



Hamilton

**MINUTES: Seniors Advisory Committee
Friday, July 8, 2011
Room 264, Hamilton City Hall**

Present: Frank Brodnicki, May Ferguson, Carolann Fernandes, Doug Fraser, John Kennard, Virbala Kumar, Jeanne Mayo, Lorraine Meloche, June Noonan, Penelope Petrie, Mary Sinclair, Ron Smithson, Bob Thomson, Bill Wright

Regrets: Deirdre Chartrand, Vi Morgan, Bernice Price, Shirley Robinson, Carolyn Rosenthal, Marj Wahlman, Emmy Weisz, John Winslow
Bev Neill, Jill Laskey

Also Present: Bea McDonough – Public Health Services, Healthy Living
Vicki Woodcox – Community Services, Macassa Lodge
– Community Services, Recreation
Carolyn Bish – Corporate Services, Customer Service, Access & Equity
Councillor B. Morelli
Councillor Jackson

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Smithson welcomed the committee members and noted members who had sent regrets.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Items added to the agenda included:

- Recreation Assistance Fee (M. Sinclair)
- Pedestrian Walk-ability Committee (B. McDonough)
- Committee Awareness (M. Ferguson)

(J. Noonan/L. Meloche)

That the July 8, 2011 Seniors Advisory Committee agenda be accepted as amended. **CARRIED.**

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None declared.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Item 6.2 (iii) Heat Response Committee

Marj Wahlman advised via email that she had volunteered to sit on the Heat Response Committee along with Vi Morgan.

(P. Petrie/C. Fernandes)

That the June 3, 2011 minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee be approved as amended. **CARRIED.**

5. FOLLOW UP FROM JUNE 3, 2011 MEETING

Responses to inquiries regarding the Accessible Transportation Services (ATS) Eligibility Project Steering Committee and the Hamilton Health Sciences Rehabilitation and Ontarians with Disabilities (ODA) Advisory Council were circulated as an attachment to the July 8, 2011 Seniors Advisory Committee agenda.

Mary Sinclair raised two issues regarding the new parking lot at the General Hospital – (1) that the manhole covers were raised and not flush with the parking lot surface and (2) that there was no walkway to Barton Street. It was suggested that perhaps the final layer of asphalt had not yet been laid. Mary will follow up with the Chair of the Hamilton Health Sciences Rehabilitation and Ontarians with Disabilities (ODA) Advisory Council and advise of the outcome at the August meeting.

6. BUSINESS / DISCUSSION**6.1 Workplan Discussion**

Discussion took place on issues / projects that the committee would like to take on during the upcoming term. Ideas included:

- Elder Abuse
 - > physical
 - > financial
 - > sexual
 - > emotional
- Recreation
 - > safety bars
- Housing
- Transportation
 - > HSR
 - > Accessible Transportation (ATS)
 - > Bus Rapid Transit / Light Rapid Transit
 - > car share
 - > GO train
- Intellectually Impaired Seniors
- LGBTQ Seniors

- Seniors with Disabilities
- Walkability Issues
 - > crossing times at intersections
 - > beveled curbs at First Place
 - > need for more benches
- Age Friendly City
 - > link in or promote the work being done by the Hamilton Council on Aging
- Seniors Groups in Hamilton
 - > working on the same seniors issues
 - > should Seniors Advisory Committee play a convening role?
- Advocacy
 - > offloading issue – long term care beds and home support dollars
 - > EMS – ambulance dollars
 - > CCAC – more time, staff role
- PanAm legacy
 - > a one-time event – we want to be involved
- Health

These ideas will be prioritized at the September meeting and the workplan, timelines, establishment of subcommittees, etc. be developed.

With respect to Age Friendly City, the committee was provided the background of the work being done by the Hamilton Council on Aging. The members were reminded that they were going to ask Margaret Denton to return once the new committee was established. Dr. Margaret Denton will be invited to the September Seniors Advisory Committee.

Councillors Morelli and Jackson were welcomed to the table and updated the committee on many issues, i.e. HECFI, waste issues, CUPE 5167 settlement, transportation, Code Zero, PanAm legacy and working on getting a Seniors Complex in the lower city.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Recreation Assistance Fee (M. Sinclair)

Mary Sinclair advised the committee of forms required in order to obtain a discounted fee at the Recreation centres for those requiring financial assistance and the approximate 2 week processing time for these forms. The Chair will bring this to Jill Laskey's attention.

7.2 Pedestrian Walk-ability Committee (B. McDonough)

Bea McDonough advised that the Pedestrian Walk-ability Committee is seeking a representative from the Seniors Advisory Committee. One

meeting has been held and another meeting will be held in September. John Kennard and Jeanne Mayo expressed interested in attending on behalf of the Committee. A discussion on this topic will be held at the August meeting in order that John and Jeanne have the Committee perspective to take to the Pedestrian Walk-ability Committee.

7.3 Committee Awareness (M. Ferguson)

May Ferguson inquired about how the citizens of Hamilton know that the Seniors Advisory Committee (SAC) exists. The members from past years and staff advised that:

- presentations advising of the work of SAC were made in previous years inviting citizens, Council, the City's senior management team and the local members of the Provincial and Federal governments
- a survey was created and circulated to various local seniors groups for dissemination to their members to determine what priorities seniors had
- a video was produced with Mohawk College students regarding traffic safety
- all Seniors Advisory Committee meeting minutes are posted on the City's website
- listed on Inform Hamilton website

It was suggested that a spokesperson for the committee could appear on Cable 14 to talk about the committee. It was also suggested that perhaps mention of the committee and its work could be included in the Councillors' newsletters to their constituents.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS / INFORMATION SHARING

8.1 Councillor Jackson & Morelli extended their congratulations to Ron Smithson for being named as Hamilton Municipal Senior of the Year for 2011.

8.2 Vicki Woodcox advised that a Seniors Task Group is being formed at the Provincial level and that Sophia Aggelonitis, MPP for Hamilton Mountain will be playing a lead role.

8.3 Bea McDonough advised that the Social Planning & Research Council report presented at the July 2011 Seniors Advisory Committee meeting will be released in September 2011.

8.4 Mary Sinclair advised that the Hamilton Police Service (HPS) offer a Seniors' Police College Course. Staff will contact HPS for further information.

9. ADJOURNMENT

On motion, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.