



Hamilton

Seniors Advisory Committee

April 5, 2024

Minutes 24-04

10:00am – 12:00pm

**Room 264, 2nd Floor, City Hall (in-person)
71 Main Street West**

In Attendance:

Peter Lesser, Sheryl Boblin, Penelope Petrie, Kamal Jain, Marian Toth, Aref Alshaikhahmed, Maureen McKeating, Alexander Huang, Carolann Fernandes, Marian Toth, Barry Spinner, Ann Elliot

Also, in Attendance:

Lorri Czajka, Program Secretary, Healthy & Safe Communities Department

Absent with Regrets:

Marjorie Wahlman, David Broom, Noor Nizam

1. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES (ITEM 1)

(i) Land Acknowledgement

P. Petrie read the Land Acknowledgement.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (ITEM 2)

(S. Boblin/ M. McKeating)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee approves the April 5, 2024 agenda, as amended.

CARRIED

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

(P. Lesser/ A. Alshaikhahmed)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee approves the February 2, 2024 minutes.

CARRIED

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS (ITEM 10)

(i) Working Groups (10.1)

(P. Lesser/ C. Fernandes)

That the following updates be received:

(a) Housing Working Group

M. Toth indicated that both L. Maychak and herself have been working with three McMaster students through a City Lab partnership to develop an updated version of the 2015 guide, *Housing Options for Older Adults in Hamilton*. The students have completed the guide for the purposes of their school project, but review and approvals by some City leadership staff will be required to publish the guide. The goal is for the guide to be available in both print and digital formats, and to be available at the Seniors Kick off event on June 10, 2024.

(b) Communications Working Group

A. Huang indicated that the Communications Survey has been launched on the Engage Hamilton platform and print copies were made available at Sackville's Wellness Fair on March 27, 2024. A. Huang requested assistance from L. Maychak and other City staff to compile results of the survey with the goal of presenting the results at the Seniors Kick off event on June 10, 2024. Further discussion included questions about how the survey results will be communicated to City Council and staff to ensure communications with older adults is improved.

(c) Getting Around Working Group

S. Boblin indicated that the mandate of this working group is to promote getting around the city for older adults, and that they are currently reviewing what other organizations are doing related to getting around with the goal of future collaboration. Further discussion included collaboration with the Hamilton Council on Aging's Let's Take a Bus project, and support for DARTS Transit. B. Spinner suggested inviting a representative from DARTS to

present at an upcoming Seniors Advisory Committee meeting to learn about their current services.

(d) Elder Abuse Working Group

The Elder Abuse Working Group met February 15, 2024. A. Alshaikhahmed indicated that Janie Francoeur, a Public Health nurse, and co-lead for the Seniors at Risk Community Collaborative (SaRCC) attended the meeting to share results of a survey that was launched to learn of there is a need for an Elder Abuse network in Hamilton. Janie Francoeur indicated that results of the survey showed strong local support for creating an Elder Abuse network, and that she will be bringing interested organizations together to establish the network.

CARRIED

(ii) Working Committees (10.2)

(M. McKeating/P. Lesser)

That the following updates be received:

(a) International Day of Older Persons

There are no updates from this committee.

(b) Seniors Kick-off Event

There are no updates from this committee.

(c) Senior of the Year Awards

There are no updates from this committee.

(d) Ontario Health Coalition

Members C. Fernandes and A. Huang will continue to send email updates through L. Maychak.

(e) Age-Friendly Hamilton

There are no updates from this committee.

(f) Extreme Heat Committee

P. Lesser indicated that the first meeting of this year will take place next week, and that a report is being put together regarding

Hamilton services currently accessible for seniors during extreme heat scenarios.

CARRIED

5. GENERAL INFORMATION/ OTHER BUSINESS (ITEM 13)

- (i) **Working Group Meetings-** that all four working groups of the Seniors Advisory Committee meet at 1:30 pm rather than 1:00 pm on Thursdays.
- (ii) **Guest Speakers-** discussion around increasing the number of guest speakers at monthly Seniors Advisory Committee meetings with the goal of potential collaboration. Some guest speakers identified included the Social Planning and Research Council, McMaster University, Hamilton Homebuilder's Association, and presentations about dementia.

6. ADJOURNMENT (ITEM 15)

(S. Boblin /A. Huang)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee be adjourned at 12:05 pm.

CARRIED