



705-382-2900
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Minutes: December 5, 2024, 10:00 am via Zoom and at the Township of Perry Municipal Office

Present: Rod Ward (Chair), Delynne Patterson, Margaret Ann MacPhail, Vicky Roeder-Martin (Vice- Chair), Sean Cotton, Brad Kneller, Norm Hofstetter, Jim Ronholm, Cheryl Philip, Tom Bryson, Justine Leveque (for Luke Preston), Ashley Soundy (Secretary), Camille Barr, Sandy Zurbrigg (Patient/Family/Caregiver rep)

Regrets: None

Guest: Chris Hope, Isabel Pereira, Rocco Frangione

Called to order at 10:01 am by Chair R. Ward

1. 2024-34 Moved by Norm Hofstetter - Seconded by Vicky Roeder-Martin
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Almaguin Highlands Health Council adopt the minutes from the regular meeting of November 7, 2024, as circulated. Carried.
2. **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY OF INTEREST:** None
3. **DELEGATIONS:** None
4. **RESOLUTIONS PASSED:**
 - a) None
5. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**
 - a) **Introduction of Ashley and many thanks to Camille**
Ashley Soundy welcomed as the Health Council Secretary and Camille Barr was thanked for her work with the AHC Council.
 - b) **Potential options for cost-recovery of operating losses at 150 Huston Street**
At its last meeting of the AHC, the Village of Burk's Falls provided a proposal of how the Almaguin Municipalities could be a part of the ownership model for the Almaguin Highlands Health Centre. Chair Rod Ward provided the group with a discussion paper containing options to support a cost recovery model for the building. The four options were: Based on Percentages, Based on Assessment, Based on Households, Status Quo

A discussion occurred regarding the information received and options presented. Noted that Sundridge, Strong and Joly have a medical building they are already

providing for. Their model to finance the building includes rental revenue and a 50/40/10 split on both building ownership and on-going expenses, which is said to be significant.

It was shared that municipalities paying into medical buildings is a typical model across the province. Options to increase rental revenue was discussed. Spaces are fully rented. Due to an existing agreement MAHC does not pay for space however the group agrees this must be revisited. S. Cotton answered other questions regarding rental options as well reviewed the email previously sent demonstrating payments made towards the deficit over the years by Almaguin municipalities and clarified information regarding the discussion paper. The AHHC has requested a review of operating losses verse capital for 2023 & 2024. Invoices for 2023 were not sent to municipalities. AHHC requests these are sent out to the member municipalities asap. AHHC requests the discussion paper is brought to each municipal council and to supply feedback at the next AHHC meeting.

c) Updates from MAHC

C. Harrison was unable to attend the meeting and sent her regrets. The group had a discussion surrounding MAHC services coming to the area as part of the hospital rebuild project. Council was advised nothing has been determined yet regarding services in Almaguin and this is still years out. It will be important for the group to keep active in the conversations with MAHC to not become overlooked in the process.

d) Updates from Almaguin Highlands Family Health Team

R. Paul was unable to attend the meeting however it was reported that McMurrich/ Monteith and Kearney residents, among others, are starting to see movement in service due to the AHFHT employing nurse practitioners rostering patients.

e) Summary of November activities – Muskoka and Area Ontario Health Team

M. MacPhail gave an update on funding received through MAHC and Closing the Gap program. Working towards moving people out of the hospital and back into their own homes with supports needed. Care to Home program in the works with a pilot program group. Positive feedback is being received and the group is now being recognized for their efforts.

f) AHHC updates

Deferred

g) Review of Terms of Reference

R. Ward will update the Terms of Reference and send out via email for comment in preparation for the next meeting.

h) Re-scheduling January meeting

January 2025 meeting moved from January 2nd to January 9th at the Perry Township Office.

i) Progress Report

Deferred

j) Other Business

Vicky Roeder-Martin reported that Evergreen Heights Education Centre in Emsdale has received reduced funding for their breakfast program. Asked if any council members received notice regarding other schools having their funding reduced for these types of programs. The Lions Club will try to provide support to keep the breakfast program going. Breakfast programs are important part of children's nutrition.

A site plan by Grey Stone has been completed for the potential hub in the Township of Armour. A draft may be available in January.

6. ADJOURNMENT

2024-35 Moved by Cheryl Philip - Seconded by Brad Kneller

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Almaguin Highlands Health Council adjourn at 10:55 am to meet again on January 9, 2025 at 10:00 am at Perry Township. Carried.