in their dispute with the Owner.
- (ii) (April 20, 2005) from the Tenant Defence Sub-Committee advising that at its meeting on April 19, 2005, the Sub-Committee recommended to the Community Services Committee that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (April 12, 2005) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services and the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards, Urban Development Services, subject to deleting Recommendation 1 and inserting instead the following:
- “(1) a grant of up to \$5,000.00 be approved and allocated from the Tenant Support Grants Program for assisting tenants in their dispute with the owner of the property at 1765 and 1775 Weston Road under the following terms and conditions:
- (a) the funds be paid to York Community Legal Services to be held in trust for the tenants of 1765 and 1775 Weston Road;
 - (b) York Community Legal Services pay the money into a trust account that will be managed in accordance with the by-laws, rules and regulations of the Law Society of Upper Canada;
 - (c) the funds be used to cover expenses properly incurred on behalf of the tenants, including expert witness costs, application fees and other disbursements that are not covered by York Community Legal Services;
 - (d) any unused funds will be returned to the City; and

Community Services Committee Minutes
Wednesday, April 27, 2005

- (e) any other terms and conditions as deemed appropriate by the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, and the City Solicitor;”.

Councillor Michael Walker, Ward 22 - St. Paul’s, addressed the Community Services Committee.

The Community Services Committee:

- (A) recommended to City Council that:
 - (1) the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (April 12, 2005) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services and the Executive Director of Municipal Licensing and Standards be adopted, subject to the following terms and conditions:
 - (a) the funds be used to cover expenses properly incurred by the tenants, or on behalf of the tenants, including expert witness costs, application fees and other disbursements that are not covered by York Community Legal Services, provided that York Community Legal Services approves the costs within its strategy for assisting the tenants in the Tribunal process;
 - (b) the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, be authorized to pay directly to any expert witness retained by York Community Legal services for his/her professional service, and to the tenants represented by York Community Legal Services in their individual applications to the Tribunal; and

Community Services Committee Minutes
Wednesday, April 27, 2005

- (c) any other terms and conditions as deemed appropriate by the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, and the City Solicitor; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto; and

(Motion by Councillor Mihevc)

- (B) requested the Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer and the City Solicitor to submit a report to City Council on May 17, 2005, and to the Tenant Defence Sub-Committee, on how the City can fix the urgent items at 1765 and 1775 Weston Road and the funding sources; and what the methodology would be for the City to collect the cost of these repairs (i.e. from the property taxes).

(Motion by Councillor Chow)

Report 4, Clause 3

**3.7 Ontario Association of Non-Profit Homes and Services for Seniors (OANHSS)
Recognition of City of Toronto Program and People**

The Community Services Committee considered a communication (April 1, 2005) from the City Clerk advising that the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged at its meeting on April 1, 2005, considered a report (March 14, 2005) from the General Manager, Homes for the Aged, and:

- (1) referred the report to the Community Services Committee for information; and
- (2) congratulated staff on the outstanding achievement.

The Community Services Committee received the communication for information.

Report 4, Clause 6(d)

3.8 2004 List of Outstanding Items – Community Services Committee

The Community Services Committee considered a communication (February 23, 2005) from the City Clerk submitting, for information, a copy of the 2004 list of outstanding items for the Community Services Committee, together with department responses.

On motion by Councillor Shiner, the Community Services Committee referred the List of Outstanding Items back to the City Clerk for resubmission to the next meeting to be held on May 26, 2005, indicating the General Manager/Division responsible for each item outstanding.

Report 4, Clause 6(e)

3.9 110 Edward Street, Extension of Emergency Shelter and Referral Centre Programs (Ward 27 – Toronto Centre-Rosedale)

The Community Services Committee considered a report (April 21, 2005) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, providing the outcome of the results of the lease negotiations between the owners of 110 Edward Street and the City of Toronto in order to extend the use of the emergency shelter and referral program and recommending the extension of the lease on a month to month basis up to December 31, 2005.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, be directed to continue

Community Services Committee Minutes
Wednesday, April 27, 2005

to operate 110 Edward Street on a month to month basis until December 31, 2005, as an emergency shelter and referral program subject to the terms of the month to month agreement between the owners of 110 Edward and the City of Toronto;

- (2) the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, be directed to report back in the fall of 2005 on the status of the facility and a determination on whether to extend the services for the remainder of the 2005/2006 winter, subject to agreement of the landlord; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The Community Services Committee recommended to the Policy and Finance Committee that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (April 21, 2005) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration.

(Policy and Finance Committee – April 27, 2005)

Report 4, Clause 6(f)

3.10 Update on the Development of 1,000 Affordable and Transitional Housing Units (All Wards)

The Community Services Committee considered a report (April 21, 2005) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, providing an update on the status of the development of 1,000 transitional and affordable housing units targeted for 2005; on the status of the Next Steps Rent Supplement Demonstration Project, the Housing Allowance Pilot Project, the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care rent supplement program; and on the initiative to canvass all Councillors in relation to potential opportunities in their Ward to develop affordable and transitional housing.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Community Services Committee recommended that City Council request the Minister of Public Infrastructure Renewal to provide additional provincial funding to enhance the existing allocation of 530 affordable housing units on a project-by-project basis, such funds to be

derived from the soon to be announced federal-provincial funding agreement; and further, request that the funds, once announced, be immediately dispersed.

Report 4, Clause 4

3.11 Update on the 2004-2005 Tuberculosis Outbreak Investigation in the Homeless and Underhoused Population

The Community Services Committee considered a communication (April 12, 2005) from the Board of Health advising that the Board of Health at its meeting on April 4, 2005, received a report (March 7, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, entitled "Update on the Investigation and Management of the Tuberculosis (TB) Outbreak in Toronto's Homeless and Underhoused Population"; and requested that it be forwarded to the Community Services Committee and the Advisory Committee on Homeless and Socially Isolated Persons for information.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Community Services Committee received the communication for information.

Report 4, Clause 6(g)

3.12 Application of City of Toronto Shelter Standards to Out of the Cold Sites in Relation to Tuberculosis Prevention

The Community Services Committee considered a communication (April 12, 2005) from the Board of Health advising that the Board of Health at its meeting on April 4, 2005, considered a report (March 23, 2005) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, providing information on the City's Shelter Standards and their applicability to Out of the Cold in relation to tuberculosis prevention; and directed that a copy of the report be forwarded to the Community Services Committee and the Advisory Committee on Homeless and Socially Isolated Persons for information.

On motion by Councillor Mihevc, the Community Services Committee received the communication for information.

Report 4, Clause 6(h)

3.13 Update on Toronto's Call to Action on Physical Activity

Community Services Committee Minutes
Wednesday, April 27, 2005

The Community Services Committee considered a communication (April 12, 2005) from the Board of Health advising that the Board of Health at its meeting on April 4, 2005, considered a report (March 8, 2005) from the Medical Officer of Health, entitled "Update on Toronto's Call to Action on Physical Activity", and directed that a copy of the report be forwarded to the Community Services Committee and to City Council for their information.

On motion by Councillor Cowbourne, the Community Services Committee recommended that City Council receive the communication (April 12, 2005) from the Board of Health for information.

Report 4, Clause 5

The Community Services Committee adjourned its meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Chair.