

**THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF ST. THOMAS, THE COUNTY OF ELGIN,
AND THE ST. THOMAS-ELGIN GENERAL HOSPITAL
HEALTH RECRUITMENT PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE**

COMMITTEE ROOM # 204, CITY HALL

May 9, 2017

7:35 a.m. The meeting convened with Councillor C. McWilliam, Chair, presiding.

Attendance

Councillor C. McWilliam, Chair, County of Elgin
Councillor S. Wookey, City of St. Thomas (Depart 8:05 a.m.)
Dr. W. Chehadi, St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital (Arrive 8:05 a.m.)
Cheryl Fish, Health Recruiter
Mark McDonald, CAO, County of Elgin
Wendell Graves, City Manager, City of St. Thomas
Jon Hindley, Corporate Customer Service Assistant, City of St. Thomas

Absent

Dr. K. Scott, Elgin Medical Association

Approval of Minutes – April 11, 2017

The members confirmed the minutes as presented.

Activity Report and Recruitment Projects - Cheryl Fish

The members were provided with the Health Recruiter's Activity Report for the Month of April, 2017.

Ms. Fish advised that she attended the Canadian Association of Staff Physician Recruiters annual conference in Windsor, where many common topics in health recruitment were discussed, including the work/life balance for doctors and the trend for doctors to work in a group setting.

Ms. Fish advised that she received excellent feedback from Dr. Bezuidenhout about the orientation.

Ms. Fish advised that Dr. Kodi Onunkwo would not be moving forward in taking over a retiring physician's practice in St. Thomas and that Dr. Astaphan has also decided to not move forward with practicing in Dutton.

Funding Request: Dr. Melisa Tenbergen, Elmdale FHO

The City Manager advised that funding had been given to the Elmdale FHO for three full time positions and partial funding was given for three part time positions.

The City Manager advised that Dr. Tenbergen will be transitioning into full time and is requesting the remaining 2/3 of the funds that she would have been eligible for, to a total of \$33,000, rather than her current funding of \$11,000.

The members discussed the fact that there was room in the budget to accommodate the request.

The members discussed the current number of patients at the Elmdale FHO and finding out what their target number of patients is.

Motion by Councillor Wookey – Councillor McWilliam:

THAT: The Health Recruitment Partnership Committee endorse the request for additional funding from Dr. Melisa Tenbergen's Health Team in the amount of \$22,000.

Carried.

Unfinished Business

Francis Osih – Update

Ms. Fish advised that she had received a phone call from Dr. Olorunsola who advised that Francis Osih was key for convincing her to practice in the area.

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The members discussed the fact that Dr. Olorunsola is now working out of Dr. Scott's clinic and that no additional funding was received by Dr. Scott for her position.

The members discussed the fact that Francis Osih recruited an internist instead of a family doctor, but that he feels he should be credited for this.

The City Manager advised that the agreement is clear on who family physicians are.

The City Manager advised that he had purchased all new equipment and that some of it is still in his building. He suggested that some of the equipment may be credited to him if it could be dispatched elsewhere.

The members concurred that Dr. Olorunsola would be credited towards Francis Osih's obligation.

Other Business

Discovery Week

Ms. Fish advised that the invitations had been sent out for Discovery Week and that there would be approximately 30 people in attendance, including 12 students.

Ms. Fish advised that gift bags were being organized and that there would be a dinner hosted by the Health Recruitment Partnership Committee at GT's in Port Stanley on May 30. Other events may include a tour of the Ontario police College.

St. Thomas-Elgin Medical Association – Newsletter

Ms. Fish advised that she had been contacted about submitting an article to the St. Thomas-Elgin Medical Association newsletter, related to the Elmdale FHO. She further advised that Dr. Haruta agreed to it and that Dr. Tenbergen has been contacted about it.

Southwest LHIN – Focus Groups

The members discussed the integration of the Community Care Access Centre's into the Local Health Integration Networks, the Patients First legislation and the potential for actively pursuing funding for more nurse practitioners.

The Chair advised that the Municipality of Dutton Dunwich could benefit in the interim from a nurse practitioner.

The City Manager advised that the Executive Director of Elgin St. Thomas Public Health, Cynthia St. John was appointed to the Southwest LHIN Board.

The members discussed following up with Ms. St. John in relation to nurse practitioners.

College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario – Council Award

The members discussed putting forward a nominee for the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario Council Award.

Hospital Activities

Dr. Chehadi advised that the hospital was recruiting a number of specialists and that a rheumatologist has been recruited and will start seeing patients in September. He further advised that there were some start-up costs and asked the Committee if they would consider providing some funding.

The members discussed the fact that they have generally not funded specialists, except in one case for a specialist in obstetrics a number of years ago.

The City Manager suggested that a formal request be made in writing to be reviewed at a future meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for June 13th at 7:30 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 a.m.