



Hamilton

**Minutes
Seniors Advisory Committee
Friday, April 5, 2019
10:00am – 12:00pm
Rooms 192/193, City Hall, 71 Main Street West**

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

Absent with Regrets: Paula Kilburn, Marjorie Wahlman.

Guests: Tina Sousa, DARTS

Also in Attendance:
Nadia Olivieri, Human Resources

Welcome and Introductions

1. Changes to the Agenda

(C.Fernandes/M.Cheyne)

That the agenda April 1, 2019 agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

2. Approval of Minutes

(B. Spinner/C.Fernandes)

That the minutes of March 1, 2019 be accepted as amended.

- i. K. Thomson provided regrets for last meeting and was not in attendance for Seniors at Risk Collaboration (SARRC). Liz Conti updated on SARRC

3. Presentations

4. Business / Discussion Items Arising from minutes

- a) 2019 SAC contributions/donations in support of senior activities (Address at item 5 h)
- b) Proposed Resolution from Getting Around Hamilton Working Group (addressed at item 5 d)

5. Working Groups/Committees

- c) SAC – Housing Working Group (M. Sinclair)
M. Sinclair advised that the group is in the final stages of updating the application.

Not having affordable housing for Seniors with assistive needs is a form of abuse. Affordable housing need to take all needs into consideration. The group will be inviting Edward Johns from Housing Services to speak about Social Housing.

C. Fernandes advised of a cohousing concept “Symbiosis Max” involves seniors living with students in low cost housing. There is a meeting on this topic on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 from 6:00pm-8:00pm at First Unitarian Church

M. Sinclair advised that the next housing group meeting is on April 16, 2018 and the group will discuss whether to invite n Edward Johns to come and meet with ACPD or SAC.

d) SAC – Getting Around Hamilton Working Group (J.Mayo)

J. Mayo provided the group with a proposed resolution regarding the Vision Zero Action Plan.

Proposed resolution

Information

The City of Hamilton and Hamilton Police Services launched a new education campaign targeting fast drivers, part of the Vision Zero Action Plan.

During the month of March, several actions were undertaken to encourage drivers to reduce their speed, be cautious at intersections, be careful at certain times of day when visibility is reduced, be courteous to pedestrians and slow down for older pedestrians who need more time to cross the road, all under the slogan “There is no such thing as speeding a little—speeding is speeding”.

Resolution

The Seniors Advisory Committee would like to commend the City of Hamilton and Hamilton Police Services for the education campaign targeting fast drivers, “There is no such thing as speeding a little—speeding is speeding”, as part of Vision Zero Action Plan.

The Seniors Advisory Committee has long been concerned about older adults safety by creating a video and organizing pedestrian safety workshops.

The Seniors Advisory Committee encourages the City of Hamilton and Hamilton Police Services to continue to take actions, including the installation of Red Light cameras, under the Vision Zero Action Plan and offers its support for future actions.

(J.Mayo/P.Petrie)

The Committee supports the resolution as presented

Carried

Council has a committee to study the issue of area rating - the fact that the taxpayers outside of the urban boundary do not contribute to the HSR and therefore have no access to public transportation.

In order to prepare a submission to this committee, GAHWG met with 3 the executive directors of 3 community groups— Ancaster/Flamborough/ Binbrook. However, just before the meeting, it was announced that the Committee of Council to study area rating had been suspended. We decided to go ahead with the meeting with the community groups and we learned that despite offering transportation services to seniors to grocery stores, pharmacy, etcetera, since 2009, no more funding will be available after December 31, 2019. This is a crisis situation and it was decided to pursue this matter with HSR to see if a creative solution could be found. A meeting with HSR is scheduled for May 1.

Following up on the snow removal discussions at previous meetings, GAHWG has put this back on their working list and is hoping to come back with some suggestions. It was noted that the majority of letters to the editor about snow removal did not favour the City taking over the task of snow removal from sidewalks.

The next meeting of GAHWG is April 16, 2019.

- e) SAC – Communications Working Group (B. Thomson)
B. Thomson advised that there is a two-part kick-off to Senior’s Month – a day program and dance. B. Thomson inquired if the Committee should get a table and share with Age Friendly. The event is on Wednesday, May 29, 2019, if

committee members want to support a booth/table, they can advise the committee Chair.

f) Age Friendly Plan – Governance Committee (J. Mayo)

The Age Friendly Forum was held on April 2, 2019. At the event they reported back on study Part 1 of the plan and a kick off to the second part of the plan. Table groups at the forum provided comments that will be incorporated for the second part of the plan which will be ready for 2020.

J. Mayo advised that it would be good for the new committee to review the statistical profile of older Adults in Hamilton. Committee members provided feedback on the infographic indicating that the font used is difficult to read and the use of cursive style, despite font size, is difficult to read.

C. Fernandes advised that the infographic is missing the statistic on addiction and suicide.

g) Older Adult Network (D. Stone)

D. Stone advised that the kick off at the end of May for Seniors month in June is well on its way. There is going to be Dine and Dance in the evening at a cost of \$45.00/person and \$75 per couple.

h) International Day of Older Persons Committee (D. Stone)

The committee will be meeting in the upcoming weeks to confirm the date of the event in the fall of 2019

i) Seniors at Risk Community Collaboration (SARRC) (K. Thomson)

The main topic of the past few meetings has been focused on food/hunger situation within the City. At the May meeting, there was discussion about hoarding happening in large apartment buildings.

There are several subcommittees in this group and they are all trying to collect information related to specific themes.

Their focus is to address high level issues and working with the 30-plus communities that support the seniors group.

j) McMaster Institute for Research on Aging [MIRA] (B. Spinner)

B. Spinner advised that there needs to be more than subjects for MIRA. B. Spinner encouraged all committee members to be the eyes and ears of their senior cohort and to think in a broad sense to ask MIRA what to focus on. For example, DARTS, the City operates this services and the committee could ask that MIRA look at this resource and determine how it addresses needs,

Motion: (B. Spinner / P.Petrie)

Request that SAC invite the McMaster Office of Community Engagement to come and speak to the Committee.

Carried

k) Ontario Health Coalition (C. Fernandes)

C. Fernandes advised that there is a rally on April 30, 2019 at Queen's Park at 12:00pm. There is a bus leaving Hamilton earlier in the day, committee members can contact Janina Lebon if they would like to join (flyer distributed at the meeting).

l) Our Future Hamilton Update (P.Petrie)

m) Senior of the Year Award (P. Petrie)

The nomination period is closed. There were thirty-one candidates received and a judging panel has been chosen.

The event is scheduled for June 24, 2019 and the cost is \$30.00 per ticket

Motion: That SAC subsidize the cost of the tickets purchased by a committee member by \$10.00 for each member purchased ticket

(P.Petrie/ R.Kamath)

Carried

6. Other Business

2019 Budget expenditures

(P.Petrie/ J.Mayo)

To approve the spending of up to \$1,200 for the following upcoming event

- Sponsorship donation by Sac to: Senior Award Day (\$325); Senior Month sponsorship (\$625); International Day of the Older Person sponsorship of (\$250)

7. Business / Discussion Items

7.1 DARTS Board Application (B.Thomson)

DARTS is recruiting Board Members. The application is currently available. The Board meets on the fourth Thursday of every month (except summer and December). From 3:00pm to 4:30pm in room 224 – Audit and Risk management and Community Relations Committee

7.2 Information Sharing

B. Spinner advised that there is a production of “Ball Passing” a choreographed routine of passing a ball at the Burlington Performing Arts.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:10 pm

Next Meeting
Friday, May 3, 2019