



**Houselink Community Homes
Board Meeting Minutes
April 16, 2019**

Present: Phillip Dufresne (Chair), Linda McNeil, Mary Modeste, Mark Guttridge, Douglas Jordan, Charles Finlay, Joann Sochor, Natalie Ochrym

Regrets: Colette Snyder, Richa Jagota

Staff: Brian Davis, Helen Cheung. Monica Vaus (minutes)

Remembering Hugh Cameron (died on April 8th 2019)

The Board watched a youtube video interview Hugh had done as part of an anti-stigma project.

Hugh was an enthusiastic, energetic individual who was involved in many activities - from being a member of the Dream Team and the Houselink Board of Directors to doing stand-up comedy and playing in a Samba band. His outgoing, friendly nature was truly refreshing, and Hugh will be greatly missed by all.

His passing brought to mind the importance of *Forty Is Too Young to Die – A Call for Action From Toronto’s Early-Onset Illness and Mortality Working Group*. This important document describes the many hurdles to a long and healthy life, including poverty and the hospital experience. It is not just aging, but rapid aging and mortality for many people living in poverty with mental health and addiction challenges.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Joann Sochor

Seconded by: Charles Finlay

Carried

Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest declared

Approval of Consent Agenda Item

Moved by: Mark Guttridge

Seconded by: Linda McNeil

Carried

Business Arising and Any Consent Agenda Item Requiring Action or Further Discussion

The Executive Director report provided Information regarding the New People’s Health Care Act and the Ontario Health Team (OHT).

There are many large questions:

- Could the Toronto Mental Health and Addictions Supportive Housing Network be an Ontario Health Team serving a particular population?
- How would it work in Toronto?
- How will it work with centralized access for the population we serve?
- Does it target people in shelters or in hospitals? Will it favour hospitals if they are to be the lead of an OHT?

We know that when people live in supportive housing, their use of emergency services decreases and general well-being increases. The Ontario Health Team model is not creating more capacity and the fact that Houselink receives funding from both the City and the Ministry of Health results in more complexity.

Auditors Package

This is an annual package that the Board is required to approve and complete before the audit slated can commence. Houselink received the same standard five letters from Prentice Yates & Clark:

1. Communications Process Letter
2. Audit Planning Letter
3. Independent Letter
4. Engagement Letter
5. Fraud Questionnaire

One unique aspect to this year's audit is the time sensitive project funding we received near the end of this last fiscal year (18/19). Brian spoke to the auditors and has received some suggested wording to include in the text portion of the statements.

Joann walked through the fraud questionnaire provided from the auditors.

Action: Joann and Douglas to sign the Letters.

Vacancy Report

Helen noted that this is a good news report as we are finally below our 3% target in the last month! This has been due to a concerted effort by staff. Helen noted that there are still some long-term systemic problems that continue to pose a risk for us such as filling shared houses, and receiving quality referrals from the Access Point.

Motion to Received and Approve Vacancy Report

Moved by: Joann Sochor
Seconded: Mary Modeste
Carried

In-Camera Check-In Motion

Moved by: Natalie Ochrym
Seconded by: Mary Modeste
Carried

Out-of-Camera Check-in Motion

Moved by: Linda McNeil

Seconded by: Charles Finlay

Carried

Adjournment

Moved by: Natalie Ochrym

Seconded by: Linda McNeil

Carried