



Hamilton

Revised

MINUTES:

Seniors Advisory Committee

Friday, September 7, 2012

Rooms 192/193, Hamilton City Hall

Present: Deirdre Chartrand, Carolann Fernandes, Doug Fraser, John Kennard, Jeanne Mayo, Vi Morgan, Bernice Price, Shirley Robinson, Carolyn Rosenthal, Mary Sinclair, Ron Smithson, Bob Thomson, Marj Wahlman, Emmy Weisz, John Winslow

Regrets: Frank Brodnicki, Lorraine Meloche, June Noonan, Penelope Petrie, Bill Wright

Also Present: Jane Lee, Carolyn Bish – Corporate Services, Customer Service, Access & Equity
Vicki Woodcox – Community Services (Macassa Lodge)
Eleanor Morton – Community Services (Recreation)
Councillors T. Jackson and B. Morelli

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Smithson welcomed the committee members in attendance.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Additions/changes to the agenda:

Under Business/Discussion:

Item 5.2 will be discussed under item 5.4(e)

Item 5.3 moved to Announcements/Information Sharing

Under New Business:

6.1 Hamilton Police Services Report on Seniors (E. Weisz)

6.2 Emergency Services (E. Weisz)

Announcement/Information Sharing

7.3 Aging/Bridging Gap (C. Fernandes)

7.4 HCoA Speakers Series (C. Rosenthal)

7.5 HCoA AGM

7.6 HTAL (Hamilton Third Age Living) (C. Rosenthal)

7.7 Community Meeting (E. Morton)

(M. Wahlman/C. Rosenthal)

That the September 7, 2012 agenda of the Seniors Advisory Committee be accepted as amended.

CARRIED.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None declared.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(M. Wahlman/S. Robinson)

That the June 1, 2012 minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee be approved, as circulated. **CARRIED.**

5. BUSINESS / DISCUSSION

5.1 Introduction – Eleanor Morton

Chair Smithson introduced Eleanor Morton, the new Manager of Senior Services for the Recreation Division.

5.2 Update – June 21, 2012 Meeting with Council on Aging / HSR re McMaster Study of Seniors Taking the Bus

Issue will be discussed under Item 5.4 (e).

5.3 Ontario Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse

Issue will be mentioned under Announcements/Information Sharing.

5.4 Committee/Subcommittee Updates

(a) ATS Eligibility Project Steering Committee

Mary Sinclair advised that:

- new application forms and new appeal forms had been created.
- the functional testing person had been hired.
- the person to conduct the training is yet to be determined.

The next meeting of the ATS Eligibility Project Steering Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, September 12, 2012.

(b) Age Friendly City Subcommittee

Jeanne Mayo advised that this group had continued to meet throughout the summer with representatives from Hamilton Council on Aging, United Way, DARTS, City of Hamilton staff and Seniors Advisory Committee.

Vicki Woodcox advised that the group is reviewing a strategic plan to work/partner with outside groups. The Seniors Master Plan is to be presented in September to the City's Senior Management Team and to the Seniors Advisory Committee following that. Jeanne suggested that members check the Grand River Council on Aging website at grcoa.ca.

(c) Seniors Groups Subcommittee

Bob Thomson advised that there were no summer meetings of this subcommittee. The group is focusing on the seniors content on the City's website. Jane Lee advised that there is a team working on redesigning the City's website. Members of this team will be invited to attend an upcoming Seniors Groups Subcommittee meeting for discussion.

(d) Housing Subcommittee

Doug Fraser advised that a meeting of the Housing Subcommittee was held at the end of August. The 2011 Census Report and the LHIN Seniors Plan were discussed. Additional time is required to study these two reports.

Discussion moved to fire plans in retirement homes and secondary level housing. It was suggested that someone from the Fire Prevention Bureau (Dave Christopher) be invited to an upcoming meeting. Councillor Morelli mentioned that there is a gap between secondary housing and single family dwellings and asked that committee members if they were prepared.

(e) Transportation Subcommittee

Jeanne Mayo updated the members on the June 21, 2012 Transportation Subcommittee meeting where representatives from HSR, DARTS and Hamilton Council on Aging met with members of a research group from McMaster University who outlined the results of research on how seniors take the bus. HSR will be working with McMaster on issues that arose from their findings.

Jeanne reported that the Hamilton Council on Aging received a grant to conduct a series of workshops, with HSR, on "Let's Take the Bus". These workshops are aimed for people who do not currently take the bus. Dates of these workshops will be provided.

The staff report regarding accessible taxis is being presented at the September 18, 2012 Planning Committee. Meeting is at 9:30 a.m. in Council Chambers. Doug Fraser indicated that he is able to attend.

Jeanne also updated the committee of the tables that were manned by herself, Penelope and Deidre during Seniors' Month at Sackville and McNab Senior Centres. Discussion followed regarding suggestions for future events such as this.

Committee members welcomed Councillors Jackson and Morelli. Councillor Morelli provided comments on a few issues being discussed and responded to questions from the members.

(f) ACPD Transportation Subcommittee

Doug Fraser provided an update on discussion at the ACPD Transportation Subcommittee meetings, particularly about the accessible taxi issue. A number of unlicensed taxis are operating throughout the city. A recommendation is being submitted that notification be sent to unlicensed operators that they have 30 days to get licensed.

Jane Lee advised that staff and ACPD are addressing the issue of not having to prebook accessible taxis. Also looking at improving DARTS service so it's more equitable with HSR in regard to fares, hours of operation.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Hamilton Police Services Report on Seniors

Emmy Weisz spoke briefly about the Report on Seniors issued by the Hamilton Police Services in June 2012. A list was circulated for members wishing to obtain a copy of this report to sign.

6.2 Emergency Services

Emmy Weisz asked if committee members were prepared in the event that a disaster should strike Hamilton – would they know what to do, where to go, who to call? It was suggested that someone from the Red Cross be invited to a future meeting to discuss disaster preparedness focusing on seniors.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS / INFORMATION SHARING

7.1 2012 Municipal Senior of the Year Awards

Ron Smithson noted that many current and past members of the Seniors Advisory Committee were recognized at the recent Seniors of the Year Awards event, as follows:

Vi Morgan	Community Achievement Award Lifetime Achievement Award
June Noonan	Lifetime Achievement Award
Andy Crawford	Community Achievement Award Lifetime Achievement Award
Shirley Glauser	Senior of the Year - 2012

7.2 Hamilton Council on Aging Speakers Series

Carolyn Rosenthal distributed a flyer regarding the HCoA Seniors Information Fair & Speakers Services to be held on Thursday, October 4, 2012 from 10:00 am to 1:30 pm in the Jackson Square Food Court area.

7.3 Hamilton Council on Aging Annual General Meeting

Carolyn Rosenthal announced that the HCoA AGM would be held on Friday, September 28, 2012 from noon until 3:00 pm at St. Peter's Hospital – Auditorium, 88 Maplewood Avenue, Hamilton.

7.4 Hamilton Third Age Learning (HTAL)

C. Rosenthal informed members that the Hamilton Third Age Learning website (www.htal.ca) would be up & running by the end of September. They are offering a services of 6 lectures starting in April 2013 on Friday mornings on various topics. Lectures will be held on Friday mornings at Innovation Park. Registration will open when the website is up.

7.5 Aging/Bridging Gap

Carolann Fernandes recently attended a meeting on the Ontario Coalition of Seniors and advised that at a recent March of Dimes workshop, it is being predicted that due to aging populations, a higher risk of disability in older people, as well as increase in chronic health conditions is eminent and that bridging the fields of aging and disability research, policy, and practice is critical for meeting these challenges.

7.6 Tenant Conference

Mary Sinclair advised that a Tenant Conference would be held on Monday, October 1, 2012 (World Habitat Day) from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Dr John M. Perkins Centre, 1429 Main Street East.

7.7 Elder Abuse

Carolyn Rosenthal advised that the Ontario Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse would be holding a conference for professionals and service providers at St. Peter's Hospital on Friday, October 12, 2012.

7.8 Community Meeting

Eleanor Morton distributed a flyer regarding a community meeting to take place at the Zion Korean United Church on Thursday, September 13, 2012.

A question was raised about who to contact regarding services for seniors (i.e. dental, medical, etc.). Jane Lee suggested to call 905 546-CITY (2489), Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Ron Smithson also had a booklet produced by the City's Immigrant & Refugee Advisory Committee for newcomers.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12 noon.

NEXT MEETING

Friday, October 5, 2012

10:00 a.m. – Rooms 192/193