



Hamilton

**MINUTES: Seniors Advisory Committee  
Friday, December 4, 2015 – 10:00 a.m.  
Rooms 192/193, Hamilton City Hall**

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**Present:** Deirdre Chartrand, Carolann Fernandes,  
John Kennard, Jeanne Mayo, Penelope Petrie, Shirley  
Robinson, Mary Sinclair, Ron Smithson, Bob Thomson,  
Marjorie Wahlman, Emmy Weisz & John Winslow

**Regrets:** Frank Brodnicki, Douglas Fraser, Lorraine Meloche,  
Vi Morgan and Bernice Price

**Also**

**Present:** Councillor Tom Jackson  
Cindy Mercanti, Maxine Carter & Deb Thomas –  
Corporate Services (Customer Service, Access &  
Equity)  
Lisa Maychak - Community & Emergency Services  
(Neighbourhood & Community Initiatives)  
Eleanor Morton – Community & Emergency Services  
(Recreation)  
Liz Conti – Public Health (Healthy Living)  
Vicki Woodcox – Community & Emergency Services  
(Macassa Lodge)

**Guests:** Melissa McGinnis - Public Works ( ) & John Hawker

**1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair, Ron Smithson, welcomed everyone.

**2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

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

The following addition was made to the Agenda under Announcements / Information Sharing:

- 8.1 Discussion regarding due process (M. Sinclair)
- 8.2 Senior Games (R. Smithson)

That the December 4, 2015 Agenda, of the Seniors Advisory Committee meeting be accepted, as amended.  
All in favour. **CARRIED.**

**3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

None declared.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**4.1 Meeting of November 6, 2015**

**(M. Wahlman/J. Mayo)**

That the November 6, 2015 Minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee be approved. All in favour. **CARRIED.**

**5. PRESENTATIONS**

Presentation by John Filice regarding "Point in Time Count" (People Experiencing Homelessness in February was postponed to January due to illness.

**6. BUSINESS/DISCUSSION**

**6.1 Business Arising From Previous Minutes (Action Items)**

- a) Refresher bike courses for seniors – put on hold while waiting to receive information regarding number of seniors interested in attending before proceeding – *for an update, see 8.4*

## **6.2 Committee/Sub-committee Updates**

### **a) Housing Sub-committee (C. Fernandes)**

A presentation will be made to the Emergency & Community Services Committee at its January 18<sup>th</sup> meeting providing a copy of the Housing Guide to Committee members and Council and then made available to the public. Lisa Maychak will work with the Sub-committee to prepare for the presentation.

### **b) Transportation Sub-committee (J. Mayo)**

Jeanne attended a presentation by Glen Miller about seniors and aging. At the presentation was discussed facilitating use of UBER for seniors. It was noted that taxi companies will need to get into the conversation too. As the population ages, the number of drivers decreases because of their age. It was decided that the Sub-committee will meet in January. Eleanor Morton noted that a transportation grant of \$48,300 partnering with DARTS, etc. will be to help with seniors' transportation.

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

At the last ACPD Transportation Working Group, they had hoped to discuss the 10-year Transit Plan because there is no mention of accessibility. A motion was made to study the accessible taxi situation as it is currently not user friendly. Drivers were reported for faulty equipment and being incompetent. Apparently, there are 16 accessible taxis. However, when you call they are either not available or not all in service.

Marjorie will check to see if ATS/DARTS available regarding application criteria for people who lose their license. A link could be added to the seniors' web page. Seniors will review and provide feedback.

**d) HHS AODA Committee (M. Sinclair)**

For future meetings, this item will be removed.

**e) Older Adult Network (D. Chartrand)**

The Older Adult Network will meet on December 17 to discuss their mandate and agenda for next year.

**f) Seniors Award Event (L. Maychak)**

Currently, in a lull period. Nomination materials are to be reviewed and once all good, will go to print. January process starts for distribution.

**g) Age Friendly (L. Maychak)**

Partners are determining who will take the lead on 100 action items and focusing on 2016 actions. A governance committee is being formed (2 City, 2 HCoA, 2 SAC). Jeanne and Penelope are continuing as the SAC representatives for the governance committee until the new SAC is appointed.

Councillor Jackson provided a funding update. SMT is not recommending the \$50,000 for Age Friendly. Councillor Jackson has put forward a motion for approval that the \$50,000 be considered in the budget process and it has passed the first stage.

Councillor Jackson suggested that SAC urge City Council to approve a grant of \$50,000 for the Age Friendly implementation plan.

**(J. Mayo/P. Petrie)**

The Seniors Advisory Committee endorses the recommendation made at the December 4, 2015 General Issues Committee approving the \$50,000 for the Age Friendly implementation plan as part of the 2016 budget deliberation.

All in favour.

**Carried.**

Mary noted that people do not have a place to sit and wait at City Hall for DARTS transportation as the wait time can be a 30-minute window. Mary mentioned that the issue is not just with people with disabilities but those who may have difficulty standing for longer periods of time. This issue is not addressed in the Age Friendly Plan. However, the Plan is evolving and possibly this issue could be funneled into the Governance Committee. Once the information has been received and approved by ACPD, it can be given to the Governance Committee.

Maxine Carter commented that the inside areas will be an issue (which is bigger than just installing benches). Mary noted that ATS/DARTS patrons expect the drivers to come inside to look for their patron. The rules around DARTS/ATS are being reviewed and will be shared when the information is received.

Mary inquired if a bench could be moved closer to the back door of City Hall (a testing period) to assist patrons. Emmy Weisz noted that the benches could be considered as obstructing pedestrian traffic.

Councillor Jackson suggested that Facilities be contacted for input and additionally, Fire may need to be consulted.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

### **7.1 Advisory Committees**

Maxine Carter notified the Clerk's office that the number of members for the Seniors Advisory Committee is incorrect (should be 19 and not 9). Mary commented that the information session was scheduled for the evening. Maxine advised that she would request if an afternoon meeting could be set in January before the deadline for applications.

### **7.2 Councillor Jackson Information Update**

- a) The bed bug strategy has been endorsed. The most vulnerable will be dealt with first. Step One has been passed and \$415,000 will be spent in 2016.
- b) Macassa Lodge will be installing "call bells" as per the Ministry's orders to comply. \$1.2 million will be spent to increase the standards. Vicki Woodcox will be able to provide an update in February, 2016. Carolann Fernandes asked if any more long-term facilities were to be acquired. Councillor Jackson replied that the City is only required to have one and we have two (Macassa/Wentworth).
- c) Hamilton is expecting approximately 300 Syrian refugee families (women and children first).

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

### **8.1 Due Process (M. Sinclair)**

Mary was reviewing her notes and would like an update regarding the operation of elevators during a maintenance strike or power outage. This matter was forwarded to the Emergency & Community Services Committee and referred to the Fire Department which falls under the Planning Committee. Liz Conti will follow up with Planning and report back to this Committee. Councillor Jackson would like the matter looked at to ensure it doesn't happen again.

**8.2 Senior Games**

Ron Smithson wanted to let everyone know about Senior Games in the new year. For more information visit: [www.infoflam.on.ca](http://www.infoflam.on.ca) or Ron Smithson (President).

**8.3 Flamborough Seniors' Centre**

Eleanor Morton advised that the Flamborough Seniors' Centre will be up and running in the new year. The Library has already opened.

**8.4 Bike Safety**

January 15, 2016 is the cut-off date for interest. Currently, going well and will be a go.

**8.5 Snow Angels**

Twenty-six participants for this program. Lisa Maychak will send more information to Deirdre Chartrand. Jeanne Mayo asked Lisa if the SOS pamphlet has been revised as the SAC Transportation Sub-committee has suggested/recommended changes. There was also an issue about volunteers taking their shovels on the bus. Lisa will look into the issues and report back at the January meeting.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m. Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and New Year!

**10. NEXT MEETING**

**Friday, January 8, 2016, 10:00 a.m., Rooms 192/193, City Hall.**