



## Hamilton

**Meeting Minutes  
Seniors Advisory Committee  
Friday, March 1, 2019  
10:00am – 12:00pm  
Rooms 192/193, City Hall, 71 Main Street West**

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**In Attendance:** Bob Thomson (Chair), Jeanne Mayo, Marjorie Wahlman, Carolann Fernandes, Mary Sinclair, Doug Stone, Margaret Cheyne, Penelope Petrie, Ram Kamanth, Barry Spinner, John Kennard.

**Absent with Regrets:** Paula Kilburn, Karen Thomson.

**Guests:** John Hawker

**Also in Attendance:**

Jessica Bowen, Diversity and Inclusion

Liz Conti, Public Health

Lisa Maychak, Healthy and Safe Communities

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### **Welcome and Introductions**

#### **1. Changes to the Agenda**

**Addition of item:**

**7.1** AODA meeting update (Mary)

**7.2** Licensing of Lodges (J. Mayo)

**7. 3** Snow Clearing Policy

That the agenda of March 1, 2019 be approved as amended.

**(M. Wahlman / C. Fernandes)**

**CARRIED**

## **2. Approval of Minutes**

That the minutes of December 7, 2018 be approved as presented.

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

**CARRIED**

## **3. Presentations**

No presentation scheduled.

## **4. Business / Discussion Items**

### **4.1 Area Rating (J.Mayo)**

J. Mayo there is a 6-member panel who are going to discuss area rating. J. Mayo requested that the Chair invite both Councillors to come to an upcoming SAC meeting to give us an update on the area rating.

### **4.2 Resignations**

**(P.Petrie / M. Wahlman)**

The committee accepted the resignations of Committee members Lou DeStephanis and George Hough.

As George Hough has submitted his resignation and is SAC's representative on MIRA, the committee has supported that Barry Spinner will be advised of any upcoming meetings in relation to MIRA.

### **4.3 Senior's Award: Judging Panel**

The committee supported that Carolann Fernandes will sit as the representative of SAC on the judging panel for the Senior's Award.

## **5. Working Groups/Committees**

### **a) SAC – Housing Working Group (M. Sinclair)**

M. Sinclair advised that the HWG is currently reviewing the application forms for housing. The working group is inquiring how to make adjustments on the applications forms. They hope to meet with the Director of Housing Services in upcoming months.

The next meeting is on March 19, 2019.

### **b) SAC – Getting Around Hamilton Working Group (J.Mayo)**

J.Mayo advised that the group has not met since November. The next meet is scheduled on Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 3:00pm.

### **c) SAC – Communications Working Group (B. Thomson)** No update at this time.

### **d) Age Friendly Plan – Governance Committee (J. Mayo)** J. Mayo advised that on April 2, 2019 there is going to be a community meeting to receive the fourth annual report of the age friendly plan.

The report will be delivered at Michelangelo's and the launch for the consultation process to establish the next five-year plan. The event starts at 8:30am, where a continental breakfast will be provided, and then at 9:30am the event begins.

### **e) Older Adult Network (D. Stone)** No update at this time.

### **f) International Day of Older Persons Committee (D. Stone)** No update at this time.

**g) Seniors at Risk Community Collaboration (SARRC) (L. Conti)**

L. Conti advised that there has been a reduced number of meetings due to time limitations of members. There are 30-35 service provider organisations involved. The group is trying to generate some solutions for systemic challenges for the most vulnerable.

There was a very successful workshop held on hoarding. There were 130 housing providers present as well as Superintendents, landlords, property owners, city staff. The word spread and we had 20 participants from outside Hamilton.

There was also a representative from St. Joe's at West 5<sup>th</sup> on balancing compassion and enforcement.

**K. McMaster Institute of Research on Aging (L.Conti/L.Maychak)**  
No update at this time.

**L. Ontario Health Coalition (C. Fernandes)**

C. Fernandes shared the following information:

The current government has a new health care act called the people's health care act. There will be a super agency to replace the LHINS and 20 small health agencies that employ 10,000 people. The intent of agency is to oversee all facets of health; hospitals, primary care, long term care, home care, online media records. This infrastructure will allow for seamless access to care.

This new health care act has unprecedented power to order privatization. It will allow the invitation of for profit organisation to express interest. While the rhetoric sounds positive, this act can privatise anything.

There is a meeting of the Hamilton Health Coalition on March 15, 2019 at 7:00pm. The Ontario Health Collation will be

holding a rally at Queen's park beginning at 12:00pm on April 30, 2019. For more information or to register to attend, members can call 905-545-5514.

**M. Our Future Hamilton Update (P.Petrie)**

No update at this time.

**N. Senior of the Year Award (P. Petrie)**

P.Petrie advised that at present the judging panel is being put together. The nomination process is open and the deadline for submissions is March 29, 2019.

**6. Other Business**

**a. Update from Councillor Jackson**

Councillor Jackson provided an update on the budget process for 2019 and outlined that Council has another month's work in relation to finalising the budget.

There has been ongoing discussion about snow clearing throughout the City. Council has committed to looking at this for the 2020 budget. Staff have advised that the cost is would be 5 million dollars per year annually if the city wanted to clear 2500 kms of city sidewalks. The sidewalk clearing would target the highest pedestrian housing areas and seniors, those with daycare and childcare needs, disabilities, etcetera.

Snow angels program: there are 500 seniors on the waiting list. The program has been successful in matching 150-200 people. 300 people are on the waiting list.

We have tried to provide incentives, for those who assist in this program. Councillor Jackson advised that he put forward a motion to enhance the current snow angels program.

Transit requested a 14% increase. Normally that would be considered significant; however in light of the 10 year transit strategy, this is embedded into the 2.7% increase to the

budget city wide. The increased budget is to enhance routes and purchase more busses. There are improvements to the system is a part of the HSR budget.

Within the 2.7% we are hiring 10 more paramedics. That is included in the budget.

DARTS, came forward again needing a budgetary increase. They provide over 70,000 rides a year and each year that number is increasing. In spite of what seems to be overbudget, the justification and evidence is front of council and it is beyond dispute.

Councillor Jackson advised staff to request that Bob Paul attend a future SAC meeting to answer any detailed information about City snow clearing.

### **Area Rating:**

Councillor Jackson advised that there will be a subcommittee of Council. Councillor Jackson advised that it may would be appropriate at some point if one of 6 Councillors on that subcommittee attend a SAC meeting to hear and discuss the issues, including what eliminating area rating means for tax payers.

## **7. Business / Discussion Items**

### **7.1 AODA meeting update (M. Sinclair)**

M.Sinclair advised that there is an AODA meeting at Hamilton Health Sciences on March 7, 2019. She will attend and report back to the committee.

### **7.2 Licensing of Lodges (J. Mayo)**

J. Mayo: Advised of an article about lodging homes from February 15, 2019. Liz Conti advised that she would follow up and report back to the Committee.

B. Spinner advised that the committee was informed about the new student residence being built on Main street and

that they influenced the university to share a common area with seniors. This is a physical space where students and seniors would intermingle to have a study, living, learning community. On March 12, 2019, they are having an event and looking for volunteers to interact with 1<sup>st</sup> year university student living in residence.

## **8. Adjournment**

### **Next Meeting**

Friday, April 5, 2019