



Hamilton

**MINUTES: Seniors Advisory Committee
Friday, November 7, 2014 – 10:00 a.m.
Rooms 192/193, Hamilton City Hall**

Present: Carolann Fernandes, Doug Fraser, John Kennard, Jeanne Mayo, Vi Morgan, June M. Noonan, Penelope Petrie, Shirley Robinson, Mary Sinclair, Ron Smithson, Bob Thomson, Marj Wahlman, Emmy Weisz, John Winslow

Regrets: Frank Brodnicki, Deirdre Chartrand, Liz Conti – Public Health Services (Public Health Nurse), Eleanor Morton – Community & Emergency Services (Recreation)

Absent: Lorraine Meloche, Bernice Price, Bill Wright

Also Present: Mike Richards, Barb Smoke, Cindy Mercanti – Corporate Services (Customer Service, Access & Equity); Lisa Maychak – Community & Emergency Services (Macassa Lodge)

Guests: Mary Gallagher – City Clerk's Office
Melissa Eberhardt-Markle & Janice Milne – Helping Hands Program (OW)

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Chair, Ron Smithson, welcomed the committee members and guests in attendance.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

The following additions were made to the agenda:

i) Seniors Award Event.

(C. Fernandes/M. Sinclair)

That the November 7, 2014 agenda, of the Seniors Advisory Committee meeting be accepted, as amended.

CARRIED.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None declared.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 Meeting of October 3, 2014.

- Review of Minutes

(M. Wahlman/P. Petrie)

That the October 3, 2014 minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee be approved, as circulated.

CARRIED.

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Representative from City Clerk's Office - Proposed Changes to the Advisory Committees (M. Gallagher)

M. Gallagher gave an overview of the Volunteer Advisory Committees' (VAC) structure that was presented to Council. Every new term, Council reviews the VAC's and look at ways to make them better. The Seniors Advisory Committee (SAC) and the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities (ACPD) are the only two committees that have a connection directly to Council. It was recommended that these two committees be retained. After a consultation process, this will be taken to Council to make a final decision.

5.2 Helping Hands Program (M. Eberhardt-Markle/J. Milne)

This project is affiliated with Ontario Works. J. Milne gave an overview of eligibility criteria, what types of services are available and the frequency of service. A printed overview is in the process of being done and will be provided once completed.

6. BUSINESS/DISCUSSION

6.1 Committee/Sub-committee Updates

a) Housing Sub-committee (C. Fernandes)

Meetings are held on the 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month. Bea McDonough used to attend meetings. Now Lisa Maychak attends, as an alternate. The focus is to get a draft document for moving forward. Members are registered for the Nov. 21 Housing Conference at the Waterfront Conference Centre. The draft Resource Guide will be available in February, 2015 to be presented to the Seniors Advisory Committee.

b) Transportation Sub-committee (J. Mayo)

The focus is on sidewalks and their usage. This sub-committee meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, at 3:00 p.m. in Room 222, City Hall. Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities – Built Environment Sub-committee (ACPD-BESC) met with Paul McShane on Nov. 4, 2014. If anyone has any issues with roads, please call (905) 546-2424 to log complaints with the Roads Department. The Transit Accessibility Public Annual meeting will be held on Nov. 18, 2014, 3:00 to 4:30 p.m., at City Hall in Rooms 192 & 193.

c) ACPD Transportation Sub-committee (M. Sinclair)

The buses stopped going to the hospital front doors, while all hospitals have long walks to their front door. Passengers should be able to get conditional eligibility, when necessary. Not all wheelchair passengers are able to do seat belts up on their own. HSR drivers do not all help people in wheelchairs with seatbelts. If seat belts are not able to be done by people with disabilities, is this contrary to the AODA? All seniors are eligible to ask for the bus to be knelt. The DARTS money, for the audit, has been deferred. Keith Andrews is responsible for drivers to meet the AODA. He will be invited to attend a meeting.

d) HHS AODA Committee (M. Sinclair)

There was no meeting.

e) Older Adult Network (D. Chartrand)

Next meeting is scheduled for the end of November. A report will go to the December meeting.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Seniors Award Event

This nomination process should be reviewed. Call for nominations is January, 2015 with the deadline for mid-March. This is sponsored by various media outlets. Cash and in-kind donations are also accepted. They should consider how to reach various cultures. When tax notices are sent out, this may be an opportunity to reach the multi-cultural community.

It was good that there was an ethno-cultural award category but a person of ethno-cultural background did not receive it. People should receive awards for volunteering in the category, not for paid work done. There should be a rule that City staff should not be eligible to win this award, if it is part of their work. This contact list needs to be broadened.

Hamilton does not have a multi-cultural event. However, some of the ParaPan Soccer Games will be held in 2015 in Hamilton.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION SHARING

8.1 York Region Aging at Home Show

This event is being held Nov. 25, 2014, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Sheraton Parkway (flyer was distributed). It was suggested to contact their office to let them know that if they are having an event for seniors, that their website be set up to print in a larger font.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

10. NEXT MEETING

Friday, December 5, 2014, 10:00 a.m., Rooms 192/193, City Hall. Lunch will be provided.