



Hamilton

**Seniors Advisory
Committee**

Minutes

October 1, 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, Jeanne Mayo, Maureen McKeating, Barry Spinner, Douglas Stone, Marian Toth, Marjorie Wahlman, Ann Elliott, Kamal Jain, Dahlia Petgrave, Carolann Fernandes, David Bloom, Sarah Shallwani, Noor Nizam

Also, in Attendance:

Lisa Maychak, Project Manager, Healthy & Safe Communities Department
Kim VanderMeulen, Program Secretary, Healthy & Safe Communities
Sonya Baldwin, Program Secretary, Healthy & Safe Communities
Trevor Jenkins, Project Manager, Sustainable Mobility Planning and Economic Development
Brian Hollingworth, Director, Sustainable Mobility Planning and Economic Development

Absent with Regrets:

Tom Jackson, City Councillor, Marjorie Wahlman

Absent:

Vince Mercuri, Dahlia Petgrave, Nrinder Nann

1. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES (Item 1)

Land Acknowledgement presented by A. Elliott

A. Alshaikhahmed has volunteered to read the Land Acknowledgement at the next meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 2)

(S. Boblin/A. Elliott)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee approves the October 1, 2021 agenda, as presented.

CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 4)

(C. Fernandes/A. Alshaikhahmed)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee approves the Sep 10, 2021 Minutes.

CARRIED

4. STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 9)

(i) "Complete, Livable, Better Streets Design", Trevor Jenkins, Project Manager and Brian Hollingworth, Director, Sustainable Mobility Planning and Economic Development.

T. Jenkins provided a presentation to the committee on Hamilton's Complete, Liveable, Better Streets Design. T. Jenkins ended his presentation with an opportunity for a question and answer period for the Senior Advisory Committee. Additional information can be found at <https://www.hamilton.ca/streets-transportation/streets-sidewalks/complete-livable-better-clb-streets>

(J. Mayo/A. Elliott)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee receive the presentation by Trevor Jenkins, Project Manager, Sustainable Mobility Planning and Economic Development, City of Hamilton.

CARRIED

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 10)

**(i) Proposed Resolution
Vaccinations at Macassa and Wentworth Lodges.**

J. Mayo brought before forward the following resolution
Mandatory COVID vaccinations at Macassa and
Wentworth Lodges

(J. Mayo/D. Broom)

Whereas all the residents who live at Macassa and Wentworth Lodges are seniors who have compromised health problems;

Whereas seniors who have compromised health problems are the most vulnerable population to acquire COVID and are the most likely to die from it;

Whereas those who have been vaccinated against COVID are very unlikely to acquire COVID nor to pass on the virus to others;

Whereas the Health Protection and Promotion Act mandates that the Chief Medical Officer of Health of Ontario to direct that all covered organizations must establish, implement and ensure compliance with a COVID-19 vaccination policy that requires its employees, staff, contractors, volunteers and students to provide a proof of full vaccination or a written medical reason for exemption;

Whereas not all the staff at Macassa and Wentworth Lodges have been vaccinated against COVID and yet continue to work there;

Whereas several deaths from COVID have been reported amongst the residents of the Lodges;

Whereas the Seniors Advisory Committee's mandate is be a credible communication vehicle regarding the quality of life for all seniors in the City;

- (a) The Seniors Advisory Committee urges the City to immediately impose an immediate requirement for all staff to be vaccinated and to forbid anyone from entering the buildings who has not been vaccinated;
- (b) Because the situation is dire and potentially life-threatening for all residents, that Councillors Tom Jackson and Nirinder Nann be informed of this resolution immediately and communicate it to the Mayor and all other Councillors

CARRIED

(ii) Working Groups (Item 10.1)

(a) Getting Around Hamilton Working Group

J. Mayo reported that Waterdown now has an on-demand transit pilot service. There was an increase in fares as of Sept 1. The Senior monthly and yearly pass also raised in price. The trans cab service in Stoney creek currently has issues but the group plans to deal with that at the next meeting. Also, a reminder that it is now the responsibility of the individual to renew their driver's license and vehicle sticker as the province is no longer sending out notices. This group is currently organizing workshops with the Hamilton Council on Aging. They have also made a funding proposal made to the Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility.

(b) Elder Abuse Working Group

P. Petrie reported that there has been no movement at this time with the safety videos and Hamilton Police Services (HPS) and is unsure of what the delay is. The group was able to obtain statistics on elder abuse but have not had time to review yet. C. Fernandes has some booklets with information and informed the group that the HPS used to have workshops available for groups. Elder Abuse working group will investigate these workshops with HPS. P. Petrie mentioned getting someone from Catholic Family Services to come and speak to this advisory committee. P. Petrie has some contact names and will share them to with L. Maychak to contact.

(c) Housing Working Group

M. Toth reported that Jane Murrell, Supervisor-Health Hazards & Vector Disease, City Hamilton spoke to the group regarding City strategies for Heat Mitigation, such as opening cooling centres with bottled water available.

J. Murrell outlined the warning system that come from Climate Canada to the City and the criteria used to prompt the warnings.

The City of Hamilton has engaged landlords and offered suggestions to them to support their tenant's well-being during heat waves. Some interior building temperatures can be hotter than outside conditions. Currently, the City of Hamilton has no by-laws to enforce strategies nor an

emergency plan for heat events as exists for extreme winter conditions. Because of Climate Changes, such heat events are increasing in intensity and frequency, making the need for citizen safety more critical.

(c) Communication Working Group

D. Bloom reported the group's last meeting was cancelled and the next meeting is booked for October 20, 2021.

(iii) Working Committees (Item 10. 2)

(a) Age Friendly Plan - Governance Committee

A. Elliott reported that the list of members has been updated, and draft terms of reference was reviewed. The group looked at what recommendations should be focused on for the next year. A. Elliott encourages all SAC committee members to read the report with the seven areas and the recommendations.

(b) Older Adult Network

There are no updates at this time.

(c) International Day of Older Persons Committee

D. Stone reported that International Day of Older Persons is happening today, Oct 1, 2021. This event will be aired on Cable 14 at 8pm Oct 1, 2021 and will be moderated by Connie Smith.

(d) McMaster Institute for Research on Aging

There are no updates from this committee.

(e) Ontario Health Coalition

C. Fernandes reported that the Ontario Health Coalition will be holding a meeting on Monday October 4, 2021 beginning at noon at Gore Park. This event will be held to hold government accountable.

(f) Our Future Hamilton Update

There are no updates from this committee

(g) Senior of the Year Award

L. Maychak reported the event will be televised on Oct 23, 2021 at 7pm on Cable 14 and the City YouTube channel. Video interviews were completed with all nominees and will be included. The week after the show is aired all winners and nominees will receive a certificate and gift. At this time there is hope that next year will be able to be done in person and there is a plan to invite this year's nominees to attend.

6. GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Light Rail Transit – letter of support

From the previous June minutes, it was raised by M. McKeating to send a letter of support of the Light Rail Transit (LRT). At this time the City has approved, and a letter of support is not required at this time. L Maychak suggested the committee could submit a CCR to give support.

J. Mayo requested that the June minutes to be amended to read "a motion to support LRT and accepted by a majority vote" and re-issued minutes to the committee. L Maychak to request clarity on this process.

(ii) Feedback Social Determents of Health Covid19

- Impressed with addressing challenges for vulnerable populations during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- In terms of the data, what are the next steps in addressing the inequities faced by vulnerable populations? Has there already been actions taken? If there have been actions taken SAC would like to know what has been done. A presentation to the committee would be greatly appreciated. Perhaps in December 2021?
- In terms of moving forward, SAC would like to be consulted.

Next steps – L. Maychak to request an update.

(iii) All Advisory Committee Meeting

J. Mayo found that the meeting seemed controlled by the City staff. The meeting was long because of the number of Advisory committees participating. Looking forward to future collaboration with other groups.

S. Boblin appreciated hearing from all the different groups but found there was limited time for discussion. It seemed that all groups related there is a need for communication between all as everyone seems to be experiencing similar issues.

P. Petrie commented that it was very interesting but there are issues finding items on the City website there seems to be an unclear path on how the public is to engage communication directly with the committee. Members were able to link with other groups to communicate with during this meeting.

L. Maychak provided clarification for public engagement that community members would contact the staff liaison for their assigned advisory committee.

M. Toth commented that possibly working with other groups may not be as powerful but individual groups working alone coming forth with the same issues may be more effective.

(iv) Proposed Resolution

Item moved to Discussion Items (Item 10.0)

- (v)** D. Broom provided an update on the deputation he had to the Hamilton Police Services Board as an individual citizen, not as a member of the Seniors Advisory Committee on May 21, 2021 regarding police investigation of abuse in long-term care facilities. D. Broom has reached out to Constable Andrea McLaughlin, Senior Support Officer, Hamilton Police Services, asking specific questions and requesting more information about what is currently happening at this time. A response was received that she is not the correct contact person. At this time, it is unclear on what will happen. It was suggested that committee could plan to advise council and J. Mayo suggested that D. Broom prepare a proposed resolution for the next meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)

(S. Boblin/M. Toth)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee be adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

CARRIED

Next Meeting: November 5, 2021