

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Division

Minutes of Board of Health

Meeting No. s.1

Monday, January 7, 2002

The Board of Health met on Monday, January 7, 2002 in Committee Room No. 1, 2nd Floor, City Hall, Toronto, commencing at 1:10 p.m.

Members Present:

Councillor Joe Mihevc, Chair	x
Councillor Sandra Bussin	x
Ms. Helen Chan	x
Councillor John Filion	
Mr. Brian Hyndman	x
Councillor Irene Jones	x
Mr. Brian MacKay	x
Dr. Rosana Pellizzari	x
Ms. Nancy Peters	x
Councillor Jane Pitfield	x
Trustee Mark Stefanini	x
Councillor Michael Tziretas	x
Mr. Lee Zaslofsky	x

Also Present:

Ms. Fiona Nelson

The Secretary called the meeting to order.

1.1 Election of Chair and Vice Chair.

The Secretary asked for nominations for Chair of the Board of Health.

Councillor Jones nominated Councillor Mihevc, who accepted the nomination.

There being no further nominations, Councillor Jones moved that nominations be closed, which carried.

The Board of Health unanimously elected Councillor Joe Mihevc as Chair of the Board of Health for a one-year term.

Councillor Mihevc assumed the Chair.

The Chair called for nominations for Vice-Chair of the Board of Health.

Councillor Mihevc nominated Councillor Jones, who accepted the nomination.

There being no further nominations, Mr. Mackay moved that nominations be closed, which carried.

The Board of Health unanimously elected Councillor Irene Jones as Vice-Chair of the Board of Health for a one-year term.

(Councillor Mihevc, Councillor Jones; c. Administrator, Striking Committee; Jane Speakman, Legal Services – January 10, 2002)

1.2 Appointment of Member of Council to the Toronto Board of Health.

The Board of Health had before it a communication (December 14, 2001) from the City Clerk, advising that the City of Toronto Council, at its meeting held on December 4, 5 and 6, 2001, in adopting, as amended, Notice of Motion J(32) appointed Councillor Michael Tziretas, to replace former Councillor Michael Prue, to the Toronto Board of Health for a term of office to expire May 31, 2002, and until his successor is appointed.

On motion by Councillor Jones, the Board of Health received the aforementioned communication.

1.3 Budget Sub-Committee Membership.

On motion by Mr. Zaslofsky, the Board of Health appointed the following members to the Budget Sub-Committee:

Councillor Irene Jones, Chair;
Councillor Michael Tzeritas;
Brian Mackay; and
Lee Zaslofsky.

(Budget Sub-Committee; c. Medical Officer of Health; Jane Speakman, Legal Services – January 10, 2002)

1.4 2002 Public Health Operating Budget Submission.

The Board of Health again had before it a report (November 16, 2001) from the Medical Officer of Health, regarding the 2002 operating budget for Toronto Public Health and recommending that:

- (1) the Board of Health endorse the following proposals for budget expansion in 2002:
 - (a) full funding for the annualization of initiatives approved by City Council in 2001 as well as corporately derived economic factors and other base budget changes \$2.54 million (gross) / \$1.73 million (net);
 - (b) reduction of gapping from 5.6% in 2001 to 3.0% in 2002 \$2.48 million (gross) / \$1.34 million (net);
 - (c) initiatives recommended by the Children and Youth Action Committee (CYAC) for early childhood parenting and prenatal group education \$1.24 million (gross) / \$622.5 thousand (net);
 - (d) partial backfilling of the staff positions required for development of the Community Nursing and Customer Management System \$875.0 thousand (gross) / \$437.5 thousand (net);
 - (e) full funding of initiatives approved by City Council in 2001 without funding, including TB Expansion Phase 1 \$1.05 million (gross) / 526.8 thousand (net), Vulnerable Adults and Seniors \$640.2 thousand (gross) / \$320.1 thousand (net), and Environmental Plan: Air Quality \$65.0 thousand (gross) / \$32.5 thousand (net);
 - (f) public consultation on pesticide reduction \$51.8 thousand (gross) / \$25.9 thousand (net);
 - (g) partial backfilling of the staff positions required to provide public health services in support of World Youth Day \$166.6 thousand (gross) / \$83.3 thousand (net);
 - (h) enhancement of 100% provincial funding for Preschool Speech and Language Services and Infant Hearing Screening \$351.9 thousand (gross) / \$0 (net); and
 - (i) funding of West Nile Virus control \$103.9 thousand (gross) / \$51.9 thousand (net);
- (2) the Board of Health refer the proposed 2002 Public Health Operating Budget to a Special Meeting of the Board of Health on January 7, 2002 for public deputations

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and subsequent submission of the Board of Health's decisions to the Budget Advisory Committee for consideration;

- (3) the Board of Health endorse the service level reduction options prepared by the Medical Officer of Health for submission to the Budget Advisory Committee; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary actions to give effect thereto.

The Board, at its meeting on November 26, 2001, referred the above noted report to this special meeting in accordance with Recommendation No. (2).

The Board of Health also had before it the following communications:

- (i) (December 5, 2001) from the City Clerk, Children and Youth Action Committee; advising that the Children and Youth Action Committee, at its meeting on November 29, 2001, recommended:
 - (1) the adoption of the recommendations contained in the Children and Youth Action Committee's Draft Action Plan 2002 as amended; and
 - (2) the adoption of the recommendations contained in the Youth Action Plan Budget Recommendations for 2002 from the Toronto Youth Cabinet;
- (ii) (December 17, 2001) from Dr. Monica Avendano, Department of Respiratory Medicine, Physician in Charge of Tuberculosis Service, West Park Healthcare Centre, Staff Physician, Tuberculosis Clinic, St. Michael's Hospital, commenting on funding for the Tuberculosis Control Program;
- (iii) (December 19, 2001) from Dr. Lynn From, Head, Division of Dermatology, Women's College Site, Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Science Centre, Past President, Canadian Dermatology Association, Professor, Medicine and Pathobiology, University of Toronto, commenting on the Toronto Public Health Sun Safety Program;
- (iv) (December 19, 2001) from Dr. Cheryl Rosen, Head, Division of Dermatology, University Health Network, Associate Professor, University of Toronto, Chair, Ontario Sun Safety Working Group, commenting on The Toronto Public Health Sun Safety Program;
- (v) (December 18, 2001) from Judy Chlebak, submitting comments on the dental education program; and
- (vi) (December 20, 2001) from Heather Murray and David Galbraith, submitting comments on Public Health's Sun Safety Program.

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Brian Mackay declared an interest in that portion of the operating budget relating to Public Health dental services and grants in that he is a Board member of LAMP Community Health Centre.

Lee Zaslofsky declared an interest in that portion of the operating budget relating to Public Health grants in that he is a member of the Board of the Hassle Free Clinic.

The Medical Officer of Health gave an overhead slide presentation.

The following persons appeared before the Board of Health in connection with the foregoing matter:

- Councillor Jack Layton;
- Dr. John Hastings, Retired Professor/Associate Dean, Community Health, University of Toronto, Past President, Canadian Public Health Association, and submitted a written brief;
- Margaret Hefferon, Caring Alliance;
- Dr. John Frank, and submitted a written brief;
- Dr. Jae Yang, Medical Director, TB Clinic, St Michael's Hospital;
- Professor Raisa Deber, and submitted a written brief;
- Keir Brownstone, General Manager, Greensaver;
- Dr. Lee Ford-Jones, Hospital for Sick Children;
- Margaret Watson, Vice President, Toronto Seniors Assembly;
- Aloy Ratnasingham, Tamil Seniors' Association;
- Dorothy MacKinnon;
- Dr. Lynn From, Division of Dermatology, Women's College Campus;
- Dr. Cheryl Rosen, Division of Dermatology, Toronto Hospital, Western Division;
- Sally Bannister;
- Peter Tabuns, Executive Director, Greenpeace Canada, and submitted a written brief;
- Beric German, on behalf of Toronto Disaster Relief Committee;
- Nancy Waters, Street Health, and submitted a written brief;
- Ken Amoroso, Membership Secretary, CUPE Local 79, and submitted a written brief;
- Nathalie Karvonen, Toronto Wildlife Centre;
- Anne Stephens, North York General Hospital, Seniors' Health Centre;
- Cheryl Shour, Organic Landscape Alliance;
- Carolyn Egan, on behalf of Birth Control and VD Clinic, Hassle Free Clinic and Immigrant Womens' Health Centre; and
- Fiona Nelson.

Councillor Jones moved:

- (A) adoption of Recommendation No. (1) of the aforementioned report of the Medical Officer of Health;

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- (B) that the Board endorse the service level reduction options prepared by the Medical Officer of Health for submission to the Budget Advisory Committee, subject to the following amendments:
- (1) reduction of external couriers (\$50.0 thousand gross, \$25.0 thousand net);
 - (2) reduction of external printing (\$40.0 thousand gross, \$20.0 thousand net);
 - (3) reduction in sexual health clinic marketing and training (\$50.0 thousand gross, \$50.0 thousand net);
 - (4) shifting from Public Health Inspector to Tobacco Enforcement Officer (\$120.0 thousand gross, \$60.0 thousand net);
 - (5) elimination of the Sun Safety Program (\$330.0 thousand gross, \$165.0 thousand net); and
 - (6) elimination of Low Risk Food Premises Inspection (\$500.0 thousand gross, \$250.0 thousand net);

for a total reduction of \$1,090.0 thousand gross, \$570.0 thousand net. No further cuts for Toronto Public Health programs are recommended.

Dr. Pelizzari moved:

- (C) that Recommendation No (1)(b) of the Medical Officer of Health be amended to provide that gapping be reduced to an equitable level, 1 or 2 percent (as in other departments);
- (D) that the foregoing motion (B)(5) by Councillor Jones be amended to provide that the preventive Sun Safety Program be preserved;
- (E) that Board Members and staff meet through the Board of Health Budget and TB Subcommittees and propose a strategy to secure adequate funding for an effective TB program, for consideration by the Board.

Mr. Zaslofsky moved:

- (F) that the corporate charges assessed against Toronto Public Health be reduced by \$2.9 million, in accordance with the Auditor's finding that Public Health is being overcharged by that amount and that this reduction be made in the 2002-2003 fiscal year.

The foregoing motions carried unanimously.

In summary, the action of the Board of Health is as follows:

The Board of Health advised the Budget Advisory Committee that it:

- (1) endorses the following proposals for budget expansion in 2002:
 - (a) full funding for the annualization of initiatives approved by City Council in 2001 as well as corporately derived economic factors and other base budget changes \$2.54 million (gross) / \$1.73 million (net);
 - (b) reduction of gapping (to an equitable level as in other departments) from 5.6% in 2001 to 1.0 to 2.0% in 2002;
 - (c) initiatives recommended by the Children and Youth Action Committee (CYAC) for early childhood parenting and prenatal group education \$1.24 million (gross) / \$622.5 thousand (net);
 - (d) partial backfilling of the staff positions required for development of the Community Nursing and Customer Management System \$875.0 thousand (gross) / \$437.5 thousand (net);
 - (e) full funding of initiatives approved by City Council in 2001 without funding, including TB Expansion Phase 1 \$1.05 million (gross) / \$526.8 thousand (net), Vulnerable Adults and Seniors \$640.2 thousand (gross) / \$320.1 thousand (net), and Environmental Plan: Air Quality \$65.0 thousand (gross) / \$32.5 thousand (net);
 - (f) public consultation on pesticide reduction \$51.8 thousand (gross) / \$25.9 thousand (net);
 - (g) partial backfilling of the staff positions required to provide public health services in support of World Youth Day \$166.6 thousand (gross) / \$83.3 thousand (net);
 - (h) enhancement of 100% provincial funding for Preschool Speech and Language Services and Infant Hearing Screening \$351.9 thousand (gross) / \$0 (net); and
 - (i) funding of West Nile Virus control \$103.9 thousand (gross) / \$51.9 thousand (net);
- (2) endorses the service level reduction options prepared by the Medical Officer of Health for submission to the Budget Advisory Committee subject to the following amendments:

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- (a) the reduction of external couriers (\$50.0 thousand gross, \$25.0 thousand net)
- (b) the reduction of external printing (\$40.0 thousand gross, \$20.0 thousand net)
- (c) the reduction of sexual health clinic marketing and training (\$50.0 thousand gross, \$50.0 thousand net)
- (d) shifting from Public Health Inspector to Tobacco Enforcement Officer \$120.0 thousand gross, \$60.0 thousand net)
- (e) the elimination of Low Risk Food Premises Inspection (\$500.0 thousand gross, \$250.0 thousand net)

for a total reduction of \$760.0 thousand gross, \$405.0 net. No further cuts to Toronto Public Health programs are recommended;

(3) recommends that:

- (a) funding be preserved for the preventive sun safety program;
- (b) the corporate charges assessed against Public Health be reduced by \$2.9 million, in accordance with the Auditor's finding that Public Health is being overcharged by that amount and that this reduction be made in the 2002 – 2003 fiscal year; and
- (c) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary actions to give effect thereto; and

(4) requested Board Members and staff to meet through the Board of Health Budget and TB Subcommittees and propose a strategy to secure adequate funding for an effective TB program, for consideration by the Board.

(Budget Advisory Committee; c. Budget Subcommittee of Board of Health; TB Subcommittee; Medical Officer of Health; Alan Cohen, Budget Analyst; Jane Speakman, Legal Services; Interested Persons – January 8, 2002)

The Board of Health adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Chair