



Hamilton

**Amended
MINUTES:**

**Seniors Advisory Committee
Friday, June 3, 2011
Council Chambers, Hamilton City Hall**

- Present:** Frank Brodnicki, Deirdre Chartrand, May Ferguson, Carolann Fernandes, Doug Fraser, John Kennard, Virbala Kumar, Jeanne Mayo, Vi Morgan, June Noonan, Penelope Petrie, Shirley Robinson, Mary Sinclair, Ron Smithson, Bob Thomson, Marj Wahlman, Emmy Weisz, John Winslow, Bill Wright
- Regrets:** Lorraine Meloche, Bernice Price, Carolyn Rosenthal, Bev Neill, Councillor Jackson
- Also Present:** Carolyn Bish – Corporate Services, Customer Service, Access & Equity
Bea McDonough – Public Health Services, Healthy Living
Vicki Woodcox – Community Services, Macassa Lodge
Jill Laskey – Community Services, Recreation
Councillor B. Morelli

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Smithson welcomed the committee members and introduced Jill Laskey from Recreation.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

The agenda was accepted as circulated.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None declared.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(M. Wahlman/J. Noonan)

That the May 6, 2011 minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee be approved as circulated.

CARRIED.

5. PRESENTATION

The Committee welcomed Sara Mayo from the Social Planning & Research Council (SPRC). Sara went through a presentation with highlights from a draft report entitled "A Profile of Vulnerable Seniors in Hamilton". The final report will be launched at the Annual General Meeting of the Hamilton Council on Aging to be held in September, 2011 (date to be determined). A short question and answer period followed. On behalf of the Committee, the Chair thanked Sara for her presentation.

6. BUSINESS / DISCUSSION**6.1 Selection of Vice-Chair**

Nominations were received. Vi Morgan and Doug Fraser agreed to stand for the position of Vice-Chair of the Seniors Advisory Committee. Ballots were distributed and Vi Morgan was elected as Vice-Chair.

6.2 Appointments to Committees Requiring SAC Representation

Discussion took place on the appointments of Seniors Advisory Committee representatives on the following subcommittees.

(i) ACPD Transportation Subcommittee

Doug Fraser expressed interest and will be the new SAC representative on this subcommittee.

(ii) Accessible Transportation Services (ATS) Eligibility Project Steering Committee

Marj Wahlman gave a brief outline of function of this committee. Carolann Fernandes and Mary Sinclair expressed interest in this committee. Carolann indicated that she would act as an alternate to this committee. Questions were raised regarding the date and location of these meeting. Staff will contact ATS for additional information.

(iii) Heat Response Committee

Vi Morgan and Marjorie Wahlman volunteered to attend these meetings on behalf of the Seniors Advisory Committee.

(iv) Strategic Road Safety Program Subcommittee

Ron Smithson has attended these meetings in the past and volunteered to continue.

(v) Hamilton Health Sciences Rehabilitation and Ontarians with Disabilities (ODA) Advisory Council

Mary Sinclair advised that this committee meets approximately every six months at various Hamilton Health Sciences locations. Vicki Woodcox gave a brief definition of the ODA and the

accessibility standards being put forward by the Province. Ron Smithson advised that this committee goes hand-in-hand with the City's Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities. Mary Sinclair, Penelope Petrie and Deirdre Chartrand expressed interest in being the representatives on this committee. Contact information was provided and staff will get additional information on this committee.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Summer Meetings

Discussion took place regarding having summer meetings. It was felt that since this committee was just getting started, that it would be beneficial to hold meetings during the summer. By a show of hands, it was agreed that meetings would take place on Friday, July 8 and Friday, August 5, 2011.

7.2 Presto Cards

Discussion took place regarding the Presto cards currently being put into place by Transit (HSR) and the possible future effect on the Seniors bus pass. Councillor Morelli advised that this card is still in its early stages and the options and technology are still being worked out. Currently this card can be used for transportation on HSR, Burlington Transit and Oakville Transit and they are working on hooking up with GO Transit. The long term goal is to be able to use this card for transportation anywhere. Councillor Morelli suggested that a representative from HSR and/or GO Transit be invited to a future meeting to discuss the Presto card. He assured the group that he and Councillor Jackson will do everything possible to ensure that the seniors pass stays in place.

7.3 Update from Councillor Morelli

Councillor Morelli extended a welcome to the new and returning members of the Seniors Advisory Committee. He explained the powerful role that they play from their position at this table and ensured them that they have the attention of the politicians. He also commented on the following issues:

- update on Bernice Price
- annual budget
- PanAm Games planning
- Farmers' Market
- negotiations with CUPE 5167
- bed bug problem

7.4 Future Issues

Ron Smithson asked members for items that they would like to discuss at future meetings. Items included:

- people with limited income – who to call for assistance
 - Hamilton Council on Aging has a staff member who will counsel people on financial matters
- lighting in vicinity of MacNab Street YWCA
- accessible access through MacNab Street tunnel
- snow and ice removal downtown
- health & home care
 - application from drug store for free meds
- Recreation staff changes
 - Jill Laskey advised that staff announcements will be made by the end of June
- youth spending time with seniors
 - this is a community service and already in place through job shadowing, volunteer placements or Co-op

8. OTHER

8.1 In response to a query, steps taken to get an item / issue to the attention of staff and Council were briefly outlined.

8.2 Emmy Weisz informed the committee that the Hamilton Council on Aging will be hosting a free Seniors Information Fair on Thursday, June 30, 2011 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm in the Jackson Square Food Court.

9. ADJOURNMENT

On motion, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.