Minute No. 268
Report – Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks – February 10, 2021

Item No. 3 Mount Carmel Sage House Program in City Recreation Space During COVID-19

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks and adopted the following:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to:

    A. Connect with Mount Carmel with respect to their programming needs;

    B. Make reasonable efforts to immediately partner with Mount Carmel Clinic, by providing space at a recreation centre with sufficient space for Sage House Programming, ideally around the Dufferin Neighbourhood or such other area as may be deemed suitable for the duration of the pandemic health restrictions that impact Mount Carmel's ability to offer programming in their current space.

2. That the City enter into, execute and deliver any required agreements with Mount Carmel Clinic as deemed necessary by the City Solicitor / Director of Legal Services to implement the intent of the foregoing.

3. That authority be delegated to the Chief Administrative Officer to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of the agreements, in accordance with this report and such other terms and conditions deemed necessary by the City Solicitor / Director of Legal Services to protect the interests of the City.

4. That the Winnipeg Public Service report back to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks with monthly verbal updates on vulnerable residents including how Sage House and other partnerships like WE 24/7 are developing within City owned and operated facilities, commencing in April 2021.

5. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Rollins,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 17, 2021, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks, with the following amendment:

- Add the following at the end of Recommendation 1.B.:

  "for the duration of the pandemic health restrictions that impact Mount Carmel's ability to offer programming in their current space."

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 10, 2021, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks passed the following motion:

WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg within Community Services, and Across Departments has worked alongside Community Based Organizations during the COVID-19 pandemic to develop and fund warming spaces, develop 24/7 safe spaces, and respond to food security needs through the use of Community Centres and Recreation sites;

AND WHEREAS Sage House is an outreach, health Centre providing service to women identifying people as well as a fully funded program of the Mount Carmel Clinic who during the COVID-19 pandemic has had to pivot their operations given the limitations of their space, and the need for physical distancing;

AND WHEREAS with additional space for physical distancing within a City of Winnipeg recreational facility, Sage House could re-establish their health outreach program, along with their staff, with appropriate physical distancing and continue their over 30-year track-record of supporting women identifying peoples' public health drop-in programming;

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks recommend to the Executive Policy Committee and Council that:

1. The Winnipeg Public service be directed to:

    A. Connect with Mount Carmel with respect to their programming needs;

    B. Make reasonable efforts to immediately partner with Mount Carmel Clinic, by providing space at a recreation centre with sufficient space for Sage House Programming, ideally around the Dufferin Neighbourhood or such other area as may be deemed suitable.

2. That the City enter into, execute and deliver any required agreements with Mount Carmel Clinic as deemed necessary by the City Solicitor / Director of Legal Services to implement the intent of the foregoing.

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4. That the Winnipeg Public Service report back to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks with monthly verbal updates on vulnerable residents including how Sage House and other partnerships like WE 24/7 are developing within City owned and operated facilities, commencing in April 2021.

5. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.