



Hamilton

**Meeting Minutes
Seniors Advisory Committee
Friday, December 6, 2019
10:00am – 12:00pm
Rooms 192/193, City Hall, 71 Main Street West**

In Attendance:

Penelope Petrie (Chair), Ann Elliot, Marian Toth, Kamal Jain, Marjorie Wahlman, Aref Alshaikhahmed, Doug Stone, Jim McColl, Sarah Shallwani, Dahlia Petgrave, Maureen McKeating, Barry Spinner, David Broom, Jeanne Mayo, Carolann Fernandes, Sheryl Boblin

Absent with Regrets: Noor Nizam, Kamal Jain, Councillor Nrinder Nann, Councillor Tom Jackson.

Absent: Vince Mercuri, John Kennard

Also, in Attendance:

Jessica Bowen, Diversity and Inclusion, Human Resources
Lisa Maychak, Community and Emergency Services

Welcome and Introductions

1. Changes to the Agenda

That the following item be added to the agenda:

Item 5. 4: Burlington Free65 pass (B.Spinner)

(M.Wahlman / J.McColl)

That the agenda for December 6, 2019 be approved as amended.

2. Approval of Minutes

2.1 November 1, 2019, Meeting Minutes

Amendments:

- Removal of date for the area rating meeting.
- Revised date for next meeting to December 17, 2019

(J.McColl/S.Boblin)

That the minutes of November 1, 2019 be approved as amended.

CARRIED

3. Presentations

3.1 Holly Odoardi, Administrator for Macassa and Wentworth Lodges (deferred until January 2019)

4. Working Groups / Committees

4.1 Working Groups

a) Getting Around Hamilton Working Group

J. Mayo brought forward the following resolution:

(J.Mayo/M.Wahlman)

Whereas the Seniors Advisory Committee endorsed the 10 Year Transit Strategy adopted by Council in March 2015, which includes fare increases for seniors ages 65 to 80;

Whereas Hamilton City Council adopted the resolution Accelerating and Prioritizing Climate Action in Response to the Climate Emergency at the 27 March 2019 meeting;

Whereas the Climate Action Response states that actions must be taken to incorporate into existing plans and policies to achieve net zero carbon emissions before 2050;

Whereas the Seniors Advisory Committee endorses measures to reduce the number of cars driving on City streets;

The Seniors Advisory Committee urges Council to commit the necessary financial resources in the 2020 budget to ensure the continued implementation of the 10 Year Transit Strategy.

CARRIED

The committee extended an invitation to HSR staff (including DARTS) to share additional information with respect to the 10-year transit strategy.

J. Mayo advised pedestrian safety workshops are being organized for 2020 and they will likely begin in February or March. These are workshops where people's walking ability is assessed; education is provided in relation to crossovers; information on proper footwear, etcetera.

Area Rating:

(J.Mayo/B.Spinner)

Motion: That the Seniors Advisory Committee request to make a presentation to the Transit Area Rating Committee

CARRIED

The Getting Around Hamilton Working Group's next meeting is December 17, 2019 at 2:00pm at Sackville Recreation Centre.

b) Older Adult Elder Financial & Physical Abuse Working Group (D.Petgrave)

The working group met during the last week of November. Among the items the working groups discussed, they decided to approach this topic from a legal perspective and to disseminate information to the elderly. The working group wants to coordinate a pilot project with Hamilton Housing to utilize resources within the properties to get the information to the elderly in City owned building. This has to do with the accessibility of information.

The working group also connected with the Hamilton Law Association to ask a representative to visit the working group meeting and advise what they are currently doing in relation to

this area, so we can work that information in with the communications group to help broaden understanding

The other area that the working group is looking into is relation to “capacity assessors” - people who can assess older adults to determine what the process is for determining legal capacity.

c) Housing

The working group did not meet in November. Item deferred to the January meeting.

d) Communication (D.Broom)

The working group took the time to review the City of Hamilton’s website related to Seniors. The group found that this web page was very difficult to locate and to navigate. The following suggestions to enhance the accessibility of this webpage are as follows:

- Increase the font size.
- Add a button on the City’s home page that would take seniors directly to the seniors section.
- Add a video tutorial to the senior page to help explain the navigation process.
- Add the 211-explanation button.

The working group would like to extend an invitation to for a representative from Information Technology (IT) as well as the City’s Video Producer to attend a meeting to review the working group’s ideas and determine the possibility of making these recommended changes.

The working group also learned about the Age Friendly Plan and its strategic direction over the next 5 years. There was discussion about training Age Friendly Ambassadors and if anyone is interested they should call Shelagh Keily. Ann Elliott and Aref Alshaikhahmed have agreed to sit on the Age Friendly Hamilton communication working group.

The next meeting is January 22 at 1:00pm at City Hall, Room 192.

Committee members noted that the RedBook in Hamilton contained similar information that would be shared through 211.

4.2 Working Groups/Committees

a) Age Friendly Plan – Governance Committee

Consultation regarding the age friendly plan is ongoing. In spring, a proposal will be collated with the content collected through the consultation process. The proposal will go back to the three partners: Hamilton Council on Aging, Seniors Advisory Committee and the City of Hamilton. Then it will be presented to City Council, likely in February or March of 2020.

b) Older Adult Network (D.Stone)

The group has met recently. The first meeting is scheduled for February 2020.

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

The group has not been meeting. The first meeting is scheduled for February 2020.

e) McMaster Institute for Research on Aging (B.Spinner)

Subcommittee structure around end users. Two meetings per year.

f) Ontario Health Coalition (C.Fernandes)

g) Our Future Hamilton Update (J.McColl)

J. McColl attended the Our Future Hamilton Summit in November.

h) Senior of the Year Award

Nomination packages for this should be distributed in the near future.

5. Business / Discussion Items

5.1 Land Acknowledgment

The committee agreed to read the City of Hamilton Land Acknowledgment at the opening of the meetings.

(C.Fernandes/M.Toth)

The committee extended an invitation to a representative from the Urban Indigenous Strategy to share with the committee what the City is doing in relation to the Strategy. They are also requesting that the representative(s) provide some information in relation to the land acknowledgment and the Dish with One Spoon agreement.

CARRIED

5.2 Sponsorship Opportunities

Deferred to January meeting.

5.3 Proposed Resolution, Getting Around Hamilton Working Group

Resolution captured at Item 4.1 (a)

5.4 HARP Accessibility Program (B.Spinner)

B.Spinner advised that he came across the Bus Pass program in Burlington where Seniors ride for free when travelling in off-peak hours.

The committee is requesting that a representative from Burlington Transit be invited to an upcoming Seniors Advisory Committee meeting to discuss the rationale on the free bus pass program.

The committee advised that they would like to invite representatives from the following to speak with the committee:

- McMaster Community Engagement
- Home Hospice Services –
- Economic Planning and Development (in relation to the new apartment complex in Stoney Creek)

6. Other Business

No other business.

7. Adjournment

Next Meeting: Friday, January 3, 2020