

As of March 21, City of Toronto employees will be back at offices. No direction yet on vaccine passports and masks when in person. The City is accommodating a hybrid situation for in-person and virtual hearing events, and staff will be able to accommodate. The situation will be continued to be monitored and discussed at a future business meeting.

Chair Lombardi inquires if TLAB staff can currently accommodate a hybrid hearing event. Acting Supervisor Dorsey says hearings can't be mixed right now.

The TLAB will continue to monitor the situation and await further direction from the City of Toronto

B) Varied TLAB Member Decision Writing Stipend

Chair Lombardi informs Panel Members of recommendations from the City Council from June 8, 2021, regarding the decision writing stipends for TLAB Member. Withdrawal decisions are currently \$200, and the rate approved is \$50. Decision types that include motions etc., are presently \$200 and will stay at \$200. A Review Request will be \$400 as will be Final decisions and orders. This change takes effect on April 1, 2022.

C) Request – Topics for Member Education Sessions in 2022

Chair Lombardi is looking for suggestions on future Member education sessions for 2022. Panel Members are to send their suggestions to the Chair and Vice-Chair by no later than March 31st.

D) Motions from Q5, December 10, 2021, TLAB Business Meeting – Update

Acting Supervisor Dorsey provides a pre-hearing conference administrative procedure update. Principles to aspire to at the last business meeting dealt with TLAB Rules; the document has not yet been uploaded and still requires review.

Chair Lombardi references the motion regarding member assistance for software and editing, and they were deferred to the second business meeting.

Member Yao requests Windows, Word, Excel, and WebEx.

Member Bassios asks about Adobe software, and a standard set of software is available to members.

Member Kilby poses a question about whether there is a budget for individual training. Acting Manager Brownell clarifies that the budget is only for the group but will make inquiries.

Chair Lombardi discusses the motion regarding Chair involvement in member appointment and interview process of new members. Provided feedback to the Public Appointments Office on issues related to membership, and the input was used to amend the Public Appointment page. The Chair's involvement in interviewing members is not permitted but allowed to attend as any public member. On March 9, 2022, two new members will be put forward and recommended. If the council endorses them, they will start the first week of April. TLAB Panel is close to full compliment.

Motion:

Motion that TLAB staff report back to the next business meeting regarding opportunities for Member assistance and support for accessing corporate software, and training opportunities, and receive support from City IT in this regard.

Moved by Member Yao, seconded by Member Bassios (Carried).

Motion that the TLAB receive the Char's update.

Moved by Member Tassiopoulos, seconded by Member Karmali (Carried).

35.7 – SUPERVISOR & MANAGER'S UPDATES

Summary

Acting Supervisor Dorsey says roughly 40 appeal packages from the Committee of Adjustments are in queue to be scheduled. Currently scheduling 4-5 new appeals a week but want to move up to 8 new appeal hearings in summer months.

Chair Lombardi acknowledges a large backlog due to only having eight members and some members not being assigned new hearings.

Acting Manager Brownell provides an update on their return to the workplace. All city staff are to work on a hybrid model starting March 21st. TLAB staff will be available for ongoing case management and administrative support. Staff will be in the office five days a week on a rotational basis—update on facilities. A new corporate standard is to remove directional arrows and re-evaluate floorplan to determine appropriate seating arrangements based on updated occupancy limits. Masking by-laws are still in effect until further notice. Mediation Pilot – met with various sections in Court Services. The proposed process will be to use WebEx. Training will be provided to Members. Ready to support a pilot in Q2 of 2022. The nominating panel has recommended two candidates to be appointed to TLAB and will be considered by the City Council for approval on March 9th.

Motion:

Motion that the TLAB receive the Supervisor and Manager's update.

Moved by Chair Lombardi, seconded by Member Kilby (Carried).

35.8 – MEMORANDUM DISCUSSION (IN-CAMERA)

Summary

The TLAB will close the meeting to the public pursuant to Rule 11 and 11(a) to review confidential memoranda and receive advice from external legal counsel.

Chair Lombardi indicates an issue has arisen and must recuse himself. Assigns Chair's duties to Vice-Chair Bassios.

Motion:

Motion to move in camera. Moved by Member Gopikrishna, seconded by Member Kilby (Carried).

Motion to return back to public session. Moved by Member Yao, seconded by Member Tassiopoulos (Carried).

Motion whereas at its meeting of June 8, 2021 Council adopted the following resolution:

3. City Council direct the City Manager, in consultation with the Director, Court Services, the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning and the City Clerk, to review the following and report back to the Planning and Housing Committee by the first quarter of 2022 on the feasibility of implementing the following:

c. the operations of the Toronto Local Appeal Body relative to its original intent, with public engagement, with the intended outcome of simplifying the hearing process and increasing public participation.

AND whereas the original intent of the Toronto Local Appeal Body is set out in Toronto Municipal Code chapter 142-3:

The Local Appeal Body must establish and adopt its own rules of practice and procedure to govern its proceedings.

And whereas the TLAB as a body of the whole met at its business meeting of March 4, 2022 and debated the above issues in a desire to respond to Council's direction;

THE TLAB ADOPTS THE FOLLOWING MOTION:

The TLAB members will await the advice of the City Manager as set out in the Council Direction of June 8, 2021.

Moved by Member Yao, seconded by Member Makuch (Carried).

Chair Lombardi abstained from voting.

Supporting Documents
Confidential Memorandum

35.9 – TLAB 2021 MEMBER INITIATIVES

Motion:

Motion that an update from the TLAB Chair regarding the Continuous Service Improvements (CSI) initiative and the Pre-hearing Conference (PHC) Pilot Project subcommittee work be deferred to a future business meeting.

Moved by Member Makuch, seconded by Member Karmali (Carried).

35.10 – CLOSING BUSINESS AND REMARKS

Summary

Chair Lombardi thanks the Panel Members for their patience, enthusiasm, and hard work on agenda items. The next Q2 Business Meeting is June 15th, 2022.

Motion:

Move to adjourn.

Moved by Chair Lombardi, seconded by S. Karmali.

Meeting concluded at 4:34 p.m.