MINUTES: Seniors Advisory Committee
Friday, March 7, 2008 – 10:00 a.m.
Room 207, Hamilton Convention Centre

PRESENT:
Carolann Fernandes, Margot Kirkpatrick, Thelma McGillivray,
Vi Morgan, Bernice Price, Shirley Robinson, Mary Sinclair,
Ron Smithson, Ly Minh Trinh

REGrets:
Lisa Campbell, Lorraine Meloche
Maureen Harmer, Public Health Services

Also Present:
Bev Neill, Carolyn Bish, Corporate Services
Colleen Stahlbrand, Public Health Services
Robert Cassibo, Mohawk College
Michelle Johnson, DARTS
Maxine Carter, Corporate Services
Andrew Sinclair, Matt Baird

1. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA
The agenda was accepted as circulated.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST
None declared.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Mary Sinclair noted that the letter to Hon. James Bradley was still outstanding.

(S. Robinson/V. Morgan)
That the January 11, 2008 minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee
be approved as circulated. CARRIED.

4. DISCUSSION

4.1 New Horizons Project
Thelma McGillivray provided the committee with a brief outline of the
February 28, 2008 meeting of the New Horizons Subcommittee. A
draft copy of proposed scenarios was distributed to members.
The Chair welcomed Robert Cassibo from Mohawk College. Robert attended the meeting to gather ideas from the committee on the proposed scenarios. He will then proceed to develop some script to go with the scenarios. Ideas and comments regarding the scenarios were received from around the table.

Bev Neill informed the committee that the proposed launch of the video is June 2008 during Seniors Month. The actors will represent diverse communities and the script will be minimal so that language will not be a barrier. The goal is that the video be short and entertaining.

Andrew Sinclair and Matt Baird introduced themselves to the committee and volunteered their assistance to Robert in the development of the video. They informed the committee that they have already captured some footage that they would be willing to share.

The following members volunteered to be in the production:

- Mary Sinclair
- Bernice Price
- Thelma McGillivray
- Shirley Robinson
- Carolann Fernandes

A suggestion was put forward for a local personality to do the introduction and the commentating on the video.

It may be required to get the City’s film office and the Hamilton Police Services involved for road closures, use of City facilities, etc. Mohawk College’s insurance will provide coverage.

5. **OTHER BUSINESS**

5.1 **Michelle Johnson – DARTS**

The Chair welcomed Michelle Johnson, Executive Assistant from DARTS. Michelle informed the committee that DARTS is undertaking some new initiatives that will affect seniors.

i) Starting in the spring of 2008, DARTS will operate a community bus in Dundas, 3 days per week, that will provide shuttle service between area nursing homes and University Plaza. The fare will be $2.20. Pre-booking is not required. Passengers just have to be waiting at the entrance when the bus arrives.
ii) On a trial basis, clients will be able to rent a vehicle to travel to a specific destination.

iii) DARTS is working with 7 McMaster students and 7 seniors to develop travel training to assist seniors who have lost their drivers license and must now take a bus.

iv) A Flamborough Downs shuttle is not yet confirmed.

Michelle responded to some questions from committee members and was thanked for her attendance.

5.2 Information / Updates

Thelma McGillivray
- provided an update on the Heat Alert Response Committee. A recommendation to Council is being formed with a deadline of June 2008. The Seniors Advisory Committee may be asked to be part of the public presentation.
- some doctors offices are sending out contracts for patients to fill out for extended coverage with an itemized price list for these services.
- a MedChecks Program is being offered by many pharmacies. This is a free service to customers.
- Long Term Care Homes Act, 2007 (Bill 140): final report due the end of April 2008.

Carolann Fernandes
- Ontario Seniors Coalition workshop in Hamilton on Thursday March 13, 2008 from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. at Prisms Pharmacy Building, 155 James Street South at Augusta. Still room for approximately 50 people.

6. ADJOURNMENT

On motion, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.