



Meeting Notes
Ad-Hoc Committee on Poverty and Homelessness
July 11th, 2018
3:30 PM
Council Chambers, Town Hall
105 Elgin Street West, Arnprior

Present:

Lee Dyck, Chair
David Reid, Mayor
Debbie Hudson
Liz McLaren
Lyn Smith
Renee Coady
Nathalie Spratt

Also Present:

Maureen Spratt, Town Clerk
Oliver Jacob, CSSA Summer Student

Dave Studham, The Grind Youth Centre (Pembroke)
Emily McKenzie, 360 Project

Amy Scholten, Renfrew County Legal Clinic

Absent:

Clark Young, Vice Chair
Dana Smith-Hisko
Danielle Raymond
Jennifer Remus
Josie Scott

1. Call to Order

Lee Dyck, Chair, called the Ad Hoc Committee on Poverty and Homelessness Meeting to order at 3:34 PM and welcomed those present. Each Committee Member introduced themselves for the benefit of the delegation.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution No. ADHOC-011-18

Moved by: David Reid, Mayor
Seconded by: Debbie Hudson

Be It Resolved That the Agenda for the Ad Hoc Committee on Poverty and Homelessness Meeting dated Wednesday, July 11th, 2018 be adopted.

Resolution CARRIED

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Notes

Resolution No. ADHOC-012-18

Moved by: David Reid, Mayor
Seconded by: Debbie Hudson

Be It Resolved That the Meeting Notes from the Regular Meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Poverty and Homelessness dated Wednesday, June 27th, 2018 be adopted.

Resolution CARRIED

4. Matters Tabled/Deferred/Unfinished Business

None

5. Presentations/Delegations

a. 360 Project (Emily McKenzie)

Emily McKenzie provided a PowerPoint presentation, attached as Appendix A and forming a part of these meeting notes, and responded to questions.

David Reid, Mayor, asked what the end reporting for the 360 Project would consist of.

Emily McKenzie responded that it was the desire of the organizers of the 360 Project to report on the skills development of each participant including the attainment of their own parental goals, building confidence and networking skills.

David Reid, Mayor, mentioned that some participant's children who are differently abled may be eligible for funding under the Passport Program.

David Reid, Mayor, mentioned that the Town of Arnprior was successful in its grant application for a second vehicle to transport seniors around the community.

Josie Scott mentioned that participants may be interested in the Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP). She also shared that this project is important to break down barriers, especially amongst marginalized communities.

Emily McKenzie shared that the interpersonal connections are forming easily by creating an equal playing field through activities and discussions including cooking.

Renee Coady asked how frequently the one-on-one meetings would be conducted with individual participants.

Emily McKenzie responded that they would be weekly or bi-weekly depending on the needs and schedules of the participants.

b. The Grind Youth Centre (Dave Studham)

Dave Studham, a volunteer with The Grind in Pembroke, provided a PowerPoint presentation, attached as Appendix B and forming a part of these meeting notes, and responded to questions.

Discussion amongst the committee members clarified the following items:

- The Grind is a gateway organization that seeks to provide temporary relief while connecting patrons with the services and organizations that will be best prepared to help them.
- The “House Rules” help to set boundaries and create positive relationships between the residents, volunteers and staff. The rules include prohibitions on inappropriate language, inappropriate touching and the use of drugs. Careful monitoring is also essential to the success of similar projects.
- A volunteer handbook “Plan to Protect” has been developed to provide staff and volunteers with the knowledge and tools necessary.
- The annual budget for The Grind is around \$100,000 and the organization relies heavily on donors and partner organizations. The largest portions of expenses are for rent and insurance in each fiscal year.
- The building that is being used for transitional housing was donated to The Grind and much of the labour has been provided by students at the Pembroke campus of Algonquin College. Community connections and partners are essential to the long-term sustainability of any project. Individuals who wish to utilize the transitional housing are permitted to stay for one week to one month.
- The emergency refuge facility has been used mostly by men for an average of four (4) days, especially over weekends as it is not possible to connect them with some services (Ontario Works, Renfrew County Housing Corporation, etc.).
- It was identified that the utilization of professionals is beneficial to the efficient operation of a temporary shelter facility.

6. **New Business**

a. Round Table Discussion

- i. New Community Resources / Opportunities
None

7. **Adjournment**

Resolution No. ADHOC-013-18

Moved by: Debbie Hudson

Seconded by: Renee Coady

That the Regular Meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Poverty and Homelessness be adjourned at 5:31 PM.

Resolution CARRIED

The next meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Poverty and Homelessness will be held on Wednesday, August 29th, 2018 at 3:30 PM in Council Chambers (Town Hall) located at 105 Elgin Street West, Arnprior, ON K7S 0A8.