MINUTES:  Seniors Advisory Committee  
Friday, May 5, 2006 – 10:00 a.m.  
Council Chambers, City Hall, 71 Main Street West

PRESENT:  Isabella Brearley, Carolann Fernandes, Shirley Glauser, Al Gordon, Ann Karow,  
        Kay Lodge, Lorraine Meloche, Bernice Price, Shirley Robinson, Mary Sinclair,  
        Ron Smithson

REGRETS:  Thelma McGillivray

Also Present:  Bev Neill, Carolyn Bish – Corporate Services Department  
              Maureen Harmer – Public Health Services Department

1.  ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA  
Additions:  
    5.2  Taxi Scrip  
    5.3  Parking – Persons with Disabilities  
    5.4  Parking – Veterans  
    5.5  Independent Living  
    5.6  Multi-Cultural Day

2.  DECLARATION OF INTEREST  
None declared.

3.  APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
(Smithson/Lodge)  
That the minutes of April 7, 2006 be approved as circulated.  CARRIED.

4.  BUSINESS ITEMS

4.1  2006 June Presentation Progress  
Shirley Glauser announced that Al Gordon was unable to attend the June 2006 presentation.  Options were discussed.  

(Brearley/Lodge)  
That the Seniors Advisory Committee delay their presentation to October 2006.  CARRIED.

Al Gordon went through the draft slide presentation that had been prepared so far.  Members were asked to make changes to their slides and bring to the June meeting.  There is a concern that the presentation will be too long.  An attempt will be made to condense this material.
5. **NEW BUSINESS**

5.1 **Communication from City Clerk’s Division – For Information**

A Council Follow-up Notice from City Clerk’s Division advising that staff have been directed to provide additional information to the Seniors Advisory Committee with respect to the SAC’s motions passed at its meeting of January 6, 2006 meeting regarding transit fares was received for information.

This issue will be added to the September 2006 agenda for followup.

5.2 **Taxi Scrip**

Bella Brearley informed the committee that a motion was passed by the ACPD’s Transportation Subcommittee regarding funding for taxi scrip for frail and elderly people. A suggestion came from the Gas Tax Committee that money could be used to subsidize the purchase of taxi scrip. Four options are proposed – status quo; 40% subsidy (purchase $120 of taxi scrip for $72); 50% subsidy ($120 for $60); and 60% subsidy ($120 for $48).

Ron Smithson informed the committee that the ACPD had passed motions to support the subsidy of 60% option and to extend the date of this subsidy beyond the proposed December 31, 2008 expiry date.

**(Smithson/Brearley)**

That the Seniors Advisory Committee for the City of Hamilton support the motions of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities to endorse the recommendation of the Provincial Gas Tax Steering Committee to use gas tax funds to permit a taxi scrip enhancement to increase monthly allocation of taxi scrip to $120 and to increase the subsidy to 60% ($72); and,

That the taxi scrip enhancement referred to above remain in effect until consultation has taken place with the Seniors Advisory Committee and the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities.

**CARRIED.**

Discussion followed regarding DARTS needing to be more sensitive to the needs of elderly people and funding for people with limited income. Mary Sinclair will draft a motion to be brought to the next meeting for discussion. Bev Neill will obtain clarification of taxi scrip and who is entitled to use – material to be distributed with the June 2006 agenda package.

The Committee welcomed Councillor Tom Jackson & extended regrets on behalf of Councillor Bernie Morelli. Councillor Jackson updated the committee on the following:
- announcement that Councillor Morelli was being elected as president of the Ontario Police Services Board
- urged the committee that they get a representative on the Roundtable on Poverty
- First Place Seniors Residence has been transferred to the City and is now stabilized. Residents are to receive a universal pass for recreational facilities.
- Free parking has been extended for veterans who have obtained the Provincial sticker.
5.3 Parking for Persons with Disabilities
This item be deferred to the June meeting.

5.4 Parking for Veterans
This issue was covered by Councillor Jackson.

5.5 Independent Living
Mary Sinclair informed the committee that landlords are making changes that affect the quality of life, i.e. closing laundry rooms on Sundays. She stressed that there is a need for guidelines for housing providers.

5.6 Multicultural Day
Carolann Fernandes suggested that if anyone is interested in attending this function, they should call in to register soon.

6. ADJOURNMENT
On motion, the meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.