

The Regional Municipality of Durham

**MINUTES**

**BEAVERTON SUPPORTIVE HOUSING LIAISON COMMITTEE**

Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023

A regular meeting of the Beaverton Supportive Housing Liaison Committee was held on Monday October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at the Beaverton Town Hall and via Microsoft Teams.

Present: Brett Bloxam  
George Hewitt  
Ingrid Svelnis  
John Grant  
Karen Hakonson  
Lianne Megarry  
Mary Beddows  
Taylor Malcolm

Guests: Alex Cheng, Blue Door  
Amanda Freer, Blue Door

Staff

Present: Alan Robins, Director of Housing Services  
Stella Danos-Papaconstantinou, Commissioner, virtual  
Rachel Hirstwood-Judd, Adult Community Support Worker, virtual  
Cindy McCreight, Administrative Assistant

**1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by Mary Beddows, That the Agenda be adopted. Seconded by Brett Bloxam.

CARRIED

**2. ADOPTION OF AUGUST 23<sup>RD</sup> MINUTES**

Moved by Mary Beddows, That the Minutes of August 23<sup>rd</sup> be adopted. Seconded by Karen Hakonson.

CARRIED

**3. DISCUSSION:**

**A. Blue Door, Alex Cheng, Director Housing & Health & Amanda Freer, Program Manager – Emergency Housing**

- Blue Door, the successful applicant to the EOI (Expression of Interest) for the Operator of the Beaverton transitional supportive housing residence provided an overview of their agency. Blue Door has 41 years of experience and welcomes the opportunity to be the Operator of this project.
- Alex introduced Amanda and announced that she will be the Manager of this project.

- Blue Door has a wide range of programs and services for males, families, youth and those at risk of/or experiencing homelessness. Their program allows individuals to be part of a community and see possibilities to look forward to.
- The program in Beaverton is similar to other projects they operate, and they look forward to bringing best practices from those sites to the Beaverton site.
- Blue Door will connect with Durham Transit and Community Care Durham to discuss transportation services for clients.
- They are excited to bring creativity, innovation, and partnership to the community.
- Blue Door has a social enterprise called Construct. This program provides people with a way to supplement their income and get back into the work force. It connects people with local unions to get apprenticeships, once they get an apprenticeship their wage jumps from minimum wage to \$22-24/hr. This helps to raise them up and prepare them for the transition to their own housing.

**B. Project Update**

- The opening is still delayed however we are hoping to get possession by December 2023.

**4. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

- The next regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday December 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM.

**5. MEETING ADJOURNED**

Moved by Mary Beddows, That the Meeting be Adjourned. All in favour.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by \_\_\_\_\_

Alan Robins, Chair