



Hamilton

MINUTES: Seniors Advisory Committee
Friday, May 6, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.
Rooms 192/193, Hamilton City Hall

Present: Carolann Fernandes, John Kennard, Jeanne Mayo, Penelope Petrie, Mary Sinclair, Ron Smithson, Bob Thomson, Marjorie Wahlman, Emmy Weisz and John Winslow

Regrets: Frank Brodnicki, Lorraine Meloche, Vi Morgan, Bernice Price, Shirley Robinson, Lisa Maychak (Community & Emergency Services) and Councillor Brenda Johnson

Also

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

Guests: John Hawker, Neil Tucker & Rob Palmer
Melissa McGinnis – Public Works (Facilities)

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Chair, Ron Smithson, welcomed everyone.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

(C. Fernandes/P. Petrie)

That the May 6, 2016 Agenda, of the Seniors Advisory Committee meeting be accepted with the following additions:

New Business

7.3 Future Hamilton Conference – Penelope Petrie

7.4 Poverty Housing – Emmy Weisz

7.5 Bike Safety – Eleanor Morton

7.6 Accessibility at Michelangelo's

All in favour.

CARRIED.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None declared.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 Meeting of April 1, 2016

(J. Winslow/E. Weisz)

That the April 1, 2016, Minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee be approved, as amended. All in favour.

CARRIED.

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1 None.

6. BUSINESS/DISCUSSION

6.1 Business Arising From Previous Minutes (Action Items)

a) None.

6.2 Committee/Sub-committee Updates

a) Housing Sub-committee (C. Fernandes)

There was no meeting and no report.

b) Transportation Sub-committee (J. Mayo)

There was no meeting and no report.

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

Several people have indicated they are not willing to ride the bus because of a post that limits them getting into the new buses. The tie downs for mobility devices was also questioned.

There was also a discussion regarding DARTS ridership and scheduling. It was noted that riders can call ATS and change their profile (i.e. have certain vehicles excluded).

d) Older Adult Network (L. Maychak)

The Seniors Kick-Off Event is scheduled for May 30 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Sarcoa (on the waterfront, Pier 8). It is a free event with many vendors (30 exhibits), presentations and complimentary refreshments. Also provided will be local, grassroots entertainment and free transportation in rural areas. An event bus schedule was handed out to SAC members. It is anticipated that 700-800 people will attend.

e) Seniors Award Event (L. Maychak)

Tickets are now on sale for \$25 each and can be purchased at City Hall, all Municipal Service Centres and at Sackville. The event takes place on Tuesday, June 14 at 5:00 p.m. at Michelangelo's and includes a full meal, entertainment and the awards ceremony. Thirty nominations have been received this year and the winners have been selected by a panel of community judges. The names of the winners in all nine categories will be announced the night of the awards event.

f) Age Friendly (L. Maychak)

The City of Hamilton and the Hamilton Council on Aging are currently working on a communications plan, marketing and branding.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 It was suggested that a “visioning” session occur at the beginning of the new session to brainstorm. Some ideas to be considered would be updating the Guide Booklet, aspects of long term care, housing, transportation, health issues, etc.

7.2 Tickets for the Senior Awards event are being sold for \$25 each. In past years, it was agreed by SAC that the members would be subsidized for their ticket purchase by \$10.

(E. Weisz/C. Fernandes)

That the \$25 ticket price for Seniors Advisory Committee members to attend the Senior Awards event on June 14th be subsidized by \$10 thereby reducing the ticket price to \$15 each.

All in favour.

CARRIED.

7.3 The City’s Mission and Vision statements were being reviewed at the Our Future Hamilton Conference. The idea was introduced to amend the Vision statement to include “to grow old”. It was decided that SAC would formally propose a change to the Vision statement.

(J. Mayo/P. Petrie)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee proposes an amendment to the City’s Vision statement by adding “and to grow old” or similar wording as appropriate.

Councillor Jackson felt that the motion was worthy of going forward as it is positive and respectful of our growing population.

7.4 Poverty Housing

Emmy Weisz wanted it noted that housing needs to be considered for the elderly too. Councillor Jackson advised that SAC should be an important stakeholder and consulted regarding housing for seniors.

7.5 Bike Safety

May is Bike Month. Bike safety courses will be held on May 24 and 26 (2 sessions). Bike safety and an introduction to bike riding will be taught. There are 20 registered in the first group. SOBI bikes will be used.

7.6 Accessibility at Michelangelo's

The following update was provided by Lisa Maychak (via email) and Melissa McGinnis:

- There is a gradual ramp to the main entrance
- There are five clearly marked parking spots
- All areas of venue are on one floor
- Double entrance doors with push button
- One stall (5x5) in the main washroom but no push button to entrance of washroom
- Additional washrooms (in bridal suites) at opposite end of venue but are not accessible
- Ramps on either side of the stage but no rails

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION SHARING

8.1 Update from Councillor Johnson – Councillor Johnson sent her regrets as she was unable to attend the meeting.

8.2 Update from Councillor Jackson – Councillor Jackson noted that the advisory committee interviews were completed. The list of member names will be received by Council later this month.

Regarding LRT, Councillor Jackson advised there is some concern regarding busing for mountain residents in areas that are not currently covered by HSR service. There is a possibility that the surplus buses can be used for areas not currently covered (additional busing for rural areas).

Carolann Fernandes thanked Ron Smithson for his patience and wisdom chairing the SAC meetings over the past term and a thank you to the staff for this assistance. Penelope Petrie thanked Councillor Jackson for being the voice for SAC at Council.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

10. NEXT MEETING

To be determined by new term of SAC.