

**North York Local Health Committee**  
**Tuesday January 13, 2009**  
**6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**  
**North York Civic Centre, Committee Room 4, Lower Level**

**APPROVED MINUTES**

**Present:** Sandra Romano Anthony, Janet Maher, Sue Makin, Anne McConnell, Lidia Monaco, Earle Straus, Anna Walsh, Valerie Sterling (Chair), Sara Farrell, Eleanor Ziv, (recorder)

**Regrets:** Marvin Gold, Jane McDonald

**Absent:** Bill Coleman, Margaret Cheung, Elliot Delaunay, Christian Havriliuc

**1.0 Welcome**

**2.0 Approval of Agenda of January 13, 2009**

Addition to Agenda:

**6.0 New Business:**

**6.2 Sewage Leakage and Possible Related Illnesses**

Agenda was approved with addition by Earle Straus and seconded by Lidia Monaco

**3.0 Review of Minutes from December 9, 2008**

Minutes of December 9 was approved by Janet Maher and seconded by Lidia Monaco.

**4.0 Business Arising from Minutes:**

**4.1 Poverty and Health 2nd Roundtable:** on Wednesday February 11, 2009  
6:45 – 9:00 p.m., Members Lounge

Subcommittee reconvened for the planning of the second Roundtable.

Sarah provided the following update and gave a handout on the goals, objectives and the proposed agenda. Suggestions:

- Invite the same guests as at the 1<sup>st</sup> Roundtable.
- discuss the Ontario Poverty Reduction Strategy for Ontario
- meeting will be from 7-9 p.m., (6.45 for a 7 p.m. start) with no dinner served (dessert will be served).
- Room set up - have round tables of 8
- Valerie introductions/welcome
- Lidia to be MC and will present the agenda for the evening and give an overview of the 1<sup>st</sup> roundtable to bring guests up to speed.
- Janet will discuss the Ontario Poverty Reduction Strategy.
- Mark Chamberlain, or guest speaker, from Hamilton will discuss Hamilton's poverty reduction strategy. Suggestion is to have the speaker at the beginning of the evening to provide background information.

- **Review of attached draft agenda and flyer**
  - Discussed the letter of invitation and guests to invite. Draft letter to be finalized and sent out to the same people who were invited last time.
  - Members to follow up with the people they personally invited. If members want to include a new guest who has background information on poverty, give this information to Sara.

Agenda order

  - 1 Lidia and Valerie will do the overview – discuss our agenda for the evening, what we hope to accomplish and receive feedback on the Strategy from the various groups
  2. Sandra will introduce Mark from Hamilton for their strategy on poverty.
  3. Focus for evening will be on the Ontario Poverty Reduction Strategy report.
  - A link to the Ontario Poverty Reduction Strategy website will go out with the invitation for review beforehand.
  - The responsibility of the LHC is to provide Community input to the BOH. Guest input will be recorded, what our next steps should be and report back.
  - Look at gaps and put together a report on the roundtables with recommended responses.
  
- **Ontario Poverty Reduction Strategy critical analysis by LHC** (please come prepared by having read the strategy, and the various responses that have come out since its release)
  - Need public input on the Strategy. Feedback has been generally positive with some expressing concerns regarding the report i.e., people unsure of the recession and what the outcome will be; and the focus is more on children’s issues.
  - Discuss the strengths and weaknesses through a SWOT analysis

**ACTION:** All members to review the Strategy before the Roundtable.

**ACTION:** The Sub-Committee will reconvene to incorporate the North Local Health Committee’s suggestions and send a draft out for comments.
  
- **Role of the LHC Facilitators at public events**

Valerie recommended:

  - facilitator facilitate discussion only
  - all comments valid
  - no personal views/comments about other matters should be necessary
  - answer questions in relation to LHC

#### 4.2 Health and Crime (Earle)

Earle discussed the article, “**Omega-3, junk food and the link between violence and what we eat**”, sent to members previous to the meeting for review.

General discussion ensued if this is a Public Health/Local Health Committee issue and if there is enough evidence at the moment to pursue this further. It was concluded that much more research is needed.

**ACTION:** Sandra will keep an eye out for information and bring back to the meetings as available.

Sue reported that Toronto Public Health currently does a considerable amount of Nutrition / Healthy Eating education and promotion (although it is generally linked to chronic disease prevention, not violence prevention).

## **5.0 Board of Health Report Updates**

Unable to discuss Board of Health Agenda for the 19<sup>th</sup> of January as agenda has not yet been released.

## **6.0 New Business:**

### **6.1 High Protein/Low Car. Diets: Sandra**

Sandra discussed the two items that were emailed to members before the meeting. i.e., “**The Truth about High-Protein Low Carbohydrate Diets**”, and “**High Protein Diets - Some comments from reputable, scientific sources**”.

Sandra recommended public education on the bad affects of this diet and its potential cost increase to the health care system.

Sue suggested a speaker/nutritionist come and talk on the subject and answer questions. It was decided that this guest be invited to the May 13th meeting.

### **6.2 Sewage Leakage and Possible Related Illnesses**

Clarification needed for invitation to Dr. Shapiro, or another associate from Public Health, to attend our LHC meeting. Suggestion is to have a question/answer format instead of a presentation.

Anne O’Connell voiced an objection to the item of “Sewer Leakage” consistently appearing on the agenda if there is no apparent link to illness. She agreed that we should have an expert come to our meeting to clarify for us if there is any possible associated illness.

It was decided that Dr. Shapiro, or another appropriate person, from Toronto Public Health be invited to the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the NLHC.

**ACTION:** Sue will facilitate this invitation.

## **7.0 Meeting Dates 2009 Review**

**ACTION:** Eleanor to send out an email to members with 2009 meeting dates

- cancel the February 4<sup>th</sup> Roundtable on Poverty date
- book a Roundtable debriefing meeting for Tuesday March 3

## **8.0 Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.**

Motion to adjourn was made by Sandra Romano Anthony and seconded by Janet Maher