Revised MINUTES: Seniors Advisory Committee
Friday, September 10, 2010
Room 207, Hamilton Convention Centre

Present: Carolann Fernandes, Margo Kirkpatrick, Thelma McGillivray, Lorraine Meloche, Vi Morgan, Bernice Price, Shirley Robinson, Mary Sinclair, Ron Smithson (Chair)

Regrets: Lisa Campbell, - Leave of Absence
Councillors Jackson & Morelli – City Business
Maureen Harmer – Public Health Services, Healthy Living

Also Present: Bev Neill, Carolyn Bish – Corporate Services, Customer Service, Access & Equity
Vicki Woodcox – Community Services, Macassa Lodge
Bea McDonough – Public Health Services, Healthy Living

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

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST
None declared.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
(M.Sinclair/M. Kirkpatrick)
That the June 4, 2010 minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee be approved as circulated. CARRIED

4. BUSINESS/DISCUSSION

4.1 Survey Results
Thelma McGillivray reported on the findings from the survey recently conducted by the Seniors Advisory Committee. The results showed that, overall, the top 5 issues of concern to the seniors polled were:
   i) Community Resources
   ii) Drug Care
   iii) Recreation Centres
   iv) Limited Income
   v) Affordable Transportation
A lengthy discussion followed. It was agreed by the committee that
they would focus on Seniors Centres including research and findings.

A copy of the Survey Report is attached to these minutes.

4.2 Annual Presentation to Emergency & Community Services
Committee
Ron Smithson read out a list of items that will be included in the
presentation. He will present on behalf of the Seniors Advisory
Committee at the Emergency & Community Services Committee
meeting on Wednesday, October 6, 2010 in Council Chambers. This
meeting starts at 1:30 p.m.

4.3 Accident Statistics
Thelma McGillivray provided accident statistics to the committee.

5. UPDATES

5.1 The Gore Committee
Vi Morgan reported that no meetings have been held.

5.2 ACPD Transportation Subcommittee
Ron Smithson reported that Accessible Transportation Services is
putting together a survey for DARTS and taxi scrip users.

5.3 Strategic Road Safety Program Subcommittee
Ron Smithson had no update from this subcommittee. Thelma
McGillivray feels that SAC should capitalize on our video. The City
needs a wide spread campaign regarding road safety.

5.4 Heat Alert Committee
Thelma advised that the April 2010 meeting of the Heat Alert
committee was cancelled. She will request statistics regarding the
cooling centres.

5.5 Council on Aging
Carolann Fernandes advised that a new manager, Shelagh Kiely, has
been hired at the Council on Aging and she will be focusing on
improved relationships.

A Community Forum re improving transportation for older adults &
barbeque will be held on Wednesday, September 22, 2010. Guest
speakers include Don Hull, Director of Transit; Mark Mindorff,
Executive Director – DARTS; and Ron Smithson, Chair – Seniors
Advisory Committee.

6. NEW BUSINESS
6.1 Pan Am Games
Regarding the Hamilton Pan Am Initiatives, Bev Neill advised that Council has directed staff and others to develop a draft social inclusion strategy for the Pan Am Games. As part of that process they have asked that one representative from the advisory committees be appointed to participate on an Advisory Team.

(T.McGillivray / L.Meloche)
That the Seniors Advisory Committee appoint Carolann Fernandes as their representative for the Community Advisory Group for the Pan Am Social Inclusion Strategy. CARRIED

6.2 Recreation Centres
Discussion took place regarding various Recreation Division items, as follows:
- A seniors pass is no longer valid for swimming at the recreation centres (only Ancaster’s pass is valid at Ancaster pool). The cost of a swim pass is $32.00.
- Money spent for flowers. Gardens weren’t maintained.
- It was felt that memberships should not go up year after year.

It was suggested that a representative from the Recreation Department attend Seniors Advisory Committee meetings as a staff resource to the committee.

Vicki Woodcox will invite the Director of Recreation to attend the October SAC meeting.

6.3 DARTS / Taxi Scrip
Vi Morgan brought an inquiry to the table that newly registered people in the program don’t know where to purchase these tickets.

Bev Neill will contact Paul Thompson at ATS.

7. INFORMATION SHARING
A number of members from the YWCA Seniors’ Active Living Centre have moved to Sackville Seniors Centre.

8. NEXT MEETING
Friday, October 1, 2010
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Room 193, Hamilton City Hall

9. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.
REPORT - CITY OF HAMILTON SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SURVEY

by Thelma McGillivray

This report covers the results of our survey that was compiled and distributed by the Senior Advisory Committee in April 2010. While it had a return deadline suggested by May 31, we agreed to continue to collect any completed surveys after that date. The purpose of the survey was to use the results for our future initiatives.

While the instructions requested the recipient to please number from 1 to 5 the top 5 issues that most concern you. If the list does not cover a concern you can use the line under OTHER this was not followed in 38 out of the 80 returns, therefore these are spoiled returns. That is, the recipient used a check mark, or used 1 to 5 numbers in every box. Some of the returns only had page 1 of 2 pages because it was copied on 9x11 paper instead of legal size. We did not keep a tally of the number of surveys distributed thus we cannot calculate the rate of return. Therefore, there is no reliability nor validity to our results. Nevertheless, it is not a worthless endeavour insofar as we can at least advise ourselves of the concerns of the 52 who did indicate what issues they are seriously interested in.

While the survey asked for postal codes, to determine in what areas of the city concerns were documented, only 33 of the 80 did so. So this is not valid for our purposes either. Of those who indicated their gender, there were 36 Females and 22 Males and 22 did not indicate. Of those who indicated interest in the findings, 19 gave their names but few a contact number. We may wish to contact those who did with the results of the survey and invite them to a meeting if we use a topic of interest to them.

RESULTS OF THE TOP 5 ISSUES:
Overall Ratings

1. Community Resources
2. Drug Care
3. Drug Care (6) Recreation Centres (5)
4. Limited Income, in need of support
5. Affordable Transportation

RESULTS OF ALL #1s

1. Community Resources (8)
2. Dental Care (7)
3. Health Prevention (7)
4. Housing (6)
5. Drug Care (6)
RESULTS OF ALL #2s

1. Drug Care (5)
2. Health Resources (4)
3. Community Resources (3)
4. Health Prevention (3)
5. Dental Care (3)

RESULTS OF ALL #3s

1. Drug Care (6)
2. Recreation Centres (5)
3. Income Support (3)
4. Health Prevention (2)
5. Housing (2)

RESULTS OF ALL #4s

1. Limited Income-Needs Support (5)
2. Air Pollution (3)
3. Housing-Affordable (2)
4. Elder Abuse (2)
5. Transportation (2)

RESULTS OF ALL #5s

1. Transportation -Affordable (7)
2. Community Resources (3)
3. Pedestrian Safety (3)
4. Dental Care (2)
5. Heat Relief Resources (2)

So if we took these numbers from 1 to 5 the Top Issues would be:

1. Community Resources
2. Drug Care
3. Drug Care
4. Limited Income-Need Support
5. Affordable Transportation
OTHER CONCERNS NOTED:

1. Clean Retirement & Nursing Homes at a modest cost
2. Services to all Communities (i.e., Flamborough)
3. Legal Advocate Needed For Older Adults
4. Long Term Care Homes Needed

September 10, 2010
Thelma McGillivray