



## Hamilton

**MINUTES: Seniors Advisory Committee  
Friday, February 3, 2012  
Rooms 192/193, Hamilton City Hall**

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**Present:** Frank Brodnicki, Carolann Fernandes, Doug Fraser, John Kennard, Jeanne Mayo, Lorraine Meloche, Vi Morgan, June Noonan, Penelope Petrie, Bernice Price, Shirley Robinson, Mary Sinclair, Ron Smithson, Bob Thomson, Marj Wahlman, Emmy Weisz, John Winslow, Bill Wright

**Regrets:** Deirdre Chartrand, May Ferguson, Carolyn Rosenthal

**Also Present:** Carolyn Bish – Corporate Services, Customer Service, Access & Equity  
Councillors Tom Jackson and Bernie Morelli (part meeting only)  
Bea McDonough – Public Health Services  
Andy McLaughlin – Transit (HSR)

**1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Smithson welcomed the committee members in attendance.

**2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

The agenda was accepted as circulated.

**3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

None declared.

**4. DELEGATION – Andy McLaughlin, Supervisor of Planning & Marketing, Transit (HSR) Division**

Jeanne Mayo began with a prelude on behalf of the SAC Transportation Subcommittee and welcomed Andy McLaughlin, Supervisor of Planning & Marketing at Transit (HSR). Jeanne then went through a series of questions prepared by the SAC Transportation Subcommittee and responses were provided by Andy. During roundtable discussions, the following comments were provided by committee members:

- transportation is key to keeping seniors active & involved
- need to consider cost, long walk to bus stop, time factor
- \$100 flat fee for seniors after age 65 / age 75 for Golden Age

- discounted monthly pass program operated by Ontario Works for persons with low/fixed income
- too many riders boarding at back door and avoiding paying fare
- no bus service to some of the outlying area seniors centres (i.e. Winona, Ancaster)
- delay in renovations to seniors centres at Westmount and in Winona/Stoney Creek
- Council needs to note that the senior population is growing
- HSR investigating extension of service on the Main-King-Queenston corridor
- concept of showing a ticket to an event for free transportation has an effect on the revenue and transit levy
- Council approved a report to extend Route 56-Confederation Park to operate from Eastgate Terminal to Van Wagners Beach Loop, via a new bus stop inside the parking lot of the Confederation Walmart Shopping Centre, effective March 25, 2012
- more training to operators and education to riders regarding priority seating
- more marketing needed so people are aware of different programs, i.e. request stop

Questions from committee members included

- How many Golden Age Passes have been issued? A: Information will be provided.
- Are priority seating talks ongoing? A: Yes, a requirement of the AODA (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act)
- Why are articulated buses being used on mountain routes on weekends? A: Operate on the Wentworth/Wellington route for increased traffic Limeridge Mall on weekends.
- Does HSR plan to install security cameras on buses? A: Have been discussed but not implemented.
- Can obstructions/advertisements on rear windows of buses be removed? A: Being considered. Increased comments about this.
- Is there a policy regarding the securing of mobility devices? A: Not right now.
- What is the status of a bus-only lane between John & Dundurn? A: Staff consulting with business owners and will hold a Public Information Centre once a plan is put together. Would operate during rush hours only (7 to 9 am and 3 to 6 pm).

The Chair requested copies of the most recent pamphlets for the committee members.

Andy was thanked for his time and informative responses to the questions.

The Committee welcomed Councillors Jackson and Morelli who dropped in during a break in budget deliberations. Comments made included:

- downtown seniors centre looking positive
- a portion of Flamborough Downs profits go into the City coffers
- will follow-up with Councillor Whitehead regarding senior centre on west mountain & Westmount
- a committee member had concern with continually striving for a zero budget increase. We don't want our grandchildren to suffer for it down the road. Councillor Jackson stressed that we are attempting to cut down the inefficiencies, not the service.

## **5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**(M. Wahlman/P. Petrie)**

That the January 6, 2012 minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee be approved as circulated. **CARRIED.**

## **6. BUSINESS / DISCUSSION**

### **6.1 Subcommittee Updates**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

## **8. ANNOUNCEMENTS / INFORMATION SHARING**

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

On motion, the meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.