



705-382-2900
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Minutes: January 5, 2023, 10.00 am via Zoom and in the AHHC boardroom

Present: Rod Ward (Chair), Tom Bryson, Delynne Patterson, Norm Hofstetter, Brad Kneller, Jim Ronholm, Vicky Roeder-Martin, Chris Hope, Fraser Williamson (Vice Chair), Camille Barr (Secretary)

Regrets: Cheryl Philip

Guests: Kevin MacLeod (BFFHT), Margaret Ann MacPhail

Called to order at 10:00 am by Chair R. Ward

1. 2023-01 Moved by B. Kneller - Seconded by D. Patterson
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Almaguin Highlands Health Council adopt the minutes from the regular meeting of December 3, 2022. Carried.
2. **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY OF INTEREST:** None
3. **DELEGATIONS:** None
4. **RESOLUTIONS PASSED:** None
5. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**
 - A) **Council Appointment to Date**
Mayor Chris Hope was welcomed as the newest member to the Council. All representatives are in place to represent the 10 member municipalities.
 - B) **MAOHT Recruitment Funds Request- Update**
In response to Resolution 2022-28 (MAOHT Health Human Resource Recruiter financial support) 4 official resolutions of support were received to date. These are from Ryerson, McMurrich-Monteith, Sundridge, and Strong. R. Ward verbally confirmed Armour also supported the request.

MAOHT is pleased with the response so far. They continue to look for permanent ways to fund the position. An update of further resolutions will be provided next meeting.

C) Hospital 'Local Share' Update

On January 6, MAHC is holding a meeting to provide Mayors with an update on the Hospital 'local share'.

Discussion occurred around the ever increasing projected cost as it is estimated the build is 10 years out. Discussions with AMO are occurring regarding the impact this legislation has on municipalities with small tax bases. Is it realistic?

CAO of MAHC is aware of the concerns. Cheryl will be invited to attend the February meeting of the AHHC. She agreed to attend quarterly to provide the group with an update.

MAHC is hosting community open houses in January. Information on the open house was sent to Council and Clerk's of member municipalities. It is also being shared widely on social media. All are encouraged to attend to receive an update on the builds, ask questions, and provide input.

D) Suggested Adjustment to the Terms of Reference

The Municipality of Magnetawan reviewed the AHHC Term of Reference and provided feedback. Feedback was reviewed and discussed by this Council with the following alterations to be made:

Pg. 3. Add- "if in the event Burk's Falls is unable to provide an administrator/secretary, the vacancy will be brought to the Council for consideration by member municipalities".

Pg. 5. No change as quorum is 50% plus one of appointed members therefore it is unlikely there is a long gap. As with what occurred this year, municipalities sent a representative (non-voting) until one was voted in.

It was discussed that community members and others are able to attend the meetings as non-voting participant however at this time it will continue to be municipal representatives that make up the voting membership.

Pg. 6. Remove repetitive section. Already covered on Pg 5.

Pg. 7. Add "of all health care services as recommended".

Pg. 7. Separate the section about the Almaguin Highlands Health Centre ownership from the section about additional health care services and add "space in all member Municipalities".

Secretary to make the above adjustments and send amended copy to Council.

It was suggested that some municipal councils would prefer receiving a budget or a projection for the building ahead of time vs being asked for financial support and not prepared for the ask.

Discussion occurred about the Almaguin Highlands Health Centre and the concept of a proposed shared service agreement for the Centre. More conversations to occur on this matter and a draft resolution to be prepared for review by this Council.

E) Other business

Financial statement for the Health Council account was received by the Chair.

Secretary informed Council that Home and Community Care provided notice and are no longer operating out of the Almaguin Highlands Health Centre. The Village is actively working with interested parties to lease the space.

The waitlist for the BFFHT is approx. 475 people with an average of 5 patients being accepted per week.

The Algonquin Family Health Team will operate a clinic in Huntsville (Annex) to deal specifically with those experiencing cold and flu symptoms. This clinic will help alleviate some of the burden from the ER. Visits must be scheduled via online booking. Clinic will be open 2-3 days per week.

Pharmacists in Ontario are now able to prescribe 13 common treatments to patients without a doctor order. The aim is take pressure off doctors so they may deal with more complex conditions.

2023- 02 Moved by T. Bryson - Seconded by N. Hofstetter

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Almaguin Highlands Health Council adjourn at 11:16 am to meet again on February 2, 2023, at 10:00 am. Carried.

Location will be in person at the AHHC unless notified otherwise.