

December 15, 2006

To: Community Development and Recreation Committee

From: Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged

Subject: Membership – Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged, Mr. Jack Harmer

Recommendation:

The Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged recommended to the Community Development and Recreation Committee that:

- (1) Jack Harmer be appointed to membership on the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged, for a period of three (3) years, with the provision for an extension on an additional term, as outlined in the terms of reference; and**
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.**

The Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged on December 15, 2006, considered a report (December 4, 2006) from the General Manager, Homes for the Aged, recommending the appointment of Mr. Jack Harmer to membership on the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged, as a community member with interest in and commitment to long-term care.

Recommendations:

- (1) Jack Harmer be appointed to membership on the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged, for a period of three (3) years, with the provision for an extension on an additional term, as outlined in the terms of reference; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

City Clerk

Brad Bartlett/lv
Item 1

Sent to: Community Development and Recreation Committee
General Manager, Homes for the Aged

(Report dated December 4, 2006, addressed to the
Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged
from the General Manager, Homes for the Aged)

Summary:

The purpose of this report is to recommend the appointment of Mr. Jack Harmer to membership on the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged, as a community member with interest in and commitment to long-term care.

Mr. Harmer's background and understanding of the health care system and the importance of collaboration and integration make him an excellent candidate for membership on the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged. Mr. Harmer has confirmed his interest and willingness to serve in this capacity for the required term.

Recommendations:

The Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged recommends to the Community Development and Recreation Committee that:

- (1) Jack Harmer be appointed to membership on the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged, for a period of three (3) years, with the provision for an extension of an additional term, as outlined in the terms of reference; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Financial Impact:

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Issue Background:

The terms of reference for the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged requires a maximum of 12 members, including six (6) interested citizens whose past and professional and community involvements demonstrate an interest and concern in long-term care of the elderly, and designated members representing organizations such as the Inter-Home Volunteers, Inter-Home Advisory Committee, the Homemakers & Nurses Services Program and Residents' Councils.

Mr. Jack Harmer is a member of the City's Roundtable on Seniors' Issues and Seniors' Forum. Senior staff of Toronto Homes for the Aged met Mr. Harmer during joint meetings and presentation, in which Toronto Homes for the Aged was working to enhance linkages between the Seniors' Forum and the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged. In addition, staff re-connected with Mr. Harmer through his involvement with The 519 Community Centre, an organization that Toronto Homes for the Aged is collaborating with to enhance care and service to ensure gay positive care to the LGBT community (lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender persons).

Mr. Harmer is active in the community and has very good knowledge of health system transformation, and has attended a variety of meetings related to the Local Health Integration Networks (LHIN) and other health care issues.

Comments:

Mr. Harmer has indicated his interest in becoming a member of the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged and has indicated an ability to fulfil the responsibilities of committee membership. Professionally, Mr. Harmer enjoyed a multi-year career with both the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC). In his work with the MCSS, Mr. Harmer functioned as a regional manager. In his work with the MOHLTC, he worked in the capacity of area manager, working with a number of transfer payment agencies and contributing to the creation of Community Care Access Centres (CCAC). Mr. Harmer also has past experience as the Director of Planning and Allocations with United Way of Edmonton and the Executive Director of the Social Planning Council of Kitchener-Waterloo. More recently, he has worked with The 519 Community Centre, completing a review of the needs and challenges of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) older persons. Personally, he has been well-connected to a variety of seniors' groups over the years and has been a dedicated advocate to ensuring equitable and high quality services to marginalized groups.

Contact:

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