



Hamilton

**Seniors Advisory  
Committee**

**Minutes**

**November 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>**

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**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, 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

**Absent with Regrets:** Kamba Ankunda

**Absent:**

Vince Mercuri, Dahlia Petgrave

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**1. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES (Item 1)**

Land Acknowledgement presented by A. Alshaikhahmed

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

## **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 2)**

**(M. Wahlman/A. Elliott)**

That the Seniors Advisory Committee approves the November 5, 2021 agenda, as presented.

**CARRIED**

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

**(M. Wahlman/S. Boblin)**

That the Seniors Advisory Committee approves the October 1, 2021 Minutes.

**CARRIED**

## **10. DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 10)**

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

#### **(a) Getting Around Hamilton Working Group**

J. Mayo reported that J. Adams from Hamilton Street Railway (HSR) attended meeting and presented to group the Waterdown Transit Pilot on demand project. The one-year pilot project is going well but with some issues still to be fixed. Working group will look at extensions of other non-served areas. Trans cab issues in reduction of service so HSR has renegotiated and the service has improved somewhat. Possible future changes to this with the new (Re) Envision Strategy. A new analysis will be completed to include the LRT. Some adjustments with more buses have been made however service has been impacted with vaccination status of drivers at this time.

Recommendations to be made from the Better Street's presentation:

- much larger street signs
- Stop signs with flashing lights to alert drivers if there is sun or foliage obstructing their view.

Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities (ACPD) meeting in October for Transportation

SAC has offered collaboration with ACPD to make presentation to the City about adapted cabs situation. Taxi cabs are currently in a dire situation due to Covid19 impacts, especially adapted for wheelchair cabs, as well as the number of drivers has decreased. Other ride share companies do not have to provide adapted vehicles and make a yearly payment to the City of \$20,000 in order to not provide this service. Shortage and delay are partly due to Darts only being able to take one passenger per cab and cleaning.

A Pedestrian Safety workshop is being planned and the group is awaiting a funding decision submitted by key partner for this project, Hamilton Council on Aging.

**(b) Elder Abuse Working Group**

M. Wahlman reported that they will invite Catholic Family Services to come and speak to the advisory committee about Elder Abuse. Funds to put toward education on Senior abuse is currently being investigated. An email was sent to Officer Andrea McLaughlin to inquire if there have been any updates to the Hamilton Police Services website or if resources for senior abuse can be added. Elder abuse website for webinars and resources.

Next meeting will occur on November 19 at 1pm.

**(c) Housing Working Group**

M. Toth reported that Andrea McDowell presented at their working group meeting regarding extreme heat. Marian to provide summary of Working Group meeting. Adaption plan to be ready by summer 2022 and share with. J. Mayo and M. Toth will attend the next meeting and will defer Housing Working Group meeting until Dec 9.

**(d) Communication Working Group**

D. Broom reported that L. Maychak provided an email update. The City's website will be updated next year, and SAC will be consulted. The Public Library's Brown Bag Lunch (BBL) will send out communication encouraging more organizations to join. BBL will be used as a communication vehicle for SAC. Chris D'Agostino from the library has joined this work group.

Senior's without computers can attend their local public library branch and print off their QR code and have it laminated for free. Next meeting will occur on Nov 17.

Age-Friendly Plan is a partnership with Hamilton Council on Aging (HCoA), City of Hamilton and Seniors Advisory Committee.

Currently the status of this community plan is to create an implementation plan.

Aref suggested inviting someone from HCoA to a future meeting and speak about the Age Friendly plan and other projects that may align with this.

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

**(a) Age Friendly Plan - Governance Committee**

P. Petrie reported that there are now two committees. The Governance which provides overall guidance and decision – making. Beginning stages and at last meeting discussed terms of reference, meeting frequency. The second, the Collaborative Committee is comprised of goal champions responsible for moving recommendations in the Plan forward.

**(b) Older Adult Network**

There are no updates from this committee.

**(b) International Day of Older Persons Committee**

L. Maychak asked the committee if they had any comments regarding the show airing Oct 1, 2021. L. Maychak will send out the link to the committee.

**(c) McMaster Institute for Research on Aging**

There are no updates from this committee.

**(d) Ontario Health Coalition**

C. Fernandes will continue to email out all updates to the committee.

**(e) Our Future Hamilton Update**

There are no updates from this committee

**(f) Senior of the Year Award**

Congratulations to Jeanne Mayo, the winner of the 2021 Senior of the Year Award. This virtual event took place on Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> on cable 14. 9 award winners and facilitated video interviews with all. After the show, winners were visited and given awards and photos taken. Next steps are to review the program from this year and start planning for next year's awards.

**11. MOTIONS**

D. Broom brought forward the following resolution

Hamilton Police Service Board and Hamilton Police Service failure to provide adequate and effective police services in the City of Hamilton

**(D. Broom/N. Nizam)**

WHEREAS the COVID 19 pandemic continues to have a negative impact on senior residents living in retirement and long-term care homes ("homes") throughout Canada, Ontario, and the City of Hamilton.

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2021, Detective Sgt. Darrin Murphy of the Hamilton Police Service ("HPS") appeared before the City of Hamilton's Senior Advisory Committee to explain the HPS investigative response regarding the 119 resident deaths in Hamilton homes during the COVID 19 pandemic period.

WHEREAS, on April 30, 2021, the Ontario Long-Term Care COVID Commission Final Report concluded the cause of death of approximately 33 % of residents in Ontario homes resulted from neglect, malnutrition, and dehydration, NOT Covid 19. An aggravating factor contributing to these deaths and unacceptable living conditions was a lack of adequate and effective staffing by the licensees of these homes.

WHEREAS, the Senior Advisory Committee was displeased with the inadequate HPS investigative response into the 119 resident deaths occurring in 4 Long-Term Care homes in the City of Hamilton. Therefore, on May 21, 2021, as a private citizen, Mr. David Broom appeared before and gave a deputation to the Hamilton Police Services Board ("Board") highlighting for the Board, details of the inadequate HPS effort.

WHEREAS, on May 21, 2021, the Board requested Hamilton Police Chief Frank Bergen report back to the Board at a future meeting and provide “more fulsome comment” relating to the care and deaths of residents in Long-Term Care and Retirement homes in the City of Hamilton.

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021, Chief of Police Frank Bergen through Deputy Chief Ryan Diodati reported back to the Board asserting that from January 2020 through June 16, 2021, the Coroner’s Office investigated only 31 deaths, specifically at Long-Term Care homes in the City of Hamilton. Of these, only 4 were reviewed by the HPS and none of the four were deemed to be criminal in nature.

WHEREAS the HPS and the Board failed to address the remaining 88 of the 119 deaths that took place in these homes in the City of Hamilton.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That Council for the City of Hamilton be made aware that 88 of the remaining 119 deaths in Hamilton’s Long-Term Care Homes require HPS investigation and that such inaction constitutes inadequate and ineffective police service as set out under section 31(1) of the Police Services Act.

That the Chief of Police Frank Bergen and the Hamilton Police Services Board appear before Council to explain why these 88 deaths have not been adequately investigated.

**CARRIED**

K. Jain was marked as OPPOSED to the above motion

### **13. GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **(i) Code of Conduct**

P. Petrie

- To request clarification on position of the chair and speaking to the media to Special General Issues Committee meeting.

#### **(ii) Potential Speakers/Future Presentations**

- Cancer Assistance Program  
[Gala – Cancer Assistance Program](#)
- International Federation on Aging Conference presenters
- Ontario Health Coalition
- Greater Hamilton Network (to attend in December)

- Speaker from Aboriginal Community
- Elder Abuse Ontario

Members to contact P. Petrie or L. Maychak with any ideas for future presentations.

**(iii) 2022 Budget Review**

**(S. Boblin/A. Elliott)**

That the Senior Advisory Committee continue to support Senior Awards, Seniors Kickoff event and International Day of Older Persons (IDOP) in the same amount as 2021 for the upcoming 2022 budget year.

**CARRIED**

**(iv) Amendment of June 4, 2021 Minutes**

**(M. Wahlman/A. Elliott)**

To accept the amended minutes of June 4, 2021 with the addition of the motion to support the Light Rail Transit (LRT).

**CARRIED**

**(v) Updates**

Councilor T. Jackson updated the following to the Senior Advisory Committee:

- that the October Resolution of Macassa/Wentworth Lodges resolution submitted was received at Emergency & Community Services Committee unanimously for the official minutes, 98% of Macassa staff are vaccinated and 96% of Wentworth staff are vaccinated.
- Snow Angels not enough volunteers for the number of residents. A report will be submitted to Emergency & Community Services Committee in the next few weeks.
- Equipment to clear main arteries of snow will not be ready until 2021-22 season
- Meeting to occur regarding ambulances sitting in entrance ramps of hospital.

- City Hall re-opening will be updated when more information is available.

## **15. ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)**

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

That the Seniors Advisory Committee be adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

**CARRIED**

Next Meeting: December 3, 2021