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Windsor, Ontario August 8, 2012

A meeting of the **Social Development, Health and Culture Standing Committee** is held this day commencing at 9:00 o'clock a.m. in Council Chambers there being present the following members:

Councillor Sleiman (Vice Chair)  
Councillor Hatfield  
Councillor Payne  
Councillor Halberstadt

**Regrets:** Councillor Jones

*Also present are the following from Administration:*

Ronna Warsh, Community Development and Health Commissioner and  
Corporate Leader Social Development, Health, Recreation and Culture  
Debbie Cercone, Executive Director, Housing & Children's Services  
Bruno Ierullo, Executive Director, Employment & Social Services  
Jan Wilson, Executive Director, Recreation & Culture  
Lucie Lombardo, Executive Director of Long Term Care, Administrator  
Huron Lodge  
Wendi Eizenga, Executive Initiatives Coordinator Community  
Development and Health Services  
Mary Ellen Bernard, Acting Manager, Social Policy & Planning  
Anna Ciacelli, Council Assistant

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting is called to order at 9:04 o'clock a.m.

2. **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof**

None disclosed.

3. **Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by Councillor Payne, seconded by Councillor Hatfield,  
That the minutes of the meeting of the Social Development, Health &  
Culture Standing Committee held July 11, 2012 **BE ADOPTED** as amended to reflect  
the following: #8—Administrative Items, Item 2—Moved by Councillor Hatfield,  
seconded by Councillor Payne.

Carried.

4. **REQUEST FOR DEFERRALS, REFERRALS OR WITHDRAWALS**

None requested.

5. **COMMUNICATION**

Moved by Councillor Halberstadt, seconded by Councillor Hatfield,  
That the Media Release "Community Gardens Thriving with Funding  
from City of Windsor" dated July 31, 2012 **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Halberstadt, seconded by Councillor Hatfield,  
That the Letter from Dwight Duncan, Deputy Premier, Minister of Finance  
regarding "Provincial Compensation Framework" **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried.

6. **PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

**Debbie Cercone, Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services**  
**Child Care Consultation Presentation**

Debbie Cercone, Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services, appears before the committee to present the "Child Care Consultation Presentation", entitled "Modernizing Child Care in Ontario". D. Cercone provides some background on the newly released initiative of the Provincial Government and the Ministry of Education consultation process. The goal of this initiative is to stabilize and transform the system to enable high quality, consistent services that support future growth. She indicates consultations will take place in the Windsor/Essex area in September, 2012. The Best Start Implementation Committee will consider the feedback in September, 2012, in time for the deadline of September 24, 2012. D. Cercone further outlines some of the Consultation questions regarding Capital funding Priorities, Quality Programs, Modernized Legislative and Regulatory Framework and Support for Accountability and Capacity Building

7. **COMMITTEE MATTERS**

**Minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee meeting held June 6, 2012.**

Moved by Councillor Halberstadt, seconded by Councillor Hatfield,  
**THAT** the minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee meeting held June  
6, 2012 **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried.

**Minutes of the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting held June 14, 2012.**

Moved by Councillor Halberstadt, seconded by Councillor Hatfield,  
**THAT** the minutes of the Windsor Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting held June 14, 2012 **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried.

**Report No. 82 of the board of Directors, Willistead manor Inc. (Willistead Manor Endowment Fund).**

Moved by Councillor Halberstadt, seconded by Councillor Hatfield,  
**THAT** the Board of Directors, Willistead Manor Inc. recommends **APPROVAL** and **IMPLEMENTATION** of the amended Willistead manor Endowment Fund document, attached hereto as "Appendix A", and

**THAT** Windsor City Council **EXECUTE** the necessary by-laws to carry out the process.

Carried.

**8. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

**Item 1 Child Care Update (Fee Subsidy Wait List, Provincial Discussion Paper and Additional Provincial Funding)**

Salient points of discussion regarding the Child Care update are as follows:

- Implications of the wait list on the City/County
- Setting priorities for the list
- Currently 600 people on the wait list
- A significant portion of the Provincial Government's funding portion has not been released due to pending results of the consultation process
- Comparison to other surrounding municipalities who have had wait lists for many years
- Wait list for the first time in 13 years
- Impacts of changing demographics on the wait list
- Implication of all day Junior and Senior Kindergarten program comes into play with respect to the wait list
- The issue is created as a result of a positive economic turn, more parents working outside of the home
- The Provincial Government funds over 80% of the share of child care in the municipality.

Leah Hills, Executive Director of Sundowners Day Care, appears before the committee and provides some concerns regarding school based child care programs. Wait lists have come into play in their business as well for the first time in 13 years. Communication is

being sent out to parents to inform them of the wait list and the situation they may face in registering for the coming school year.

Moved by Councillor Halberstadt, seconded by Councillor Hatfield,

**THAT** the administrative report authored by the Community Development & Health Commissioner dated July 18, 2012 entitled "Child Care Update (Fee Subsidy Wait List, Provincial Discussion Paper and Additional Provincial Funding)" **BE RECEIVED** for information, and

**THAT** the presentation by the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services entitled "Modernizing Child Care in Ontario" **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried.

Councillor Hatfield comments on the lack of Provincial funding and how it has impacted child care in the area causing a wait list for the first time in 13 years in Windsor.

Councillor Halberstadt comments on the impact that the Province's decision of continuing with the all day JK/SK and the impact it has had on the day care situation, with the families on the wait list being negatively impacted.

Councillor Sleiman comments as to the level of funding over the past having an impact on the current situation.

## **Item 2 Social Enterprise in Action**

Moved by Councillor Hatfield, seconded by Councillor Halberstadt,

**THAT** the City of Windsor Social Enterprise Model **BE APPROVED**.

Carried.

## **Item 3 Implications of the 2012 Provincial Budget on Services in the Community Development and Health services Department**

Ryan Baker, on behalf of Legal Assistance of Windsor, appears before the committee and is available to answer questions regarding the implications of the 2012 Provincial Budget on Legal Assistance of Windsor.

Councillor Hatfield comments on the comprehensive report although he indicates there are still many unknowns.

Ryan Baker provides some background on the facility and how it offers assistance to the residents of the Windsor area. The clients who make use of their office are already limited by their resources and this will add to the hardships of the clients. Concerns are being forwarded to the local MPP.

Councillor Hatfield inquires as to the impact of the decrease in funding to certain discretionary benefits and how it will affect many different agencies.

Administration indicates the decrease in discretionary benefits will certainly impact various recipients in the area. Priorities will have to be determined and Council will be provided options on a go forward basis, in terms of necessary programs and which are to continue and which will not, according to funding levels.

Lorena Shepley, member of Pathway to Potential (Income Working Group) and Voices against Poverty, appears before the committee to provide a brief overview of her organization. She also provides information on the impact of the reduction of funding by the Provincial Government, as well as the detrimental effect it will have on people in need.

Moved by Councillor Halberstadt, seconded by Councillor Hatfield,

**THAT** City Council **RECEIVE** for information the overview regarding the impacts of the 2012 Provincial Budget to services delivered in the Community Development and Health Services Department – specifically in the areas of Employment and Social Services and Housing.

Carried.

**Item 4 Request for Funds for a Community Kitchen—Unemployed Help Centre**

Dino Chiodo, and June Muir, representing Plentiful Harvest, appear before the committee to provide a brief outline of the role of the community kitchen and how it will be beneficial to a number of residents in the area. They provide details on how the facility operates and how the programs are delivered. The program provides a learning experience to those who participate, providing 7 certifications after successful completion of the program. The Community Kitchen provides some relief to those in need providing nutritional food items from its mobile food pantry, community garden, and storage facilities. Funds have been donated by many generous community partners for this program. The program is run out of the newly renovated 3000 sq. ft Unemployed Help Centre's main facility on Cantelon Dr. A volunteer chef will provide his services 6 hours per day to oversee the kitchen area and to ensure a safe healthy work environment according to existing Health Unit standards. The program is also providing fresh produce to many neighborhoods in the city.

Councillor Hatfield comments on this new and innovative way to help community members in need and how beneficial it is to several groups in our community as well as the general public.

Administration indicates there is always a risk when funding is provided. The collaboration with the existing Ontario Works recipients is a unique approach. The infrastructure allows the participants to learn about kitchen programs, which allows them the freedom to perhaps eventually find stable employment.

Moved by Councillor Payne, seconded by Councillor Hatfield,

**THAT** City Council **APPROVE** the one time only allocation of \$60,000 of fiscal surplus funding from the Pathway to Potential funding to support the development of a community kitchen at the Unemployed Help Centre; and further

**THAT** the Community Development and Health Commissioner **BE AUTHORIZED** to enter into an agreement with the Unemployed Help Centre in the amount of \$60,000 satisfactory in form to the City Solicitor, in technical content to the Executive Director of Housing and Children's Services and financial content to the City Treasurer.

Carried.

9. **QUESTION PERIOD**

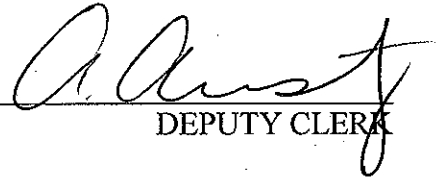
Councillor Halberstadt inquires as to the status of the Museum Feasibility Study. Jan Wilson, Executive Director of Recreation indicates that they anticipate the report coming forward in the fall.

10. **ADJOURNMENT & DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 10:43 o'clock a.m. The next meeting of the Social Development, Health & Culture Standing Committee will be held on September 12, 2012 at 9:00 o'clock a.m. in Council Chambers.



CHAIR



DEPUTY CLERK