



Hamilton

**Amended
MINUTES:**

**Seniors Advisory Committee
Friday, February 1, 2013
Rooms 192/193, Hamilton City Hall**

Present: Frank Brodnicki, Deirdre Chartrand, Doug Fraser, John Kennard, Jeanne Mayo, Vi Morgan, June Noonan, Penelope Petrie, Bernice Price, Shirley Robinson, Mary Sinclair, Ron Smithson, Bob Thomson, Marj Wahlman, Emmy Weisz, John Winslow, Bill Wright

Regrets: Carolann Fernandes, Lorraine Meloche

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 and guests in attendance.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Additions/changes to the agenda to be added under Item 7 – New Business:

- 7.1 Refreshment of Committees (E. Weisz)
- 7.2 Operation of Motions (E. Weisz)
- 7.3 Discover Hamilton Booklet (M. Sinclair)
- 7.4 Senior Awards Ceremony (V. Woodcox)

Members accepted the February 1, 2013 agenda as amended.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None declared.

4. DELEGATION

4.1 Sally Radisic re Air Quality Health Index

Committee members welcomed Sally Radisic from Public Health Services who attended to invite members to one of two focus groups to be held on Friday, March 22, 2013 to get feedback on the Air Quality Health Index. A sign up sheet was circulated and returned to Sally who will contact members who are interested in attending.

4.2 Shawn DeJager re Accessible Taxi Request for Proposal

Committee members welcomed Shawn DeJager from Parking & Bylaw Services Division of the Planning & Economic Development Department. Shawn provided information on where the City is to date regarding accessible taxis. Currently, the City of Hamilton has no licensed accessible cabs. A motion was passed by Council to issue 16 accessible licenses in 2013. The Parking Bylaw Services Division will be developing a terms of reference to hire a consultant to review the industry and determine how it will look in the future. They will be seeking input from the Seniors Advisory Committee.

Comments from committee members included:

- the word "accessible" needs to be defined and qualified
- how many taxi companies are in Hamilton
- is taxi scrip being cancelled
 - working with Accessible Transportation Services people for an extension of their service
- what is being done with the accessible cabs currently on the road
 - operating unlicensed
- consider type of vehicles, i.e. vans vs. SUVs
 - will rely on what Province defines as an accessible vehicle
- concern that new vehicles will be vans – not everyone can access vans
 - consultation will be a vital part of this project
 - will return to Seniors Advisory Committee with the consultant
 - necessary to communicate your needs
- loss of profits for businesses
- accessible vehicles good for scooters, not so much for walkers

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(M. Wahlman/B. Price)

That the January 4, 2013 minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee be approved, as circulated. **CARRIED.**

6. BUSINESS / DISCUSSION

6.1 Committee/Subcommittee Updates

6.1.1 Age Friendly City Subcommittee

Vicki Woodcox advised that a meeting will be held the end of February. A project manager is working on the senior strategy and will be presenting to the Age Friendly City Subcommittee and hopefully the Seniors Advisory Committee in March.

6.1.2 Seniors Group Subcommittee

Bob Thomson advised that the Seniors Group Subcommittee discussed Items 6, 7, 16 and 21 of the KPMG Service Delivery Review Opportunities for Service Improvement.

Items 6 & 7: Subcommittee agrees, in principle.

Item 16: Due to lack of information, they could not agree on this item. Vicki Woodcox advised that she would bring back the results of a discussion taking place with Jack Brown and Eleanor Morton regarding recreation centres/senior centres.

Item 21: The subcommittee agrees with this item but felt that there needs to be more Ontario Works offices throughout the City.

The Seniors Group Subcommittee will put their recommendations relating to the KPMG report in a motion for discussion at the March Seniors Advisory Committee meeting.

Pauline Kajiura, Executive Director of Community Information Hamilton will be attending the February meeting of the Seniors Group Subcommittee to discuss information on the Inform Hamilton website.

6.1.3 Housing Subcommittee

Doug Fraser advised that the Housing Subcommittee discussed Items 19, 30 and 31 of the KPMG Service Delivery Review Opportunities for Service Improvement.

Item 19: Bea McDonaugh will be investing and bring more information to the next meeting.

Item 30: Even though this item was not on the list of items to be discussed by the subcommittees, the Housing Subcommittee agrees to the redesign of the budget process.

Item 30: This item was not on the list for review/discussion, however, the Housing Subcommittee would like it noted that they are not in favour of transferring a long term care facility to a non-profit operation.

As a follow-up to the Fire Department presentation at the January 2013 Seniors Advisory Committee, the Housing Subcommittee presented 2 motions for consideration and discussion by the full committee. Following discussion on the 2 motions, the following motion was passed:

(D. Fraser/J. Winslow)

That the City of Hamilton advocate to the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care and Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) regarding staffing requirements for all Long Term Care facilities and Retirement Homes to include adequate staffing for compliance with fire regulations.

CARRIED**6.1.4 Transportation Subcommittee**

Jeanne Mayo advised that the Transportation Subcommittee discussed Items 4, 11, 15 and 20 of the KPMG Service Delivery Review Opportunities for Service Improvement and submitted the following motion for consent.

(J. Mayo/M. Wahlman)

That the following comments from the Seniors Advisory Committee on the KPMG Service Delivery Review Opportunities for Service Improvement be received:

(a) Item 4 (increase in the parking rates)

The Seniors Advisory Committee has no comment.

(b) Item 11 (increase use of bus priority measures)

The Seniors Advisory Committee agrees as this will increase the safety of seniors on buses as buses will be able to stop close to the curb, facilitating safe access and exit. Dedicated lanes will also decrease swerving.

(c) Item 15 (Transit – reduce evening and weekend service)

The Seniors Advisory Committee disagrees with this item. The recommendation to reduce service outside of peak hours and days, evenings and weekends, would impact seniors adversely. Seniors often take the bus in off-peak hours to run errands and shop. Furthermore, reduction in bus service will increase the number of people on each bus, thus increasing the difficulty for seniors to ride safely.

(d) Item 15 (Transit – use a usage/cost recovery ratio to evaluate routes, etc.)

Item 20 (Transit – establish a target revenue)

The Seniors Advisory Committee disagrees with Item 15 (second part) and Item 20. While the Seniors Advisory Committee understands the City desire to increase revenues, they urge the City to maintain the fare structure for seniors: free for the Golden-Age pass; \$205 for annual senior pass (65 to 79); \$20.50 for the Presto senior monthly pass; and \$1.65 Presto cash fare.

CARRIED

With respect to the approval of Seniors Advisory Committee Report 13001 – Increased Snow Clearing Efforts by Council on January 17, 2013, Jeanne Mayo felt that the added remarks by Emergency & Community Services Committee requesting that “Public Works staff be advised to pay particular attention to snow clearing around bus stops” diminished the impact of the Seniors Advisory Committee motion.

6.1.5 ACPD Transportation Subcommittee

Doug Fraser advised that an update on the eligibility criteria was given at the January ACPD Transportation Subcommittee meeting. Very few people have been refused and to date only one appeal has been filed.

6.1.6 Community Heat Response Committee

Vi Morgan advised that no meetings have been held.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Refreshment of Committees

Emmy Weisz inquired if there was a policy regarding annual “refreshing” of advisory committees, i.e. rotating chairs, etc.

7.2 Operation of Motions

Emmy Weisz asked how the committee obtains feedback from the departments.

7.3 Discover Hamilton Booklet

Mary Sinclair commented that the Discover Hamilton booklet does not give a listing of accessible washrooms for people with personal mobility devices.

(M. Sinclair/J. Mayo)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee respectfully requests that future City of Hamilton publications, such as Experience Hamilton, Discover Hamilton and special event brochures, highlight a listing of accessible washrooms, specifically noting those with the ability to accommodate people with personal mobility devices.

CARRIED

7.4 Senior Awards Ceremony

Vicky Woodcox informed committee members that the City is looking at broadening the current Senior of the Year Award event to a more distinguished event. The Community Services Department is taking the lead on this. They are seeking representatives from the Seniors Advisory Committee to attend monthly meetings and assist with the development of this.

Some suggestions from committee members included:

- cost to attendees
- transportation – evening event vs. lunch time event
- budget impact to taxpayers
- why go overboard? Keep ceremony nice & simple.

June Noonan, Penelope Petrie and Ron Smithson volunteered to represent the Seniors Advisory Committee. The first meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 19, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. at the Lister Block.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS / INFORMATION SHARING

8.1 Web Redevelopment Information Session

An information session for plans to redevelop the City of Hamilton's will be held on February 12, 2013 from 4:00 to 7:00 pm, 2nd Floor, City Hall.

8.2 Bylaw for Supply of Heat

Property owners should be provided with a copy of the bylaw for the supply of heat between the months of September 1 and May 31.

8.3 Metrolinx

A public roundtable meeting will be held on February 12, 2013, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Art Gallery of Hamilton

8.4 HealthCare Reform Public Forum

February 15, 2013, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., Sackville Senior Centre. Hosted by Chris Charlton.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

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