



Hamilton

**MINUTES: Seniors Advisory Committee
Friday, April 13, 2012
Room 264, Hamilton City Hall**

Present: Deirdre Chartrand, 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: Frank Brodnicki, Carolyn Rosenthal
Councillor Tom Jackson
Bea McDonough, Jill Laskey

Also Present: Councillor B. Morelli
Marnie Cluckie, Jane Lee, Carolyn Bish – Corporate Services, Customer Service, Access & Equity
Vicki Woodcox – Community Services (Macassa Lodge)

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Smithson welcomed the committee members in attendance. Marnie Cluckie, Manager, Municipal Service Centres / Citizen Service Centre who will be attending as staff representative from Customer Service, Access & Equity was introduced and welcomed.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Additions to the agenda:

- Fire Safety (M. Sinclair)
- Gore Park (R. Smithson)
- Taxis (R. Smithson)
- Request to move Item 6.3 to be the first item of Business (J. Mayo)

The agenda was accepted as amended.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None declared.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**(M. Wahlman/M. Sinclair)**

That the March 2, 2012 minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee be approved as circulated. **CARRIED.**

5. DELEGATION: Steve Molloy, Transportation Master Plan Project Manager re discussion of Pedestrian Mobility Plan

The Committee welcomed Steve Molloy, who, with the assistance of a PowerPoint presentation, updated the members on what is currently happening with the Pedestrian Mobility Plan. His outline contained: the background/history; purpose; vision; feedback from the public information sessions; outcomes. A report will be going to Council in June 2012 and a Pedestrian Mobility Advisory Committee will be established. The Seniors Advisory Committee will be asked to appoint a representative for this committee.

A question/answer period followed including:

- municipal vs. provincial laws
- speed reduction
- timing for pedestrian crossing at intersections
- temporary changes due to construction, etc.
- park benches along street
- snow clearing at crosswalks
- traffic turning right on a red light

Staff will obtain a copy of the presentation and distribute it to the members with the minutes. Steve Molloy was thanked for his presentation.

6. BUSINESS / DISCUSSION**6.3 Proposal Regarding Participation of SAC in Senior Month Activities**

Jeanne Mayo advised that she, Doug Fraser and John Winslow met with Jill Laskey to inquiry about members of the Seniors Advisory Committee participating in Senior Month activities. Four proposals were presented to SAC members:

- a) that representatives from SAC attend the Health Fairs at Sackville (on June 23) and McNab (on June 12) Senior Centres;
- b) that information about City programs of benefit to seniors be available to hand out;
- c) that a questionnaire be developed allowing participants to comment
- d) that Councillors Jackson & Morelli be invited to attend

Jeanne advised that Jill Laskey will gather material about the City programs and that Jeanne will consult with the Council on Aging regarding the questionnaire.

(J. Mayo/P. Petrie)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee request a table at the Health Fair at Sackville Senior Centre on June 23, 2012 and McNab Senior Centre on June 12, 2012 to distribute information about City programs of benefit to seniors and to distribute a questionnaire to received comments from Hamilton seniors. **CARRIED.**

It was agreed that Jeanne Mayo, Doug Fraser and John Winslow would attend the Health Fairs on behalf of the Seniors Advisory Committee.

Vi Morgan advised that she sits on the Board at Sackville and, other than the date, has received no information regarding the Health Fair. Vicki Woodcox will follow up with Jill Laskey.

6.1 SAC Housing Subcommittee

Doug Fraser presented an amended motion from the SAC Housing Subcommittee regarding the Federal cuts to Old Age Security and Guaranteed Income Supplement. Discussion followed.

(D. Fraser/J. Winslow)

(a) That the Seniors Advisory Committee for the City of Hamilton request the Mayor and members of Council to speak up against any action by the Provincial and/or Federal Governments to cut the Old Age Security and Guaranteed Income Supplement for all seniors, and;

(b) That the age of eligibility to receive Old Age Security and Guaranteed Income Supplement be maintained at age 65.

CARRIED.

6.2 SAC Transportation Subcommittee

Jeanne Mayo outlined a proposed recommendation from the SAC Transportation Subcommittee to introduce a senior monthly bus pass and senior tickets into the 2013 HSR fare structure. Discussion took place and the following motion passed:

(J. Mayo / J. Kennard)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee request that Council for the City of Hamilton direct the Transit Division (HSR) to:

(a) introduce a senior monthly bus pass priced at \$20.00 and a single senior ticket priced at \$1.65 into the HSR 2013 fare structure; and,

- (b) circulate widely the brochure *For Safety's Sake: Safe Travel Tips For HSR's Senior Customers* which will include the notice of the senior bus fare rates. **CARRIED.**

6.4 Subcommittee Updates

6.4.1 SAC Age Friendly City Subcommittee

Penelope Petrie provided an update on meeting with Council on Aging. CoA has obtained a copy of Mississauga's plans and hope to bring a draft proposal for Council to the Seniors Advisory Committee in the fall.

Deirdre Chartrand had previously resigned from this subcommittee. Members consented to designate Jeanne Mayo as her replacement.

6.4.2 SAC Seniors Groups Subcommittee

Next meeting is Tuesday, April 17. An update will be provided at the May Seniors Advisory Committee meeting.

6.4.3 SAC Housing Subcommittee

Doug Fraser provided an update on the Housing Subcommittee meeting held March 22, 2012. He advised that they will be inviting Gillian Hendry to attend the May meeting to provide an update on the Housing Action Plan. A member inquired about "pocket housing". Councillor Morelli provided the explanation. An attachment regarding pocket housing will be provided when May agenda material is distributed.

6.4.4 SAC Transportation Subcommittee

As a follow-up to the presentation by Steve Molloy, Jeanne Mayo requested that the representative from the Seniors Advisory Committee appointed to the Pedestrian Mobility Advisory Committee be from the SAC Transportation Subcommittee.

Questions were raised about the new expiry date (December 31, 2013) on the Golden Age Pass and why they need an expiry date. Councillor Morelli explained that it was a matter of keeping track and that every effort is being made to ensure the ease of renewal.

Councillor Morelli updated the committee on a number of issues, including:

- regrets from Councillor Jackson
- thank you to Steve Molloy
- parking meters
 - being removed in Stoney Creek & Waterdown
 - being maintained on Ottawa and Locke Streets
- downloads from Provincial and Federal governments

- dealing with behavioural issues (i.e. cigarette butts outside General Hospital)
- change in leadership in Recreation Division
- funding provided to downtown YWCA
- new downtown seniors facility
- all advisory committee budgets have been approved
- suggested that various City department representatives be invited to explain where their budget dollars go

6.4.5 ACPD Transportation Subcommittee

Doug Fraser provided an update on the ACPD Transportation Subcommittee meeting of March 27 2012.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

6.1 **Taxis**

Several members attended the Taxi Cabs - Assistive Transportation Options display in the forecourt of City Hall on Tuesday April 10, 2012. Three types of vehicles were on display. Jane Lee advised that ACPD wants 100% of taxis to be accessible because they want the same rate of service as a person not requiring an accessible cab. Jeanne Mayo advised that this will be discussed at a future SAC Transportation Subcommittee meeting.

6.2 **Gore Park**

Ron Smithson advised that Gore Park would be closed to vehicle traffic for the summer and asked why only the summer. Councillor Morelli advised that he has not yet seen the final plan for Gore Park. Vi Morgan advised that there had been no meetings of the Gore Park Committee.

6.3 **Fire Safety**

In light of recent events outlined in the media, Mary Sinclair questioned whether the fire safety at long term care facilities and residential care facilities in Hamilton are the best they can be. Councillor Morelli suggested that the City fire marshal be invited to a future meeting.

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS / INFORMATION SHARING**

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

NEXT MEETING
Friday, May 4, 2012
10:00 a.m. – Rooms 192/193