



Hamilton

**MINUTES: Seniors Advisory Committee
Friday, February 3, 2017 – 10:00 a.m.
Rooms 192/193, Hamilton City Hall**

Present: Carolann Fernandes, Paula Kilburn, George Hough, Jeanne Mayo, Bob Thomson, Marjorie Wahlman, Penelope Petrie, John Kennard, Doug Stone,

Regrets: Lou DeStephanis (On Leave), Dahlia Petgrave, Mary Sinclair, Karen Thomson, Basharat Tayyab, John Winslow, Emmy Weisz, Margaret Cheyne, Kimberly McKibbon, Councillors Tom Jackson and Brenda Johnson

Absent:

Present: Maxine Carter, May-Marie Duwai-Sowa (Corporate Services - Customer Service, Access & Equity)
Eleanor Morton (Community & Emergency Services)
Lisa Maychak (Community and Emergency Services)
Liz Conti (Public Health - Healthy Living),

Guests: Natalie Stefanski (Catholic Family Services), Tina Sousa (DARTS), John Hawker,

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Chair, Bob Thomson, welcomed everyone.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

(M. Wahlman/P. Kilburn)

That the February 3, 2017 Agenda, of the Seniors Advisory Committee meeting be accepted, as presented.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None declared.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 Meeting of January 6, 2017

(P. Petrie/ C. Fernandes)

That the January 6, 2016, Minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee be approved.

All in favour.

CARRIED.

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Intensive Case Management for Seniors at Risk Programs- Natalie Stefanski- Catholic Family Services

Judith Szolodos was unavailable to make the presentation however Natalie Stefanski will be delivering the presentation.

N. Stefanski provided an overview of the Seniors at Risk programs, Catholic Family Services and highlighted the following:

- The program seeks to enable high risk older adult seniors to live independently in the community regardless of race and gender and is non-denominational. It serves any one aged 60 years and older and all services are free, confidential with no referral necessary or time limit for service. Anonymous service is also available
- Some of the issues addressed include abuse/neglect, isolation, poor physical health, dysfunctional family dynamics and financial
- There are currently 100 seniors on a wait list, and 14 staff facilitating the programs
- The four main programs are Gate Keepers Program, Abuse/Intervention, Dementia and Senior Peer Volunteer Telephone support
- Services are provided in collaboration with the Crisis Outreach and Support Team (COAST)
- Some challenges include language, social isolation, barriers to accessing services

The following questions were asked:

Q. How can the SAC Housing Working Group help with this program?

A. Build awareness, lobby and advocate. You can request for additional funding from the City for emergency shelters. Assist with filling out forms.

SAC advised that N. Stefanski follow up with the Housing Working Group for help. They meet the last Thursday of each month, City Hall room 222 from 12:30 p.m. – 2 p.m.

Eleanor Morton offered to provide staff that can assist with filling out forms for clients who cannot get out of their homes. N. Stefanski will get in touch with E. Morton.

Q. How do you deal with language barriers?

A. The Niagara Translation Services provides free translation services. Our staff is also linguistically diverse and hence helps to provide some translation services to our clients.

The Housing Working Group expressed interest in having N. Stefanski attend one of their meetings to discuss the issues in more detail and how the working group may be of assistance.

Q. Are the transitional care beds at hospitals being utilized?

A. Transitional beds are managed by hospitals. These beds are usually gone and or backlogged. This system needs to be more organized.

SAC thanked Natalie Stefanski for the presentation.

(M. Wahlman/C. Fernandes)

That the presentation by Natalie Stefanski be accepted.

All in favour.

CARRIED

6. BUSINESS/DISCUSSION

6.1 Business Arising From Previous Minutes (Action Items)

- a) Generator Issue- No update - Councillor Brenda Johnson was unavailable to attend today's meeting.
- b) Assisting persons who are visually impaired- Paula Kilburn expressed her experience and Eleanor Morton will follow up.
- c) Assisting with review of Recreation Program Guide- Eleanor Morton provided an update on the Recreation Program Guide review process. There may not have been enough time to review. P. Kilburn advised that plain text is best for the online version and the graphics, tables and pictures should be removed.
- d) Safety at Bus Shelter (King & Emerald Streets) - There is no update as Councillor Jackson was unavailable to attend today's meeting to provide the update.
- e) Pro-Master Vans- Tabled - Councillor Tom Jackson will update the committee at a future meeting.

6.1.1 Tabled Items

- a) Mary Sinclair's motion re toilets- Item referred to the Getting Around Hamilton Working Group
- b) Deferred property taxes- This item referred to the Housing Working Group
- c) Aging in Place- Has been reviewed, completed and committee developed the Housing Guide. Remove from the agenda

6.2 Committee/Sub-committee Updates

a) SAC-Housing Working Group (C. Fernandes)

C. Fernandes, Mary Sinclair, Paula Kilburn, John Winslow and John Kinnard. C. Fernandes reported that the committee met and discussed housing goals and explored a range of options for seniors regarding Housing. Some of the ideas included reviewing and updating seniors housing needs, explore options available for seniors in Hamilton. The working group also discussed priority issues facing vulnerable seniors including where are the greatest need. The next meeting will be held on the 4th Thursday of the month, 12:30pm-2:30pm. L. Conti agreed to follow up with

Natalie Stefanski at Catholic Family Services regarding the request from the Housing Working Group.

b) SAC-Getting Around Hamilton Working Group (J. Mayo)

J. Mayo reported that the Working Group met and one of the discussion items was to do with the chronically underfunded HSR service. J. Mayo noted that there is a campaign underway to advocate for increased funding for HSR. Another project is in relation to the Environment Hamilton Campaign. The Working group would like support from the SAC to apply for a grant in collaboration with Public Health and Public Works, to update the Seniors Pedestrian Safety video. The grant hopes to build on the previous video made by SAC on pedestrian safety and incorporate new pedestrian measures, such as crossovers, in order to increase pedestrian safety awareness amongst older adults and drivers of all ages. P. Kilburn advised that the video should include instructions on how to use intersections with accessible pedestrian signals.

It was advised by members that the Getting Around Hamilton Working Group seek out additional funds to pay for the project due to the high cost of producing videos. Getting Around Hamilton Working group has made contact with Mohawk College with respect to working with a co-op student and noted that Public Works will partially fund the project.

(J. Mayo / P. Petrie)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee approves the Getting Around Hamilton Working Group's proposal to submit a grant for the amount of up to \$8,000 to the Senior Community Grants program of the Ministry of Senior Affairs, in collaboration with Public Health and Public Works on the topic of Pedestrian Safety on or before March 1, 2017.

All in favour.

CARRIED

**c) SAC-Communications Working Group
(B. Thomson)**

Bob Thomson reported that committee met and reviewed the Age Friendly Plan. The Working Group is leaning towards action item 3.2.2, Communicate to Older Adults re: City Services available to them. The next meeting will be at City Hall, February 13, 10:00am, Room 222.

**d) Age Friendly Plan- Governance Committee
(J. Mayo/ B. Thomson)**

Committee did not meet, due to inclement weather.

**e) Age Friendly Plan - Community Engagement
Advisory Committee (CEAC) (E. Weisz/ P. Kilburn)**

Lisa Maychak reported that Committee met and Sara Mayo from Social Planning and Research Council made a presentation with respect to the tracking tool and dashboard used to measure the progress of the Age-Friendly plan (who is the lead, current activities, milestones, outputs, status updates).

Committee also discussed the upcoming Age-Friendly symposium planned for March 22nd, 10:00am-2:00pm at the Sheraton Hotel. It is a free event, lunch provided and a panel of presenters.

Committee accepted Paula Kilburn's resignation from the Community Engagement Advisory Committee. A request for volunteers will be put on the next meeting agenda.

f) Older Adult Network- (D. Stone)

No update.

g) AODA - Hamilton Health Sciences (M. Sinclair)

No update.

h) ACPD - Transportation Working Group

No update.

**i) International Day of Older Persons Committee
(D. Stone)**

A meeting scheduled next week.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Member Resignation

The Committee discussed the member resignation and the 2 vacancies that now exist on the committee.

(M. Wahlman/ C. Fernandes)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee accepts the resignation of Kimberly McKibbin, with regret.

All in Favour.

CARRIED

The Working Groups are seeking representatives to join these groups as this is where work gets done before coming to the committee. Please join a working group if you are not currently on one of these groups.

7.2 Request from Wentworth Lodge Heritage Trust Fund

Committee discussed the request from Wentworth Lodge Heritage Trust Fund for a SAC member to participate on the committee. Maxine Carter will forward email request to committee members.

7.3 DARTS SERVICE UPDATE

M. Wahlman put forward a request to have DARTS attend the March meeting to present on an urgent matter that will impact seniors.

(C. Fernandes/M. Wahlman)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee invite DARTS to present the matter at the March 3, 2017 meeting and that S. Mayo representative from Social Planning and Research Council be respectfully requested to present at the April 7th, 2017 meeting instead.

All in Favour.

CARRIED

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION SHARING

8.1 Update from Councillor Brenda Johnson

No update

8.2 Update from Councillor Tom Jackson

The Committee discussed Councilor Tom Jackson's email regarding feedback from the SAC with respect to the drop in ridership of approximately 460,000 less trips in 2016. The Councillor's request is that SAC review and discuss the additional increase in fares that would be due September 2017 and provide feedback on whether the City should stay the course to increase fares or does the SAC recommend the City hold off on an increase this year for all seniors.

(J. Mayo /M. Wahlman)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee refer the issue to the Getting Around Hamilton Working Group for further discussion.

All in Favour.

CARRIED

8.3 Seniors Award Event

Lisa Maychak reported that the nomination process is underway and the application package has been distributed. It was also reported that the Minister of Senior's Affairs visited the Sackville and Ancaster Seniors Centres and met with staff along with the Hamilton Council on Aging.

8.4 New Seniors Club Opening

Eleanor Morton reported that a new seniors club will be opening at 500 King Street, West and it is fully accessible. A social is planned for March 2nd & 9th. Councilor Aidan Johnson has sent out invitations to Ward 1 residents.

A free drop in program is also scheduled at recreation centres on February 7th- open social, open gym.

8.5 Seniors Isolation Plan

Maxine Carter distributed copies of the Seniors Isolation Impact Plan.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

(M. Wahlman / P. Petrie)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned.

All in Favour.

CARRIED.

10. NEXT MEETING

Friday, March 3, 2017 at 10:00 a.m., Rooms 192/193, City Hall.