



Hamilton

**Seniors Advisory
Committee**

Minutes

December 3, 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 Broom, 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
Tom Jackson, City Councilor, City of Hamilton
Megan Lynch, Manager, Greater Hamilton Health Network

Absent with Regrets:

Maureen McKeating, Sonya Baldwin

Absent:

Vince Mercuri, Dahlia Petgrave

1. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES (Item 1)

Land Acknowledgement presented by A. Elliott

P. Petrie has volunteered to read the Land Acknowledgement at the next meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 2)

(D.Broom/M/Wahlman)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee approves the December 3, 2021 agenda, as presented.

CARRIED

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

M. Wahlman stated that on page 3 of the November 5, 2021 minutes under Working Groups (Elder Abuse) it should read: "They will be inviting Catholic Family services to attend a working group meeting to speak."

D. Broom stated that under the Working Groups (Communications) his surname is stated as "Bloom" and should read: "Broom."

(D. Broom/M. Wahlman)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee approves the November 5, 2021 minutes.

CARRIED

5. CONSENT ITEMS

- 7.1** Received the All Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of September 27, 2021

6. STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 9)

- (i)** Megan Lynch, Manager of Priority Populations, Greater Hamilton Health Network

M. Lynch presented on the Ontario Health Teams strategy for Hamilton and their strategic priorities. The Seniors Advisory committee was given an opportunity for a question and answer period following the presentation. M. Lynch will provide an application to be distributed to the committee for interest to be a patient advisor on the stakeholder group.

(ii) International Federation on Ageing Conference

S. Boblin and J. Mayo presented on the International Federation Conference they attended that took place virtually November 9-12, 2021.

(C. Fernandes/ A. Alshaikhahmed)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee receive the presentations by Megan Lynch, Greater Hamilton Health Network and members S. Boblin and J. Mayo, Seniors Advisory Committee.

CARRIED

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 10)**(i) Working Groups (Item 10.1)****(a) Getting Around Hamilton Working Group**

J. Mayo reported that the committee is planning a "Let's Get Walking" workshop planned for February and March 2022. There is a plan for five presentations in total and an opportunity for feedback from participants on problem walking areas in their neighbourhood. The hope is that between 10-15 people will attend each workshop. There is also a plan to provide a \$5 gift card from Tim Hortons for each participant. The City of Hamilton, Recreation Division has offered five various sites around Hamilton for free and will provide Covid-19 screening and a water station. The publicity and registration will be done by the Hamilton Council on Aging (HCoA) for each workshop. HCoA had applied to the Ministry of Seniors for a grant to cover the workshops but unfortunately was not chosen. At this point it is unclear what the cost for publicity and registration will be.

Member B. Spinner offered to personally donate \$1000.00 towards the "Let's Get Walking" workshops in 2022.

(b) Elder Abuse Working Group

A. Alshaikhahmed reported that he shared a presentation with the committee on elder abuse and after discussing, it was recommended by the committee that it be presented at the next Senior Advisory Committee meeting. The group had a discussion on the importance of communication with organizations and centres and that their programs include elder abuse and creating a network. The purpose of this network is to explore strengths and weaknesses of addressing elder abuse and the changes faced as well as strategies. For example, there is an approach called mediation that could be implemented when police are not involved, and the abuser is a family member.

Discussion of finding a website that is specific to seniors where all information is available in one place. Andrea McLaughlin, Seniors Support Officer with Hamilton Police Services indicated that she is currently working on this issue and will update progress at the next meeting.

The Hamilton Public Library's Redbook has added seniorshamilton.ca, which is an online guide titled "Community Resources in Hamilton for Older Adults". Other elder abuse website information can also be found at Ontario Human Rights Commission and Canadian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse.

During the discussion, the abuse that has been carried out in long-term care homes was mentioned. A. McLaughlin clarified that if there are avenues in the long-term care home it should be reported and if criminal charges are not laid it does not mean nothing has been done about it. There are many factors in place such as victims not wanting a charge to be laid.

(c) Housing Working Group

November's meeting was cancelled due to a conflict with the Extreme Heat Working Group Meeting hosted by Andrea McDowell, Project Manager of Hamilton's Air Quality and Climate Change. J. Mayo and M. Toth attended this meeting. The focus of the meeting was to discuss the survey to be given to residents of four downtown City Housing buildings to determine needs and see how those needs could be addressed. The survey was developed by McMaster students

and will be tweaked by the committee. The second discussion was around how to roll out the survey and what incentives could be provided to enhance compliance to filling out and returning the survey.

Lauren McAusland of Mohawk College and from The Bay Area Climate Change Council Retrofit Education for Seniors was invited to attend our Housing Working Group meeting this month. This group has started a market education campaign to inform residents about home energy efficiency upgrades and retrofits that can help reduce energy consumption and costs. Her group would appreciate any suggestions or guidance on who they should approach to discuss displaying these materials at community and senior centres in Hamilton. We have much to learn from her as we continue with our discussions on heat mitigation issues as they apply to seniors.

(d) Communication Working Group

D. Broom reported that the group continued to discuss the benefits of the Brown Bag Lunch (BBL) which is operated by the Hamilton Public Library. Staff with the BBL will email all organizations in the guide "Community Resources in Hamilton for Older Adults in January, encouraging them to become members of the BBL network.

February 11, 2022 is 211 day and it was discussed that a recommendation be made to the City to fly a banner.

L. Maychak stated that banners can be costly and suggested utilizing the City's two digital signs (City Hall and Gage Park) to promote 211 Day on February 11, 2022. All agreed to this idea. L. Maychak to consult with the City's Communications staff to see if this is possible.

City program Senior Centre Without Walls is available that offers free fitness, art programs and workshops over the phone to residents 55 years and older to help deal with isolation. The Communications Working Group will begin working on a flyer for SAC which will be discussed at a future meeting.

(ii) Working Committees (Item 10. 2)

(a) Age Friendly Plan - Governance Committee

A. Elliott reported that the committee is moving along and that there are now two goal champions in place for each of the seven goals. Working on getting more organizations to link up with the Age-Friendly Plan. The goal champions gave their reports.

(b) Older Adult Network

There are no updates at this time.

(c) International Day of Older Persons Committee

There are no updates at this time.

(d) McMaster Institute for Research on Aging

There are no updates from this committee.

(e) Ontario Health Coalition

C. Fernandes will continue to send the committee email updates through L. Maychak.

(f) Our Future Hamilton Update

There are no updates from this committee.

(g) Senior of the Year Award

There are no updates from this committee.

8. MOTIONS

(i) Let's Get Walking Workshop

(J. Mayo/S. Boblin)

J. Mayo proposes a motion that the Senior Advisory

Committee (SAC) is to fund up to \$500.00 to cover the publicity and registration costs for the 2022 "Let's Get Walking" in-person workshops from the Senior Advisory Committee's 2022 budget.

CARRIED

9. GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS

(i) 211 Day

L. Maychak to look into placing a banner at City Hall for 211 Day on Feb 11, 2022, but also to look at an alternate possibility of utilizing the digital signs at City Hall or Gage Park to create messages as well as using social media.

(ii) Councilor Jackson Updates

Councilor Jackson provided the following updates to the committee:

- The Truck Route study is currently ongoing and available on the Engage Hamilton website. Staff and consultants have been asked to report back after more consultation. There is still plenty of time for community feedback.
- Have not heard back anything yet from the province on the City's ask for a 27-million-dollar renovation and expansion of the D wing. The plan is that the current 44 beds in D wing are to be demolished and a new wing would be built with 64 new beds.
- Water rate budget was approved at about a 4.9% increase. This will go towards upgrading the Woodward Avenue treatment plant, rehabilitation of Chedoke Creek and Cootes Paradise and the Kenilworth reservoir of contaminated soil.

- Capital budget approved of 6.5% increase for upgrades to roadwork, sidewalks, public transit investment, recreation centers and arenas. Currently waiting on Council's ratification.
- Senior's tax rebate and a full tax deferral program is available to seniors pending income and home market value assessment.

10. ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)

(M. Wahlman/D. Broom)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee be adjourned at 12:14p.m.

CARRIED

Next Meeting: January 7, 2021