




Advocacy Meeting
Monday, June 17, 2019
10:00 – 11:30am
The Common Roof (165 Ferris Lane, Barrie) Boardroom
MINUTES

Attended: Suzanna McCarthy (co-chair)
 Sarah Papple (co-chair)
 Kathy Manners
 Julie McAlpine
 James Thomson

Regrets: Lesley Watts

Item		Minutes	Action
1.	Minutes: May 15/19	The minutes were reviewed with no changes.	
2.	Position Papers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Living Wage Public Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for Support: SMDHU 	<p><u>Living Wage</u> The Living Wage Position Paper was reviewed and Kathy noted that the Living Wage definition should reflect that it refers to anybody, not just employers. Some additional wording was added to provide a clearer definition.</p> <p>Suzanna spoke about a release from Global news that indicated the annual expenses for a family is calculated around \$73,000 and that a report was presented to Simcoe County with a breakdown.</p> <p>The revised Living Wage position paper will be sent to the PRTG for a final approval as well as to Executive Committee for approval to circulate through the Weekly News and Updates.</p> <p><u>Public Health</u> A request for advocacy has been received through SMDHU for support of the Motion that was approved by the SMDHU's Board of Health to the Ontario Minister of Health, recommending that the full territory of the SMDHU remain intact and join with York Region to form a new regional public health entity.</p> <p>A letter of support will be drafted speaking to the importance of a Simcoe County focus because of the work that has been done to build a system that works, the history, connections, and networking already in place. The Coalition has very active membership from the Health Unit providing knowledge and expertise on a variety of tables; there would be a risk of not having the same level of participation. There is concern re the impact on the youth and families in Simcoe County the Coalition is serving; children, could be at risk for less service.</p> <p>The Pulse Poll taken at the May 23rd Council Meeting, identified Public Health as a concern by members. According to our process, this warrants the creation of a position paper. A</p>	<p> Living Wage in Simcoe County V2.docx</p> <p>Suzanna to try to get report for sharing with Advocacy Group.</p> <p>Suzanna to present paper to Executive; Julie to send to Roz.</p> <p>Julie to draft the letter of support to be sent electronically to the Advocacy Group and Executive Committee, then to Council members for electronic approval.</p>

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	<p>discussion took place if the creation of a position paper on public health is still required if we are sending a letter of support. The effect on primary care is the most important focus and would have the biggest impact which warrants a position paper.</p> <p>An email with the template will be sent to Dr. Gardner and Carolyn Shoreman advising a letter of support is being drafted and confirm the additional need of a position paper which was identified through the pulse poll taken at the last Council meeting.</p>	<p>Julie to draft email and send to Advocacy Group for approval.</p>
3.	<p>Federal Election Campaign</p> <p>A review of the last provincial/federal election information took place. For previous town hall meetings, the Coalition would mobilize people to go to meetings to ask specific questions.</p> <p>A discussion took place around a federal election strategy which included the creation of a survey monkey re themes, to be sent to Coalition members (using the strategic plan as a reference) which will assist with the refinement of questions to be asked to the parties. Will reach out to “experts” to make sure we are asking the right questions. Once the candidates are announced, are will contact their office to ask when they are calling a meeting, and send the questions in advance. Members will be also be asked if they are willing to attend any of the meetings in the fall to represent the Coalition and deliver the questions.</p> <p>1. <u>Public Health</u>: threat of losing PHU, offers great value to this community, keep services at current level, etc. What can a federal candidate do about a provincial initiative? Do you support keeping our Public Health Unit intact for this community/How would you do that?</p> <p>2. <u>Transitional Aged Youth (TAY)</u> – service gap with TAY in Simcoe County, lack of connectivity between the child/youth and adult systems, different age criteria between service organizations, lack of services for TAY. The Coalition is doing work on warm transfer and TAY issues. What can feds do on a macro level eg. more granting opportunities to develop a process. Do we need more youth hubs in Simcoe County i.e. Barrie, Orillia? If elected, would you support standardization of age criteria to help youth with the warm transfer between service systems and organizations?</p> <p>3. <u>Poverty/Living Wage</u> – need systemic change in polices, employment funding criteria to set a minimum wage at current living wage/partnership model of employment supports, support for affordable housing, public transportation issues. If elected, what would you do about summer student wages to help lift young people out of poverty?</p> <p>4. Children’s Mental Health – continuing to get the right support for services in our region i.e access to rural/remote</p> <p>5. Prevention – early identification of mental health issues</p>	<p>Include electoral riding map on the survey monkey.</p> <p>Ask for input from IPT’s TAY working group.</p> <p>Connect with PRTG/ SCATEH.</p> <p>Connect with Lesley Watts, christine Vanderbyl, Lora D’Ambrosio</p>

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4.	Next Steps	As the Federal election is October 21 st a meeting will be scheduled August 22 in Orillia.	Sarah to confirm time/ meeting space.

Next Meeting: Tues. August 22, 2019 – Time TBC, Orillia Public Library