

City of Kingston Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee Meeting Number 03-2024 Minutes

Thursday, April 11, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. In a virtual, electronic format

Committee Members Present

Councillor Ridge, Chair
Councillor Tozzo
Cathy Borowec
Ian Clark
Nicki Gowdy, Councillor, County of Frontenac
River Hill
Hanny Philip

Regrets

Jane Bailey Jacqueline Collier Tara Everitt Adrian Tanjala

Staff Members Present

Mitchell Grange, Policy Manager, Housing and Social Services Allison Hannah, Committee Clerk
John Henderson, Housing Program Administrator
Ruth Noordegraaf, Director, Housing & Social Services
Derek Ochej, Deputy City Clerk
Andrew Reeson, Senior Legal Counsel
Nicola Reid, Housing Program Administrator
lain Sullivan, Committee Clerk

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Meeting to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Mx. Clark Seconded by Mx. Hill

That the agenda be approved.

Carried

Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by Mx. Hill Seconded by Mx. Clark

That the minutes of Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee Meeting Number 02-2024, held Thursday, February 8, 2024, be approved.

Carried

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There were none.

Delegations

There were none.

Briefings

There were none.

Business

a) Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee Work Plan

Ms. Noordegraaf introduced the report.

Mx. Hill asked for clarification on how individuals with lived experience are included in the development of the work plan. They stated that the involvement of and consultation with individuals to ensure all voices are heard is important. Ms. Noordegraaf noted that

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the mandate of the Committee required an individual with lived experience to be on the Committee. She further noted that staff include additional work and conversations when possible.

The Chair provided an opportunity for members of the public to speak. There were no comments received from members of the public.

Moved by Councillor Tozzo Seconded by Ms. Gowdy

That the Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee recommends to Council:

That the 2024 Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee Work Plan, attached as Exhibit A to Report Number HHC-24-008, be approved.

Carried

b) Standing Update Report - April 2024

Ms. Noordegraaf introduced the report.

Mx. Hill noted a disparity in the numbers between individuals on the by-name list and the number of shelter beds in the city. They noted that not every individual or client would be chronically unhoused. They expressed concern about what the City could do to alleviate the situation. Ms. Noordegraaf stated that the by-name list includes individuals who accessed housing services but were not necessarily experiencing homelessness. She agreed that the number of shelter beds was less than the number on the by-name list. She further stated that the by-name list was intended to create an understanding of what the needs were for those in the community. She added that there were those on the list that could be prevented from becoming homeless.

The Chair provided an opportunity for members of the public to speak.

Tammy Lunn noted that 44 individuals had been housed in the last two months. She asked if they had been housed in market rental housing or supportive housing.

Anita Rangunathan thanked Mx. Hill for highlighting the difference between the number of shelter beds and the number of individuals on the by-name list. She asked if the City planned to revisit the rent-geared to income (RGI) level to account for the rising cost of living. She further asked how many of the new units under construction would be RGI.

Chrystal Wilson stated that she found the report less robust than previous ones. She stated that she would be reaching out to City staff after the meeting with a series of questions.

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In response to the public questions Ms. Noordegraaf stated that she did not have the information on hand regarding where the 44 individuals had been housed but that she would report back when she had that information. She explained that the RGI levels are legislated provincially and that the City cannot change the number itself. She further explained that the province mandated that the City have 2,003 affordable units. She noted that an additional 10 units would be added at the 1316 Princess Street location. She stated that RGI units were expensive to operate and that the City was looking at working with the not-for-profit sector to reduce rents. She further stated that additional affordable housing and RGI units were coming and that the City was looking at what it can do with the limited amount of funding available.

Motions

There were none.

Notices of Motion

There were none.

Other Business

There was none.

Correspondence

There was none.

Date and time of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee is scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

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Adjournment

Moved by Mx. Clark Seconded by Ms. Borowec

That the meeting of the Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee adjourn at 1:29 p.m.

Carried