



NIAGARA REGIONAL HOUSING

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Minutes

NIAGARA REGIONAL HOUSING Board of Directors Meeting

#92 – 2010

NRH Board Room
Campbell East, 3rd Floor
2201 St. David's Road
Thorold, ON

Friday, September 17, 2010 – 9:00 A.M.

Attendees

Directors/

Members: K. Murray, C. Jolliffe, A. King, P. O'Neill, S. Cordiner
B. Hannah, K. Blackley, C. Forster by phone till 10:00 A.M.,
B. Timms at 10:04 A.M.

Regrets: B. Baker, J. Osczytko, D. Eke,

Absent: H. D'Angela, G. Marshall

NRH Staff: L. Beckwith, V. Amato

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 9:17 A.M.

1. Adoption of Agenda/Declaration of Conflict

*Moved by S. Cordiner
Seconded by C. Jolliffe*

That, the agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

No conflicts of interest were declared.

Members/Directors:

Karen Murray, Chair
Public-at-large,
St. Catharines

Cindy Forster, Vice-Chair
Councillor, Welland

Betty Ann Baker, Secretary
Stakeholder, Welland

Catherine Jolliffe, Treasurer
Stakeholder, Welland

George Marshall
Councillor, Welland

Shirley Cordiner
Councillor Fort Erie

Henry D'Angela
Councillor, Thorold

David Eke
Public-at-Large, NOTL

Barbara Hannah
Tenant, Niagara Falls

Alan King
Stakeholder, Welland

Patrick O'Neill
Stakeholder,
Niagara-on-the-Lake

John Osczytko
Public-at-Large Welland

Karen Blackley
Stakeholder, Thorold

Bruce Timms
Councillor, St. Catharines

2. Feedback on References for The Randolph Group

Shortly after the Operating Agreement Steering Committee meeting of June 22nd a consultant was engaged by Niagara Region to review the current governance model. The NRH Board was concerned that a consultant had been retained without any prior discussion with the NRH OASC members. It was their understanding that this was going to be a joint process and that retaining a consultant was the work of the joint committee. At the last NRH Board meeting the General Manager was directed to call Carolyn Kearns from the Randolph Group and clarify the work that she has done for Niagara Region and other government agencies.

The General Manager spoke with Carolyn Kearns from The Randolph Group by phone. Ms. Kearns indicated that her group was heavily involved in the current review of the Niagara Economic and Development Corporation but could make time to work on the NRH review as well. Carolyn has had extensive experience as a facilitator for other Regional governments and the District Social Services Boards in northern Ontario. Two references were called with a voice mail message to one and direct contact with the other who indicated that the work of the Randolph group was excellent.

Staff was directed to email a list of questions to Directors for review and comment for the consultant interview that is scheduled for September 24th during the Board meeting.

Directors indicated that they would be asking for further information such as:

- What portion of jobs/work was performed in the capacity of facilitator vs that of consultant with recommendations for action?
- Where recommending action, what percent of recommendations were accepted?
- How important is role of consultation with stakeholders?

Action by: L. Beckwith

3. List of Potential Alternate Consulting Groups

Directors reviewed the list of alternate consultants and eliminated some as their work was mainly concentrated in the areas of facilitation, management or training rather than assessment and recommendation. The Board felt that it was important to interview another consultant for comparison purposes.

C. Forster disconnected at 10:00 A.M.

B. Timms arrived at 10:04 A.M.

Staff was directed to request that a representative from the selected alternate consulting firm attend the September 24th meeting. If they are unable to attend due to short notice, the Board delegated the task of interviewing, prior to the next meeting, to a smaller group. Their schedules permitting S. Cordiner, K. Blackley and C Jolliffe volunteered.

Action by: L. Beckwith

Staff to summarize provider feedback from Continuous Improvement Strategy for distribution.

Action by: **W. Thompson**

4. Relationships with Council's ABC's; Update & progress Report (CAO 3-2010)

Deferred till the September 24th meeting.

5. For Information

5.1. Action Items

Correspondence/Media

- 5.2. Letter to M. Trojan, from Carolyn Kearns, consultant from the The Randolph Group, dated August 26, 2010, re: Niagara Region Housing Governance Discussion

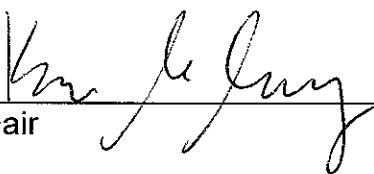
6. Schedule of Meetings for balance of year:

- Friday, September 24, 2010 @ 9:00 A.M.
NRH Board Room
Campbell East, 3rd Floor
2201 St. David's Road, Thorold, ON
- Thursday, October 21 @ 9:00 A.M.
- AGM – Monday, November 22, 2010 at 4:00 P.M. (Atrium)
- Friday, November 26, 2010 at 9:00 A.M.

7. Adjournment

Quorum was lost at 10:40 A.M. with the departure of A. King and S. Cordiner.

Minutes Approved:


Chair


Secretary