

Approved

MINUTES

Scarborough Local Health Committee

October 9th, 2007

Scarborough Civic Centre, 160 Borough Drive

Committee Room #2

Present: Vaij Chari (Chair), Lucy Bonanno, Brian Hyndman, Marisa Charles, Abdul Fattah, Colin Hughes, Haweiya Egeh, Saleem Haniff, Khaliq Jabbar, Linda Napier, Heidi Sin, Nafisah Chowdhury, Carol Timmings, Tracy Sheridan, Jean Liburd (Minutes)

Regrets: Ed Castro

1.0 Introduction

The LHC committee members were introduced.

2.0 The Minutes of October 9th, 2007 were approved.

Action: Jean to forward minutes to Erinn Leckie for the Board of Health

3.0 Business Arising from the minutes

3.1 Vaij to get the group together to work out and set its own priorities

3.3 Beachwater

Colin inquired whether there was a plan to include monitoring of the Rouge Beach.

Action: Carol will have staff report on water quality and plans for monitoring

3.4 Vaij reported that a meeting was set with Central East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) but was cancelled.

Action: Vaij will contact Central East LHIN again to set a date to meet with the group.

4.0 Board of Health Update:

Carol gave an update on cost containment and service level adjustments.

There is a hiring freeze within all areas of the Corporation with some exceptions. (positions that are deemed essential, necessary for Health & Safety reasons or fully funded by external agencies).

Colin asked if there was any documentation available around service impacts.

Carol informed the group that a full report detailing all the impacts has not yet been presented.

5.0 Review of LHC priorities

5.1 Safe & Strong Neighbourhoods

Action: Carol & Tracy to give an overview of the Neighbourhood Action Team work in the 13 priority neighbourhoods identified by City Council.

5.2 Biophysical Environment

Colin contacted Canadian Tire and Home Depot re selling banned Herbicide. Home Depot did not respond. Colin will follow-up.

Colin welcomes the involvement of anyone interested in raising the awareness of the harmful effects of using these banned products.

Action: Colin will contact Home Depot and the Federal Government.

5.3 Comprehensive Child & Youth Health – Colin

- Child Care subsidies are in critical short supply
- The wait list for child care continues to grow
- The problem exists right across Ontario

5.3.1 Health among Young Families – Haweiya

Haweiya inquired if there are subsidies available for young families to assist with purchasing food and other essential needs.

Carol informed the Committee that beyond the assistance provided by Toronto Social Assistance for those families deemed eligible; there are very limited resources available. TPH will provide coupons in emergency situations, but do not provide subsidies for food in the home. Further to this discussion, there was discussion about the need for advocacy and community programs that help families and children. Members were referred to the city web site where they will find various granting programs that assist communities to build capacity and thereby increase their access to resources. www.toronto.ca

Dental

Action: Tracy, Lucy and Carol to bring back information regarding the dental program waiting list in Scarborough and how it compares to other dental waiting lists across Toronto.

5.4 Substance Use – Colin

There was discussion re substance use and the increasing number of patients requiring programs and services and the long waiting lists for services.

5.5 Chronic Disease Prevention - Carol

Carol informed the group that Toronto Public Health is working with LHIN in advocating its mandate and the understanding of TPH role. TPH provide a broad range of programs and services, Physical Activity, Tobacco Prevention, Heart Health and Nutrition are some of the services provided.

There is 160 Toronto Public Health staff currently working in Chronic Disease Prevention.

6.0 Other Business

Committee members would like a review of the SLHC accomplishments including minutes, notes and motions to the Board of Health. This would be helpful to insure that the work of the current committee does not repeat previous work done.

Action: Brian will update and bring previous list of accomplishments to the next meeting.

Action: Jean will send out previous Minutes of the last year.

Action: Tracy to bring the City's official Bike Plan to the next meeting

7.0 Next Meeting November 6th at 6:00 p.m., Scarborough Civic Centre Council Chambers.