



Hamilton

**MINUTES: Seniors Advisory Committee
Friday, January 4, 2013
Rooms 192/193, Hamilton City Hall**

Present: Frank Brodnicki, Deirdre Chartrand, Carolann Fernandes, Doug Fraser, John Kennard, Jeanne Mayo, Lorraine Meloche, June Noonan, Penelope Petrie, Shirley Robinson, Mary Sinclair, Ron Smithson, Bob Thomson, Marj Wahlman, Emmy Weisz, John Winslow

Regrets: Vi Morgan, Bernice Price, Bill Wright

Also Present: Mike Richards, Carolyn Bish – Corporate Services (Customer Service, Access & Equity)
Vicki Woodcox – Community Services (Macassa Lodge)
Bea McDonough – Public Health Services
Eleanor Morton – Recreation Division

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Smithson welcomed the committee members in attendance and announced the receipt of a letter of resignation from the committee from Carolyn Rosenthal.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Additions/changes to the agenda:

Under New Business:

6.1 Consumer Calendar (Mary Sinclair)

6.2 Presentation to Emergency & Community Services Committee (Ron Smithson)

(M. Wahlman/P. Petrie)

That the January 4, 2013 agenda of the Seniors Advisory Committee be accepted, as amended. **CARRIED.**

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None declared.

4. DELEGATION – John Verbeek, Assistant Chief Fire Prevention Officer re Fire Safety/Prevention, Suggestions for Fire Plans

Committee members welcomed John Verbeek, Assistant Chief Fire Prevention Officer who attended to discuss fire safety and prevention. Comments made included:

- new fire guidelines in the works for long term care facilities
 - proposed fire drills to determine level of staffing & the availability of staff to assist during an evacuation
- 75% of structural fires are at personal residences and most are preventable
- 1 in 700 chance of having a fire in your home
- kitchen fires are the #1 cause of fires in homes followed by careless smoking, electrical, arson and candles
- have portable fire extinguishers and know how to use & maintain them
- do not use cheap extension cords (i.e. DollarStore)
- take time to review your building's fire plan
 - ask property manager if you're unsure
 - if you require assistance during an evacuation, be part of your building's fire plan
- smoke alarms on each floor are the law
 - owner of rental property responsible for smoke alarms & batteries
 - fire department will supply & install smoke alarms in your home if you are not able to or can't afford to purchase
- video available at www.hamilton.ca/Fire entitled "No Time to Spare"

Questions & answers included:

- one carbon monoxide detector is sufficient in a home and should be located on the floor where the bedrooms are
- check the back of hotel room door for the escape route and take a few minutes to count the doors between your room & the exit
- school fire plans have been revamped to meet the new guidelines
- kids tend to hide if frightened – share fire plans with your families – do drills

A number of pamphlets were available for anyone wishing to take them. John was thanked for his attendance & presentation.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Emmy Weisz noted a correction under item 5.1 Elder Abuse of the December 2012 minutes. As Ontario does not currently have legislation pertaining to elder abuse she wants to form a subcommittee to review other Province's legislation regarding elder abuse.

(S. Robinson/J. Mayo)

That the December 7, 2012 minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee be approved, as amended.

CARRIED.

6. BUSINESS / DISCUSSION

6.1 KPMG Review of Municipal Services & Recommendations

Chair Smithson reviewed the top 34 opportunities suggested by KPMG for improving the value of City services to citizens. Approximately 10 of the 34 relate to seniors and it was suggested that to deal with these items more effectively, they be discussed at the subcommittee meetings and suggestions/recommendations, etc. be brought back to the full committee. The items were distributed as follows:

Item	Description	Subcommittee
4	Increase parking rates at existing off-street paid lots, on-street at meters and for monthly permits.	Transportation
6	Increase fees for City operated recreation programs and recreation facility rentals ...	Senior Groups
7	Examine public/private partnership operations &/or lease of private facilities to replace/supplement municipal capacity for recreation facilities.	Senior Groups
11	Increase use of bus priority measures (dedicated lanes / signals) to improve efficiency/effectiveness of public transit	Transportation
15	Transit – focus on peak hours & days ...	Transportation
16	Implement the results of the review of major recreation & community facilities to determine if the current number is warranted or can be reduced ...	Senior Groups
19	Long Term Care Homes	Housing
20	Transit – Establish a target revenue ...	Transportation
21	Social Supports – one stop intake of clients for Ontario Works ...	Senior Groups
26	Examine cost-effectiveness of public health clinics ...	Senior Groups

Item 31 – Transfer of one long term care home to non profit operation was not added to the list as Vicki Woodcox advised that Council would not be considering this item at this time.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Consumer Calendar

Mary Sinclair was advised that the Province is no longer publishing this calendar and suggested that a letter be sent to the Province requesting that this publication continue.

7.2 Presentation to Emergency & Community Services Committee

Ron Smithson circulated a draft of the presentation to the Emergency & Community Services Committee for comment. Suggestions received included:

- add snow clearing
- J. Mayo will send additional information from the SAC Transportation Subcommittee
- Hamilton Council on Aging
- motion regarding the regulation of rental housing

The presentation will take place at the Emergency & Community Services Committee meeting on Monday, February 11, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. in Council Chambers.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS / INFORMATION SHARING

Emmy Weisz announced that she had officially retired from her paid position but will be continuing her volunteer work.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

NEXT MEETING
Friday, February 1, 2013
10:00 a.m. – Rooms 192/193