



Hamilton

**Meeting Minutes  
Seniors Advisory Committee  
February 5, 2021  
10:00am – 12:00pm**

**Due to the COVID-19 and the Closure of City Hall  
All electronic meetings can be viewed at:  
City's YouTube Channel**

**<https://www.youtube.com/user/InsideCityofHamilton>**

---

**In Attendance:**

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

**Also, in Attendance:**

Cole Gately, Staff Liaison, Diversity and Inclusion, Office  
Taline Morris, Admin Assistant, Diversity and Inclusion Office  
Kim Varian, Executive Director, Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra  
Stephanie Laporte, Development and Special Events Coordinator  
Lennox Toppin, Manager of Development and Strategic Partnerships,  
Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra

**Absent with Regrets:** Dahlia Petgrave, Councillor Jackson

**Absent:** Vince Mercuri, Noor Nizam

---

**1. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES**

Land Acknowledgement presented by A. Alshaikhahmed

M.Toth volunteered to read Land Acknowledgement next meeting

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

C. Fernandes suggested having a moment of silence after the land acknowledge in lieu of all the seniors that have been lost due to the COVID

That the following items be added to the agenda:

Item 1 - Presentation regarding Park Furniture by Bryan Carey, City of Hamilton  
Item 2 - M. McKeating suggested discussion and death of seniors in long term care homes.

**(S. Boblin/Wahlman)**

That the agenda for February 5, 2021 be approved as amended.

**CARRIED**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

J. Mayo provided typographical edits.

**(M. Wahlman/ M. Toth)**

That the Senior's Advisory Committee approves the December 4, 2020 Minutes as amended, with typographical edits.

**CARRIED**

**4. COMMUNICATIONS**

**i. Correspondence regarding Citizen Committee Reports (Item 5.1)**

Committee members expressed frustration, concerns and discussed the potential impact on committee procedures as several agencies seek support for grant applications that are time sensitive from the Senior Advisory Committee. Committee members decided to create a committee statement to be submitted to Clerk's office in response to correspondence regarding Citizen Committee Report.

**(J. Mayo/ M. Wahlman)**

That the Senior Advisory Committee will create a statement to the office of the clerk's in response to the correspondence regarding Citizen Committee Report. In addition, the statement will also address the importance of having communication amongst all the advisory committees. This statement will be circulated to all members of the Senior Advisory Committee and then sent to staff for forwarding to the Clerk's office.

**CARRIED**

**ii. Committee Member Resignation (item 5.2)**

**(M. Toth/ D. Broom)**

That the Senior Advisory Committee receives the resignation of J. McColl.

**CARRIED**

**9. STAFF PRESENTATIONS**

**i. Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra**

Lennox Toppin, Manager of Development and Strategic Partnerships with

the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra (HPO), Kim Varian, Executive Director, with the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra and Stephanie Laporte, Development and Special Events Coordinator with the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra, spoke with the Senior Advisory Committee about senior initiatives such as the Senior Symphony experience, being delivered by the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra. Programs include Classical 101 lectures, Chamber ensemble performances and a talk and tea programs. Seniors Connect is a program developed by the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra to help senior's facing barriers attend performances. Due to the pandemic, virtual programming has now been implemented. Short discussion followed regarding reaching more seniors and possible future partnerships. L. Maychak suggested reaching out to recreation departments in Long Term Care Homes. Staff to disseminate contact information of Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra to Senior Advisory Committee members.

**ii. Parks Furniture (Added Item 1)**

Bryan Carey, Superintendent for Park operations, City of Hamilton presented to the senior advisory committee on Park's furniture including picnic tables and park benches. Bryan reported his aim is to increase accessibility to park furniture. The presentation included the aid of a PowerPoint presentation with picture of possible changes to parks furniture. A brief Question and answer period took place following the presentation. Committee members are encouraged to send all feedback directly to [bryan.carey@hamilton.ca](mailto:bryan.carey@hamilton.ca).

**10. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**i. Working Groups (Item 10.1)**

**a. Getting Around Hamilton Working Group**

J. Mayo: Every year during budget deliberations, The City Council has open delegations on transit issues. This year it will take place on February 8<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. J. Mayo requested and was approved and will be delegating respecting the need for transit options for rural areas. All are encouraged to tune in via the City of Hamilton's YouTube page. J. Mayo also advised that the working group is now working on the accessibility of e-bikes on trails. The would like an update re: snow removal. Next meeting is February 18<sup>th</sup> at 1pm.

**b. Older Adult Financial & Physical Abuse Working Group**

D. Broom reported that the last meeting was January 15, 2021 at 11am. There was discussion regarding seniors in long term care homes and was attended by a representative from the Hamilton Police Services. There was also discussion about creating packages to be distributed to seniors and providing victim services information via closed circuit television in senior's residences. February 19, 2021 at 1pm

**b. Housing Working Group**

There are no updates from this group

**c. Communication Working Group**

D. Broom: The last meeting was February 5, 2021. J. Mayo attended meeting and presented on resources discovered while working at cable 14. There was discussion regarding inviting Tammy Dumas from 211 to present to the group. L. Maychak is assisting with coordinating a presentation from the City's communication department. Group is still working on editing webpage information. Next meeting is February 17, 2021 at 1pm. L. Maychak advised that all webpage suggestions has been submitted to IT and is awaiting a response. J. Mayo mentioned the need for a centralized source of information to seniors.

**ii. Committees (Item 10. 2)**

**a. Age Friendly Plan - Governance Committee**

J. Mayo advised that they are currently working on the final version of the 2020- 2026 Age friendly plan that will be sent to city council for approval. P. Petrie as chair, to reach out to A. Elliot regarding attendance at Working group and Senior Advisory Committee Meetings.

**b. Older Adult Network**

Committee meeting to take place in February to discuss hosting a virtual even in June.

**c. International Day of Older Persons Committee**

L. Maychak reports that this committee is considering a virtual event this year.

**d. McMaster Institute for Research on Aging**

There is nothing to report

**e. Ontario Health Coalition**

C. Fernandes advised that the most recent reports from the Ontario Health Coalition are disturbing. As per reports, residents in Long Term Care are lying in urine-soaked mattresses, elders are dying at 1 per hour, and there are acceptable levels of infections. In 2020, For profit Long Term Care homes made a profit of 170 million, and no one has lost a license so far.

There was discussion that long term care homes are not being properly inspected as homes are receiving advance notice of inspections and inspectors are only looking for specific reports and not looking at the general conditions of the long term care homes.

**f. Our Future Hamilton Update**

There are no updates

**g. Senior of the Year Award**

There are no updates

**12. GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS**

**i. Long Term Care Homes (Added Item 2)**

There members of the Senior Advisory Committee discussed the state of seniors in Long Term Care homes and brainstormed ways to lend support.

M. McKeating expressed that the senior advisory Committee should put forth a statement expressing their regret in response to the state of seniors in long term care home.

P. Petrie stated that she communicated with the Police Department and inquired about inviting a member of the Hamilton Police Service to speak with the Senior Advisory Committee regarding this issue. She is still awaiting a response and may touch base with councilor Jackson regarding this issue. D. Broom also expressed support for the Police attending a meeting as there does not appear to be any deterrents that will force long term care homes to change practices.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

**(P.Petrie)**

That the Senior's Advisory Committee adjourned at 12:24 p.m.

Next Meeting: March 5, 2021