



Hamilton

**Seniors Advisory
Committee**

February 3, 2023

Minutes 23-002

10:00am

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), Maureen McKeating, Marian Toth, Marjorie Wahlman,
David Broom, Alexander Huang, Tom Manzuk, Noor Nizam, Aref
Alshaikhahmed, Barry Spinner, Carolann Fernandes, Kamal Jain

Also, in Attendance:

Lisa Maychak, Project Manager, Healthy & Safe Communities Department
Kim VanderMeulen, Program Secretary, Healthy & Safe Communities Department
Graeme Wallace, Program Secretary, Healthy & Safe Communities Department

Absent with Regrets:

Councilor N. Nann, Councilor T. Jackson, Kathryn Wakeman, Ann Elliott,
Sheryl Boblin, Peter Lesser

Absent: Steve Benson

1. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES (Item 1)

- (i) Land Acknowledgement presented by P. Petrie.
A. Alshaikhahmed has volunteered to read the Land Acknowledgement at the next meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 2)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee approves the February 3, 2023 agenda, as presented
(M. Wahlman/D. Broom)

CARRIED

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

(i) Spelling correction of D. Broom's surname.

(K. Jain/M. Wahlman)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee approves the January 6, 2023 minutes, as amended.

CARRIED

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 10)

(i) Working Groups (Item 10.1)

(M. Wahlman/ M. Toth)

That the following updates be received:

(a) Getting Around Hamilton Working Group

- There are no updates from this working group.

(b) Elder Abuse Working Group

A. Alshaikhahmed provided a brief recap of elder abuse working group meeting featuring a presentation from Sheila Schuehle with Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario (EAPO). She indicated that they developed a roadmap for elder abuse prevention that will be disseminated across Canada.

A. Alshaikhahmed indicated that there is not an elder abuse support network in Hamilton and that EAPO indicated they could assist in developing one. K. Jain is a board member of the Hamilton Council on Aging (HCoA) and offered to inquire if the board would be interested in helping to create the network. C. Fernandes stated that Catholic Family Services (CFS) had done some work around elder abuse prevention but this organization is closing soon. L. Maychak offered to contact staff at CFS to ask if other community organizations are taking over some of their programs and services.

(c) Housing Working Group

M. Toth provided an update on the last working group meeting that took place on January 16, 2023. The group is working on updating the guide, *Housing Options for Older Adults in Hamilton* (<https://www.hamilton.ca/sites/default/files/2022-07/HSAC-hamilton-housing-options-guide-seniors-older-adults.pdf>).

C. Fernandes raised seniors dealing with homelessness as an issue that could be addressed.

L. Maychak mentioned that St. Matthew's House received funding to build a residence for seniors who are Black and Indigenous. P. Petrie indicated that Kiwanis Housing Corporation also received funding for housing development.

(d) Communication Working Group

D. Broom reported that at the January 18, 2023 communications working group meeting, Meg DeForest from the Hamilton Public Library who is responsible for the Red Book and Brown Bag Lunch (BBL) network was unable to attend due to work commitments.

M. McKeating suggested that the Seniors Advisory Committee (SAC) could make a presentation to City Council, especially to newly elected officials around the role of SAC and some of their achievements. P. Petrie indicated that a presentation from SAC's chair to City Council is always facilitated at the end of each year. Communications about SAC could potentially be included in City Council newsletters that are distributed to their constituents, which would include seniors.

C. Fernandes shared some ideas on how SAC could be more inclusive and diverse. D. Broom brought up the BBL network as a possible resource.

A. Huang offered to make a slideshow presentation of key messages for the committee. L. Maychak indicated that a presentation would have to be approved by Council.

M. McKeating suggested moving some of these ideas to the next communications working group meeting.

(ii) Working Committees (Item 10.2)

(M. Wahlman/M. Toth)

That the following updates be received:

(a) Age Friendly Plan - Governance Committee

L. Maychak provided an update on the recruitment of more Age-Friendly goal champions and the Age-Friendly survey that closed February 1, 2023.

(b) Seniors Kick Off Event

L. Maychak reported that this year's Seniors Kick Off Event is planning to be held at Sackville Senior Centre.

(c) International Day of Older Persons Committee

There are no updates from this committee.

(d) McMaster Institute for Research on Aging

B. Spinner updated the committee on MIRA (McMaster Institute Research on Aging) and that they have created a Community Partner Network.

(e) Ontario Health Coalition

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

(f) Our Future Hamilton Update

L. Maychak provided an update about Our Future Hamilton (OFH). That is, a newsletter continues to be distributed and includes information about community initiatives, projects and events but is unsure if they will continue to host an annual public event like they did in the past.

(g) Senior of the Year Award

L. Maychak reported the nominations will launch in April during National Volunteer Week with a deadline date at the end of June, and that the event will be hosted in October.

6. GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS (Item 13)

(ii) Citizen Committee Report- Shalom Village

Discussion about SAC's motion that was carried at the December 2, 2022 meeting regarding issues of elder abuse at Shalom Village. L. Maychak suggested revising the language in the motion by referencing data versus media reports, focusing on the issue of elder abuse in many long-term care homes rather than targeting one home, and recommending to Council to advocate for more provincial inspections and increased follow-up in long-term care homes.

(D. Broom/M. Wahlman)

Motion put forward to withdraw the Citizen Committee Report regarding Shalom Village.

CARRIED

7. ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)

(M. Wahlman/M. Toth)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee be adjourned at 11:38am.

CARRIED