

## **SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)**

**March 5, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.  
Committee Room 2, City Hall**

### **MINUTES**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillor Chinu Das	- Chair
Harbir Batra	- Community Member
Frances Blake	- Century House Association Representative
Calvin Donnelly	- Sapperton Old Age Pensioners' Association Representative
Rosemary Dunne	- Community Member
Selena Gill	- Fraser Health Authority Representative
Tim Hicks	- Community Member
Val MacDonald	- Community Member
Donna MacLean	- Queensborough 50+ Social Club Representative
Lynn Radbourne	- Community Member
Julia Schoennagel	- Community Member

#### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Jay Young	- Manager, Recreation Facilities
Jacklyn Altamura	- Recreation Supervisor, Seniors Services
John Stark	- Supervisor, Community Planning
Shelly Schnee	- Program Coordinator, Seniors
Carilyn Cook	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

**Procedural note:** Item 3.1: Orientation and Oaths of Office was addressed prior to the start of regular agenda Items.

### **1.0 ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA**

#### **1.1 MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the March 5, 2020 Seniors Advisory Committee meeting agenda be adopted with the addition of Item 4.5 – Seniors Advocate Event by Shelly Schnee, Program Coordinator, Seniors.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

## **2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

### **2.1 Adoption of November 14, 2019 Minutes**

#### **MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the Minutes of the November 14, 2019 Seniors Advisory Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

## **3.0 PRESENTATIONS**

### **3.1 Orientation and Oaths of Office**

Carilyn Cook, Committee Clerk, commenced with her presentation which included the role of advisory committees, the terms of reference, meeting attendance and quorum, meeting conduct, City policies, freedom of information, and, oaths of office.

**Procedural note:** At this point in the meeting, Item 1.0 – Additions/Deletions to the Agenda was addressed followed the balance of Agenda items.

### **3.2 Seniors 101 – Our Changing City**

John Stark, Supervisor, Community Planning, commenced with the presentation titled, “Our Changing City” of which Committee members were provided a hardcopy.

In response to questions from the Committee, Mr. Stark provided the following comments:

- The City is now able to move forward with the implementation of items outlined in the Dementia-Friendly Community Action Plan;
- Indigenous peoples make up approximately 3.4 percent of the city’s total population, with approximately 2 percent of the City’s seniors population being Indigenous; and,
- Many seniors stay in their larger, single detached houses in order to maintain access to yard space as there are not a lot of townhouses available in the city.

A Committee member advised that Queensborough may have a low seniors population due to the area’s challenging public transportation, as well as concerns that emergency services may not be able to access the community if there is an issue on the Queensborough Bridge.

Councillor Das noted that almost 25 percent of the city's population will be seniors by 2031, adding that seniors will want to move into areas closer to health services, such as Sapperton.

## **4.0 NEW BUSINESS**

### **4.1 Election of Alternate Chair**

#### **MOVED AND SECONDED**

*THAT Julia Schoennagel be elected as the Alternate Chair for the 2020 term of the Seniors Advisory Committee.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

### **4.2 Seniors Festival Committee**

Shelly Schnee, Program Coordinator, Seniors, advised of the upcoming Seniors Festival and the need for volunteers for the Seniors Festival Committee which assists in planning the Festival. The following Committee members volunteered to sit on the Seniors Festival Committee: Donna MacLean, Tim Hicks, Lynn Radbourne, and Julia Schoennagel.

Carilyn Cook, Committee Clerk, will confirm whether or not the Seniors Advisory Committee or the Seniors Festival Committee requested monetary assistance from Council in previous years for the Seniors Festival.

### **4.3 Seniors Housing Lab**

John Stark, Supervisor, Community Planning, provided an overview of the Seniors Housing Lab report which was included in the meeting's Agenda Package.

Mr. Stark provided a short overview of the Hey Neighbour Collective Initiative which facilitates community connections in residential buildings, including having a building designate to plan social events for residents as a way of encouraging neighbourly relationships.

Mr. Stark announced that, along with the Hey Neighbour Collective Initiative, other items to be addressed at upcoming SAC meetings include the new purpose built market rentals, how buildings can be designed to encourage social connectedness, and the Closer to Home Program.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee provided the following comments:

- A member shared that the Hey Neighbour Collective Initiative in their building is a great program and would be beneficial to seniors in residential buildings; and,
- The City needs to remain cognizant of places such as the recycling depot, Royal Centre Mall, etc., and the role they play in a senior's social activity to ensure that they are not lost, as well as continuing to develop other organic social spaces.

#### **4.4 Tenants' Rights Workshop for Seniors**

John Stark, Supervisor of Community Planning, advised that a Tenants' Rights Workshop will be held at Century House on April 7, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Topics for discussion at the Workshop will include business license regulations and buyouts, including informing tenants of the considerations that must be made prior to accepting a buyout and what to expect afterwards. Committee members were encouraged to share the Workshop information with their social networks.

In response to a question from the Committee, Mr. Stark advised that the City plans to hold a few of these workshops every year, possibly at different locations throughout the City, targeting specific groups such as newcomers, etc.

#### **4.5 Seniors Advocate Event**

Shelly Schnee, Program Coordinator, Seniors, advised that the Office of the Seniors Advocate is reaching out to stakeholders in B.C. communities to receive feedback on the following three questions and use the feedback received to inform a report that will be presented to the Provincial Government:

1. How do you define senior abuse and neglect?
2. Where are the gaps in the system and how can they be addressed?
3. What recommendations do you have that would help you in your work?

Ms. Schnee advised that the City will host another event for those that were unable to attend the first one, adding that the goal is to go out to communities, with no preconceived ideas as to the outcome, and build a report from the information gathered from the participants. Funding requirements will be determined at that time. She noted that feedback consistently informed that seniors' services are overwhelmed and underfunded.

### **5.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There were no items.

## **6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION**

### **6.1 Century House Association Report**

Frances Blake, Century House Association representative, shared that the Association's main focuses right now are the Memorandum of Understanding between the City and Century House Association and the Seniors Embracing Technology (SET) Initiative.

Tim Hicks, Community Member, elaborated on the SET Initiative advising that the working group was formed to teach seniors how to use technology and are currently training trainers and creating a user manual. He shared that the goal is to have webinars and videos available to deliver training remotely which may help isolated seniors with their smart phones, and other tech devices as well as educate them on cloud storage (iCloud), cyber security, etc.

### **6.2 Sapperton Old Age Pensioners Association Report**

No report was provided.

### **6.3 Queensborough 50+ Social Club**

Donna MacLean, Queensborough 50+ Social Club representative, announced that disabled parking was implemented by the Port Royal Park and thanked staff for following up on her concerns regarding the parking situation in the area.

Regarding the lack of bus service in the area which inhibits seniors' ability to travel to the Hamilton Community Centre in Richmond, etc., John Stark, Supervisor, Community Planning, offered to speak with Lisa Leblanc, Manager, Transportation, to determine how bus services can be more connected to the Port Royal neighbourhood.

## **7.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

There were no items.

## **8.0 NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, May 14, 2020 in Committee Room 2 at 2:30 p.m.

**9.0 ADJOURNMENT**

**ON MOTION**, the meeting was adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

Certified correct,

Original Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
**Councillor Das**  
**Chair**

Original Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
**Carilyn Cook**  
**Committee Clerk**