



# Hamilton

## **Seniors Advisory Committee**

**November 3, 2023**

**Minutes 23-11 10:00am – 2:00pm**

**YouTube Channel Streaming for Virtual Meetings All  
electronic meetings can be viewed at: City's YouTube  
Channel:**

**<https://www.youtube.com/user/InsideCityofHamilton>**

**In Attendance:**

David Broom, Alexander Huang, Kamal Jain, Penelope Petrie (Chair), Ann Elliott, Maureen McKeating, Marian Toth, Aref Alshaikhahmed, Barry Spinner, Peter Lesser, Sheryl Boblin

**Also, in Attendance:**

Lisa Maychak, Project Manager, Healthy & Safe Communities Department,  
Graeme Wallace, Program Secretary, Healthy & Safe Communities  
Department  
Carol Faulkner, Program Secretary, Healthy & Safe Communities  
Department

**Absent with Regrets:**

Marjorie Wahlman, Noor Nizam

**1. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES (ITEM 1)**

**(i) Land Acknowledgement**

**Aref Alshaikhahmed read the Land Acknowledgement.**

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (ITEM 2)**

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

That the Seniors Advisory Committee approves the November 3, 2023 agenda, as amended.

**CARRIED**

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

**(i) October 6, 2023 (Item 4.1)**

That Seniors Advisory Committee member N. Nizam was missing as an attendee from previous meeting minutes.

**(A. Elliot/P. Lesser)**

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

**CARRIED**

**4. DISCUSSION ITEMS (ITEM 10)**

**(i) Working Groups (10.1)**

**(M. McKeating/P. Lesser)**

That the following updates be received:

**(a) Communications Working Group**

D. Broom indicated that the working group met on Friday, October 27, 2023. D. Broom stated that moving forward they will align their work with the recommendations under goal 3 of Hamilton's Plan for an Age-Friendly Community. A. Huang presented an expanded survey from the one used at the June 2023 Seniors Kickoff event. The idea is to disseminate the survey broadly to better understand the preferred methods for seniors when getting information and receiving communications.

Members will review the survey and provide their feedback at the December 1, 2023 meeting.

**(b) Housing Working Group**

Members of the working group would like to continue working on updating the exiting Housing Guide for Older Adults. M. Toth indicated that CityLab students would like to also collaborate on this project. L. Maychak will send an email to Seniors Advisory Committee members asking who would like to work on this project, then confirm with CityLab.

**(c) Getting Around Working Group**

S. Boblin will chair the working group. Mary Lynn Balardo, a Public Health Services nurse and goal champion for goal 2 (Transportation) for Hamilton's Age-Friendly Collaborative Committee will support this working group. P. Lesser, K. Jain and P. Petrie will sit on the working group. L. Maychak to connect S. Boblin to Mary Lynn Balardo.

**(d) Elder Abuse Working Group**

L. Maychak stated that several community organizations who support high risk seniors have come together to resurrect the Seniors at Risk Community Collaborative and that the City of Hamilton is leading this collaborative. A. Alshaikhahmed will attend their next meeting. The next meeting of the Elder Abuse Working Group meeting will take place in November 2023.

**CARRIED**

**(ii) Working Committees (10.2)**

**(M. McKeating/P. Lesser)**

That the following updates be received:

**(a) International Day of Older Persons**

P. Petrie indicated that the event was not well attended but the presentations and exhibits were great.

**(b) Seniors Kick- off**

L. Maychak indicated that she is hoping for some City of Hamilton funding for this event but will not know until early Spring of 2024.

**(c) Senior of the Year Awards**

L. Maychak indicated that the 2023 Senior of the Year is Dr. Gary Warner, and that the October 19, 2023 event was a huge success by receiving 27 nominations and hosting 270 guests.

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

B. Spinner contacted staff with the McMaster Institute for Research on Aging regarding the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging, and he has a meeting with them. B. Spinner will report back with information from the meeting.

**(e) Ontario Health Coalition**

A. Huang had a meeting with the Hamilton Health Coalition and discussed how Artificial Intelligence could be used to find gaps in the healthcare system.

**(f) Extreme Heat Working Group**

P. Lesser indicated that the goal of this working group is to develop a climate action strategy, and input from the Seniors Advisory Committee will be needed.

**(g) Age-Friendly**

P. Petrie indicated that this committee met in person in both September and October 2023, and that a new process will be implemented with the goal champions focusing more on the recommendations in Hamilton's Plan for an Age-Friendly Community.

**CARRIED**

**5. GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS (ITEM 13)**

**(i) December 1, 2023 Meeting**

The December meeting of the Seniors Advisory Committee will take place in-person.

**(ii) Thank you Letter to Seniors Advisory Committee Members**

M. Toth expressed discontent with the quality of the thank you letter sent from the City Manager and suggested that an improved letter be sent to Seniors Advisory Committee members.

**(iii) 2024 Budget Request**

L. Maychak reviewed the 2024 Budget Request with the Seniors Advisory Committee.

**(D. Broom/A. Alshaikhahmed)**

That the Seniors Advisory Committee approves the 2024 Budget Request.

**6. ADJOURNMENT (ITEM 15)**

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

That the Seniors Advisory Committee be adjourned at 12:07 pm.

**CARRIED**