



## Hamilton

**MINUTES: Seniors Advisory Committee  
Friday, November 4, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.  
Rooms 192/193, Hamilton City Hall**

**Present:** Lou De Stephanis, George Hough, John Kennard, Paula Kilburn, Jeanne Mayo, Penelope Petrie, Mary Sinclair, Ron Smithson, Doug Stone, Karen Thomson, Marjorie Wahlman, Emmy Weisz & John Winslow

**Regrets:** Margaret Cheyne, Carolann Fernandes, Kimberly McKibbon, Basharat Tayyab & Karen Thomson  
Eleanor Morton & Vicki Woodcox (Community & Emergency Services); and Cindy Mercanti (Corporate Services)

**Absent:** Dahlia Petgrave

**Also**

**Present:** Maxine Carter & Deb Thomas – Corporate Services (Customer Service, Access & Equity)  
Lisa Maychak - Community & Emergency Services (Neighbourhood & Community Initiatives)  
Liz Conti – Public Health (Healthy Living)

**Guests:** Melissa McGinnis – Public Works (Facilities); John Hawker; Tina Sousa, DARTS; and Joey Coleman, Independent Journalist

**1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair, Bob Thomson, welcomed everyone.

**2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

**(M. Wahlman/R. Smithson)**

That the November 4, 2016 Agenda, of the Seniors Advisory Committee meeting be accepted with the following additions:

**New Business**

- 7.1 Sharing of Contact List (M. Sinclair)
- 7.2 Social Isolation (M. Sinclair)
- 7.3 iGAP Study (M. Sinclair)

7.4 Safety of Seniors in Bus Shelter (J. Kennard)

7.5 Vision Zero (L. Maychak)

**Announcements/Information Sharing**

8.11 Ontario Health Coalition Conference – Report from Carolann Fernandes

All in favour.

**CARRIED.**

**3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

None declared.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**4.1 Meeting of October 7, 2016**

**(M. Wahlman/E. Weisz)**

That the October 7, 2016, Minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee be approved, as amended.

All in favour.

**CARRIED**

**5. PRESENTATIONS**

**5.1 Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities (ACPD) – Transportation Working Group (TWG) – P. Kilburn**

Paula Kilburn and Maxine Carter provided some background information. ACPD was mandated through the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* (AODA). The mandate of ACPD is to oversee the implementation of the AODA through consultation with City staff and relevant stakeholders. ACPD also recommends to Council deficiencies, gaps and initiative to meet the AODA standards. The Committee reports to the General Issues Committee. The City of Hamilton started this committee back in 1990 long before it was required. Councillor Geraldine Copps was instrumental in getting the committee started.

ACPD has 15 members and there are several working groups including Built Environment and Transportation Working Groups each meeting monthly. Each year an accessibility plan is prepared and submitted to Council. This requires enormous amounts of time and effort by the dedicated ACPD members.

The Transportation Working Group (TWG) focuses on issues involving Hamilton Street Railway (HSR), Disabled & Aged Regional Transportation System (DARTS) and accessible taxis. The members are from ACPD and the staff resource personnel are Maxine Carter (Access & Equity) and Owen Quinn (Accessible Transit). It was suggested that a member from SAC be a member of the ACPD-TWG to share ideas and collaborate between the two committees working towards common goals.

## **6. BUSINESS/DISCUSSION**

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

- a)** Councillor B. Johnson offered to look into the matter and find out where that part of the motion was forwarded (first part of motion regarding elevators was sent to Planning and Development) - Councillor Johnson advised that no update is available at this time as staff are still working on the matter.  
  
Maxine Carter will follow up with the appropriate staff person regarding the posting of information on every floor and report back to the next meeting.
- b)** Cathy Isowa to report back regarding Recreational Staff training in regard to assisting persons who are visually impaired - Staff from Recreation were not available for this meeting.
- c)** Lisa to look into member's concerns regarding assisting with the review of Recreation Program Guide - Lisa advised that further discussions will occur to mediate the issue and bring back information to the next meeting.

- d)** List of committees and working groups to be sent to SAC members and if interested, to report back to Debbie Thomas - Committee members submitted their interest in the various working groups and other committees.

Bob Thomson suggested that the Committee might want to look at another Working Group – Communications. This working group would look at some of the goals in the Age Friendly Plan where SAC is mentioned under Goal 3 – Communication & Information.

**(B. Thomson/J. Mayo)**

That the Seniors Advisory Committee form a new working group to be called SAC – Communications Working Group.

All in favour.

**CARRIED.**

Five names for two positions were received for Age Friendly – CEAC. It was noted that Paula Kilburn and Emmy Weisz took the time to attend the last CEAC meeting.

**(P. Petrie/G. Hough)**

That Paula Kilburn and Emmy Weisz be appointed to Age Friendly – CEAC.

All in favour.

**CARRIED.**

The following SAC members were appointed to the various working groups/committees:

SAC – Housing Working Group (HWG)

Margaret Cheyne, Mary Sinclair, Paula Kilburn, Carolann Fernandes, Doug Stone and John Kennard

SAC – Transportation Working Group (TWG)

Margaret Cheyne, Ron Smithson, Penelope Petrie, Marjorie Wahlman, Paula Kilburn, Jeanne Mayo and George Hough

SAC – Communications Working Group (CWG)

Mary Sinclair, Penelope Petrie, Bob Thomson and Ron Smithson

Age-Friendly Plan – Governance (meets 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at the Lister Block)

Jeanne Mayo and Bob Thomson

Age-Friendly Plan – Community Engagement Advisory Committee (CEAC) (meets 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday in the afternoon)

Emmy Weisz and Paula Kilburn

Older Adult Network

Doug Stone

The original mandate of the Older Adult Network was to organize the events for seniors' month in June. They will now also be looking at Goal #5 (Social Participation: Recreation, Learning, Arts & Culture) of the Age Friendly Plan. A November meeting is being planned and Lisa Maychak will advise of the date.

International Day of the Older Person (celebrated October 1 annually)

Doug Stone

Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) – Hamilton Health Sciences

Mary Sinclair

Everyone will receive the information as to when the working groups meet so that they may attend.

Maxine will confirm the location of future meetings for the advisory committee.

- e) Mary Sinclair's motion re toilets will be referred to a working group and brought back at a later date – This matter will be referred to the SAC – TWG.

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

### **a) Housing Working Group**

Members have been appointed but dates for meetings have not yet been set.

### **b) Transportation Sub-committee**

Members have been appointed but dates for meetings have not yet been set.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

### **7.1 Contact List**

The members were asked about sharing contact information with each other.

#### **(J. Mayo/G. Hough)**

That the SAC members present agreed in the sharing of contact information with the other SAC members.

All in favour.

**CARRIED.**

### **7.2 Social Isolation**

Liz Conti spoke regarding this item. The YWCA is recruiting volunteers to assist in connecting with isolated seniors using a referral system. Mary Sinclair asked if someone would be able to attend a future meeting to speak to the Committee. Liz will let us know.

### **7.3 iGAP Study**

Mary Sinclair provided information about research participants needed for the iGAP Study – Improving Advance Care Planning in General Practice. The information will be sent to the SAC members.

### **7.4 Safety at Bus Shelter**

John Kennard wanted to share with the members the safety of seniors at the bus shelter at King & Emerald Streets. The shelter is damaged and requires repair. Councillor T. Jackson offered to look into the matter.

### **7.5 Vision Zero**

Lisa Maychak brought to the attention of the Committee members a public open house regarding how we interact/travel on our roads. The event will be Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> from 5:00 to 9:00 pm at the Hamilton Convention Centre. If you would like to attend the workshop from 7:00 to 9:00 pm, you need to register. Information will be sent to the members.

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

**8.1 Update from Councillor T. Jackson** – Councillor Jackson provided the following update. First, congratulations to Bob Thomson as the new SAC Chair and compliments/kudos to Ron Smithson as past Chair. The new Committee membership is about one half new members and one half returning members – perfect blend. Council recently approved a list of projects to the federal government – 1) infrastructure projects; 2) housing; 3) transit; and 4) US Steel. The construction of the new Macassa Lodge kitchen is now complete. The Waterfront Committee has approved the conceptual future of Piers 7 & 8 with checks and balances in place. It was suggested that SAC request a report from the new Director of Transit (Debbie Dalle Vedove) regarding PRESTO – upside and downside of PRESTO card and approval of increase in bus passes (provisos attached to increase regarding improved bus service and increase in number of buses). Councillor Jackson's office has received some complaints from seniors regarding the affordability. If members are aware of anyone with financial hardships, please refer them to Councillor Jackson's office regarding availability of assistance. Finally, a reminder to attend Remembrance Day Services.

**8.2 Update from Councillor B. Johnson** – Councillor B. Johnson apologized for being late to the meeting but was dealing with matters in Binbrook (water issues because of construction tunneling). Further information regarding the Waterfront, the development will include 5% affordable housing in the template. Also, regarding Remembrance Day, there is a service being held at the Warplane Heritage where in the past, 3,000 to 5,000 people attended. If you plan on going, please support the North Wall Riders who raise monies to support veterans and their families. They are currently fundraising for an Afghanistan memorial at the Warplane Heritage and have approximately \$20,000 left to raise.

Mary Sinclair noted that the development at the Waterfront needs to be affordable and accessible (i.e. shade areas).

Paula Kilburn noted that for those with visual impairments the trail needs to be accessible for use with white canes as per the AODA Built Environment Standards.

Councillors Jackson and Johnson will take the concerns under advisement.

### **8.3 Seniors Award Event**

The Seniors Award Event Committee is currently in the planning stage, securing sponsors and putting the nomination package together. Our SAC members who sit on the Seniors Award Committee are Ron Smithson, Penelope Petrie and Margaret Cheyne. It was suggested that the event provide a bit of information about the nominees and not just highlight the winners as people should know the contributions of all the nominees. This could be done the night of the event or added in the program. Lisa thought this had been done previously but last year there were time constraints. George Hough suggested that the website could also include information regarding all nominees. Lisa agreed this is a great idea.



**8.4 Age Friendly**

At the recent CEAC meeting, there was discussion around identifying the community initiative to align with the Age Friendly Plan. Progress is happening! Age Friendly "swag" has been created (tote bags and pens) to get the idea out to the community and branding for Age Friendly. Tote bags and pens were given to the SAC members. Official name will be Age Friendly Hamilton. Lisa noted that a report will be on the Emergency & Community Services Agenda at the meeting on Monday, November 21 at 1:30 pm in Council Chambers. Your support is greatly appreciated.

**8.5 Older Adult Network**

No information at this time.

**8.6 ACPD Transportation Working Group**

See above under 5.1.

**8.7 New Food Access Guide**

Liz Conti brought copies of the Guide for SAC members to review and be aware of the options available. The Guide is not senior specific but still a good resource and is available online ([www.foodaccessguide.ca](http://www.foodaccessguide.ca)) for printing.

**8.8 December Luncheon**

Ideas suggested for catering were: Karam Kitchen, YWCA At The Table, Goodwill Stairway Café and 541 Eatery and Exchange. SAC members suggested Debbie compare prices and pick the caterer.

**8.9 What To Do If You Fall**

Information sheet was provided to the Committee members.

**8.10 CAST: Hospital-to-Home Transitional Care Study  
Community Forum**

Information sheet was provided to the Committee members regarding a community forum on Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup> requesting ideas about how to improve care for seniors being discharged or transitioning from hospital to home.

**8.11 Ontario Health Coalition Conference – Report from Carolann Fernandes**

Carolann Fernandes attended the above conference on Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup> and provided the members with a typewritten report on the information received.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

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

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

**10. NEXT MEETING**

**Friday, December 2, 2016 at 10:00 a.m., Rooms 192/193,  
City Hall.**