

**THE CITY OF TORONTO**

**City Clerk's Office**

**Minutes of the Tenant Defence Sub-Committee**

**Meeting 5**

**Tuesday, June 17, 2008**

The Tenant Defence Sub-Committee met on Tuesday, June 17, 2008, in Committee Room No. 4, City Hall, Toronto, commencing at 1:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Councillor Anthony Perruzza, Chair  
Councillor Frances Nunziata  
Councillor Cliff Jenkins  
Councillor Walker

Regrets:

Councillor Janet Davis, Vice- Chair  
Councillor Pam McConnell  
Councillor Michael Walker

No declarations of interest pursuant to the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* were made.

**Confirmation of Minutes**

On motion by Councillor Jenkins, the Tenant Defence Sub-Committee confirmed the minutes of its meeting held on April 24, 2008.

**5.1 2008 Status Report: Applications under the Tenant Support Grants Program**

The Tenant Defence Sub-Committee considered a report (June 3, 2008) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support & Housing Administration, forwarding a summary update of all outstanding applications received under the Tenant Support Grant Program as of May 31, 2008.

On motion by Councillor Jenkins, the Sub-Committee received the report for information.

## **5.2 Installation of Smart Meters in Residential Rental Units and Its Impacts on Tenant Affordability**

The Tenant Defence Sub-Committee considered a report (June 12, 2008) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, recommending that City Council authorize the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration to consult and seek further input from the landlord and tenant communities and other stakeholders as appropriate on the installation of smart meters in residential rental units and the impact of such initiatives on tenant affordability, and report back to the next meeting of the Tenant Defence Sub-Committee.

The Sub-Committee also considered the following:

- report (April 18, 2008) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support & Housing Administration; and
- letter (February 11, 2008) from Susanne Maguire, Vice-President Marketing and Administration, Devamm Investments IIA Limited, addressed to a resident of 55 Emmett Avenue.

Katherine Chislett, Director, Housing & Homelessness Supports & Initiatives, Shelter Support and Housing Administration Division, gave a presentation on this matter.

The following persons addressed the Sub-Committee:

- Peter Mills, Stratacon Inc.
- Brad Butt, Greater Toronto Apartment Association
- Marjorie Small
- Tim O'Rourke

The Tenant Defence Sub-Committee recommended to the Community Development and Recreation Committee that:

1. City Council authorize the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration to consult and seek further input from the landlord and tenant communities and other stakeholders as appropriate on the installation of smart meters in residential rental units and the impact of such initiatives on tenant affordability, and report back to the next meeting of the Tenant Defence Sub-Committee. (Councillor Perruzza)
2. City Council request the Province of Ontario to:
  - a. Consider and explore possible ways of implementing a form of mandatory oversight in cases of voluntary smart-meter conversion, which includes:

- (i) ensuring that rent reductions are calculated fairly; and
  - (ii) ensuring that tenants are fully informed of their rights under s.125 of the *Residential Tenancies Act* (RTA). (Councillor Nunziata)
- b. Put on hold the installation of "smart meters" in residential rental units until such time as the City has thoroughly considered all the outstanding issues, and appropriate legislative amendments and/or regulations have been brought into force by the provincial government. (Councillor Walker)

### **5.3 Tenant Communication concerning 82-90 Broadway Avenue**

The Tenant Defence Sub-Committee considered a report (February 5, 2008) from the Executive Director and Chief Planner, as requested, regarding a request from a former tenant of 82-90 Broadway Avenue to review aspects of the Tenant Relocation and Assistance Plan for the demolition and redevelopment of this property.

On motion by Councillor Nunziata, the Sub-Committee received the report for information.

The Tenant Defence Sub-Committee adjourned its meeting at 3:00 p.m.

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Chair.