



**East Hamilton City 2 Accommodation Review
Working Group Meeting #1
January 21 2016 - 6:00 pm
Education Centre, 20 Education Court, Hamilton, ON - Room EC-180B&C**

Minutes

Attendance

Committee Members - Lisa Corsini, Tamara Cummings, Jeff Gillies (Chair), Lisa Hardie, Drazena Hidalgo, Sasha Kajganic, Judy Kloosterman, Laura Neubrand, Suzie Spelic, Terri Trimble, Marissa Turner, Meagan Walker

Committee Member Regrets - Cherie Evans

HWDSB Resource Staff - John Bradley, Anegret Cucuz, Robert Faulkner, Bob Fex, Sherry Halla, Susan Jackson Boshier, Pam Reinholdt, Mark Tadeson, Curtis Tye, Ellen Warling

Trustees - Todd White

Public - Nil

Recording Secretary - Kathy Forde

1. Welcome and Introductions

Jeff Gillies welcomed everyone and provided opening remarks. A roundtable of introductions followed.

Trustee Todd White offered greetings. The Accommodation Review provides a unique opportunity for school revitalization through investment funding from the Ministry. Initial options have been developed as a starting point. Members will evaluate these and can create new options by collaboratively exploring potential scenarios around school revitalization, consolidation and closure. Committee options will be presented to the Board of Trustees with a final decision targeted for June 2016. Proposals to the Ministry will require a strong business plan and will be contingent on funding. HWDSB has been quite successful in the past at securing investment dollars. Resource support is available as needed.

2. Housekeeping Items

Meeting norms were reviewed. Work will evolve based on general consensus. Dialogue will continue when needed to build consensus. If necessary, voting will occur by a show of hands or ballot (one vote per school). The membership contact list will be available for member information only. Members concurred. Correspondence and questions will be brought forward to the committee for review. The HWDSB website will be updated regularly and can be viewed at <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/reviews/>.

3. Review Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule

The proposed meeting schedule was reviewed. Members suggested a few alternate dates and preferred locations. The schedule will be updated to reflect changes as discussed as noted below. Members concurred.

WG Meeting #2 - Thu Jan 28 - Glendale (new location)

WG Meeting #3 - Thu Feb 18 - Sir Wilfrid Laurier (new location)

WG Meeting #4 - Tue Mar 01 - Glen Brae (new date and location)

WG Meeting #5 - Tue Mar 22 - Sir Isaac Brock (new date and location)



WG Meeting #6 - Tue Apr 05 - Lake Avenue (new date and location)
Public Meeting #1 - Thu Feb 04 - Glendale
Public Meeting #2 - Thu Apr 14 - Glendale

Availability of school locations will need to be confirmed for the meeting dates above. On January 28, Pam Reinholdt will Chair the meeting.

4. Overview of Accommodation Review Binders

Bob Fex presented an overview of the binder. Content includes background data, school profile reports, 10-year historical facility improvements, projected 5-year renewal needs, maps, enrolment summaries and feasibility studies. Enrolment methodology was explained. Renewal needs are extensive and renewal dollars are limited. Facility conditions and enrolment data include finite numbers so data should be viewed as trends.

Binder Update: Section 6 / Appendix B / School Profile Report (Elizabeth Bagshaw) (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) / Page 2 of 2 / last data field "Suitable for Facility Partnership" **Yes**

The Initial Report Recommended Option was reviewed:

- Build a new JK-8 school on Glen Brae site - anticipated occupancy September 2019
 - New school to accommodate programs from Glen Brae, Glen Echo, and approximately 27% of students from Sir Isaac Brock
- Additions to Lake Avenue and Sir Wilfrid Laurier - anticipated occupancy September 2019
- Close Elizabeth Bagshaw, existing Glen Brae, Glen Echo, Sir Isaac Brock - anticipated June 2019
- New Construction - 650 pupil place dual tract JK-8 school on Glen Brae site anticipated opening September 2019
- Addition - 8 classroom addition at Lake Avenue anticipated opening September 2019
- Addition - 6 classrooms, 2 FDK, 2 resource rooms at Sir Wilfrid Laurier anticipated opening September 2019

Members were reminded that the Initial Report Recommended Option was developed as a starting point only. Alternatives can be developed through the committee. Collaboration will be essential to build the desired recommendation. Members are encouraged to review their binders to become more familiar with the information provided.

Due to limited time, members concurred to end the presentation at slide 37. Remaining information would be covered at the next meeting.

5. Questions & Answers

Q1. If only two reviews are underway, why were they not combined?

A1. Reviews are underway at the same time for East Hamilton City 2 and for Lower Stoney Creek. Each review includes six schools with a large amount of information. Twelve schools combined into one cluster might have been overwhelming. If a need arises to consult with the other group we are open to ideas.

Q. The City of Hamilton is developing a vision for the Centennial Pkwy area over the next 25 years. Has this been considered?



A. We do meet with the City regarding planning and share information on projections and new development. Numbers have been considered. Previous enrolment projections have been quite accurate.

Q. In turnaround neighbourhoods, houses are slowly coming up for sale where older families are selling and younger families are buying. Have these numbers been considered?

A. We are aware of this and gains and losses are captured in enrolment numbers. New builds do not necessarily bring the new enrolment numbers as one might think.

Q. Was the sale of old Bishop Ryan property taken into consideration?

A. Yes, we have taken the property into consideration – the projected number of units is 115 townhomes. This number will yield a small number of students. Projecting enrolments occurs with the best tools and data available at the time.

Q. Is legislation pertaining to accessibility considered?

A. Yes, we are working towards the 2025 deadline for full compliance.

Q. Are special needs and high needs (social, emotional, academic, physical) considered?

A. These needs are typically addressed through existing programs. The Board is cognizant of various needs and responds with the social work, instructional support, staffing and resourcing needed. It is reviewed every year.

Q. How will kids get to schools and what about busy streets?

A. The transportation policy governs eligible ridership. Roadway hazards are examined.

Q. Are transportation costs expected to increase?

A. Transportation has been provided as a percentage increase/decrease depending on the option.

Q. The information presented is quite technical and is taking up time for discussions.

A. Ministry guidelines stipulate that the data and options must be presented as a starting point for discussions.

Q. Parents are already asking questions. How can we respond?

A. Information is in your binders and on the website. We can assist schools in any creative ideas in order to respond to parent concerns. If the need is identified to assist with school meetings, break-out sessions, translators, etc., support from HWDSB is available. Members can communicate with their school communities as necessary. Concerns and ideas can also be written down and shared at the meetings for discussion. Data will be provided as needed to respond to questions. Corporate Communications also sends out information pieces and posts ads in local newspapers to keep the public informed.

Q. A lot of effort has gone into engaging the school community around the Kenora area so any changes effecting this location should be carefully considered.

A. Any specific pockets or needs related to various schools do need to be considered and possibilities explored.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.