

**Houselink Community Homes  
Board Meeting Minutes  
September 11, 2019**

**Present:** Phillip Dufresne (Chair), Linda McNeil, Mary Modeste, Joann Sochor, Natalie Ochrym, Colette Snyder, Carole King, Steve Rogers, Richa Jagota, Charles Finlay

**Regrets:** Mary Modeste, Esther Mwangi

**Staff:** Brian Davis, Helen Cheung and Donna Roberts (minutes)

Brian advised that Esther is feeling much better, and should be able to attend the Board meeting in October.

**Approval of Agenda**

Moved by: Colette Snyder  
Seconded by: Joann Sochor  
Carried

**Conflict of Interest**

A Director advised that she had received a vague letter from her workplace advising that she *“must refrain from decision making that relate to Houselink’s operations and the Government of Ontario.”* She talked to her director and he advised her that she can stay on the Board but if there is anything specific to a funding decision, she should refrain. Typically the Board in its governance role is not involved in determining funding applications so the need to abstain from voting would be rare.

Another Director said that it would be advisable to write down who and when the advice was given which was agreed by all.

**Consent Agenda Items**

Receiving and approval of consent items  
Moved by: Natalie Ochrym  
Seconded by: Joann Sochor  
Carried

**Business Arising**

**Any Consent Agenda Items Requiring Action or Further Discussion**

Clarification was sought from the ED Report regarding what community rate harmonization meant. It was explained that 2 years ago the TCLHIN under the previous government looked at rationalizing funding levels based on current volume levels. HSP360 provides a comparison of all performance data which showed that there was a huge variance in cost-per-individual served with no rationale as to why one provider would be significantly more than another. The goal was to use this fiscal year to benchmark what the funding level would be and then give providers a year to adjust to the new benchmark.

Our cost-per-individual's served is relatively average to the sector however currently Houselink uses its LHIN funding to fund a number of community programs which could be threatened based on this initiative, especially if they define a staff to resident rate.

Recently we received notice that it is on hold, however Brian believes this is due to the dismantling of the current LHIN structure. Given this government's priorities regarding cost cutting, there is a likelihood that this will be picked up by the new Centre of Excellence for Mental Health and Addictions, since one of their stated goals is to create a standard set of services throughout the province.

**Committee involvement for 19/20**

Directors were reminded to choose a committee that they were interested in if they had not done so already.

**Update on Stafflink**

It was advised that all changes regarding Stafflink were going to be communicated tomorrow September 12, 2019. There is another provider that is really interested as well as an expression of interest from others.

**Board workplan**

Brian reviewed the changes to this year's work-plan. The work-plan is used every year so that managers are aware of when they need to provide information to the board. One outstanding item that did not get worked on this past year, was streamlining our performance reporting. Over the years we've made changes to the individual reports and added new reports but have not looked at how we can streamline them.

**In-Camera Check-In Motion**

Moved by: Steve Rogers  
Seconded by: Joanne Sochor  
Carried

**Out-of-Camera Motion**

Moved by: Charles Finlay  
Seconded by: Linda McNeil  
Carried

**Adjournment**

Moved by: Colette Snyder

Seconded by: Richa Jagota

Minutes approved as presented

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Phillip Dufresne".

Phillip Dufresne, Chair

October 15, 2019

