

Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee Minutes

Pondside
City Hall
14245 - 56 Avenue
Surrey, B.C.
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2013
Time: 9:00 am

Present:

Chair – Councillor Steele
M. Cross, Options
S. Jahan-Chaudhary, DIVERSEcity
Dr. B. Lalli
L. Lange, Fraser Health – Adult Abuse & Neglect
S. Match, Community Engagement and BC Responsible Gambling
S. McIntosh, Seniors Come Share Society
A. Rutherglen, BC Securities Commission
A. Sharma, DIVERSEcity
J. Schmalz, BCCEAS

Absent:

Councillor Martin
Councillor Rasode
K. Bakshi
K. Dhillon, Seniors Come Share Society
D. Darrell, Sources
K. Noonan, Cosco
P. Petrala, Semiahmoo Planning
K. Weber, Realty Watch Fraser Valley
Real Estate Board

Staff Present:

J. Tyler, Senior Services Rep, Community & Recreation Services Manager, Guildford
Sahra-Lea Tosdevine-Tataryn, Seniors Coordinator 2 – North Surrey, Community & Recreation Services
Caitlin MacDonald, Education Programs Assistant, Parks Rec and Culture
M. Drozda, RCMP Dist.2, Crime Prevention Programs Coordinator
P. Leblanc, RCMP Dist.5, Crime Prevention Programs Coordinator
S. Caley, RCMP Dist.5, Community Safety Officer
A. Gill, RCMP Dist.3, Community Safety Officer
M. Starchuk, Surrey Fire Service
H. Dmytriw, Legislative Services

Guest:

R. Cross

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was

Moved by S. McIntosh
Seconded by S. Jahan-Chaudhary
That the minutes of the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee meeting of January 10, 2013 to be adopted.
Carried

B. DELEGATION

1. Bernika Stancic and Paul Baassan, Royal Bank representatives provided a presentation regarding **Seniors Safety/Banking/Frauds**.
(*Deferred from January 10, 2013*)

Information was provided regarding protecting assets, privacy, and valuables. With regards to Power of Attorney, advice was provided on how to safeguard against financial fraud and keeping personal information safe, confidential and protecting one's mail.

The pitfalls of Power of Attorney (POA) were discussed and the need to protect personal information. POA original documents are sent to RBS Law Group, the donor and appointee needs to be present, preferably an interview is conducted, and two pieces of ID are needed. The donor needs to be aware that the POA document has been presented.

2. Initiatives to Engage Seniors and Youth – "Welcoming and Inclusive Communities"

David Sadler and Sarah Auguste (representing the WIC youth leadership initiative), provided an update on the initiatives to engage seniors and youth in a multi-generational story telling project.

The program for youth began two years ago. The group has since changed and is now growing in another direction, with the 2013 plans involving a new group of youth. Further information was provided as follows:

- Other projects include after school programs for middle year aged children.
- *How else to impact community and to reach different people?* The idea of seniors came up as youth and seniors share similarities in many ways.
- *What can we get out of this project?* Break down barriers, create understanding and the benefits that can come about as there is no overlap of youth programs with seniors, it would be worthwhile to bring together the groups that don't usually get together.

Workshops will be held to learn through sharing information with seniors; sharing gardening and storytelling to learn from both seniors and youth, and how to achieve a sense of belonging in Surrey. The project will be in three phases: gathering information, compiling the information and sharing. Workshops will be interactive and will travel to different locations and events to get teens together with seniors.

Questions will include:

When you were a teen, what made you feel a sense of belonging?

Right now, what gives you a sense of belonging?

Questions will be asked, answers recorded, and ideas, themes and differences will be identified. Discussion will be put into a booklet and results will be shared using a multi-media slant with Facebook, newsletters, a short booklet and follow up workshops to discuss with seniors and youth.

Work will commence immediately, as there is a lot of work to do before summer including training of youth counselors and organizing recreational events.

The WIC Youth are a very diverse team and the seniors are from many countries. It will be a sharing of knowledge between the ages. It is important for seniors and youth to be able to learn from each other and for youth to be encouraged to come to the senior centres and to the Forums.

Sahra-Lea will invite WIC representatives to attend the next Focus on Seniors Forum on February 23, 2013.

C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS**1. Focus on Seniors Forums Update****2013 Schedule –**

- February 23, 2013 – in English – at Cloverdale Recreation Centre
- March 16, 2013 – in Punjabi – at Fleetwood Community Centre
- April 20, 2013 – in Korean – at Fraser Heights Community Centre

David Sadler and Sarah Auguste of the WIC Youth Outreach Program group to be involved.

Future possible forums:

- Aboriginal
- Muslim – in Urdu
- Spanish – (May or June)
- Caregivers, Family & Younger Generation
- CNIB and Institute for the Deaf

2. Bed Bugs – Kay Noonan was not in attendance, accordingly this item was deferred to the next meeting.**3. Committee member updates:**

- Sue McIntosh –
 - Are looking at partnering with the City of Surrey, Fraser Health and United Way to put on a Caregivers workshop or conference.
 - The April 6, 2013 Caregivers Forum will be rescheduled due to the Surrey Community Summit.
 - Focus on Caregiver sessions is about *taking care of yourself, taking care of your needs*, learning what resources are available and how to help those individuals. Resource people will be there to get the conversations going, and are hoping that Fraser Health will provide representatives to discuss care at home and access support. The intent is to do the same program the next day in Punjabi.
- Sahra-Lea Tosdevine-Tataryn –
 - Aging in Place Conference Planning – February 21, 2013, at 9:30 am, at Fleetwood. Initial planning meeting and seeking ideas for keynote speakers.
- Seniors Planning Calendar 2013 –
 - Forums, Caregivers workshops, etc. details, with specific dates and locations, can be found on the calendar
 - A Quick reference guide has specific dates and locations for different seniors happenings in other senior recreation facilities.

D. NEW BUSINESS**E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL**

F. CORRESPONDENCE**G. INFORMATION ITEM****H. OTHER BUSINESS**

- Mobile Outreach - specific dates and a planned approach are being developed.
- Welcoming Tea for Seniors – Thursday, December 5, 2013 – A social welcoming tea for seniors in appreciation for all seniors in Surrey is being arranged and will be advertised and held at one of the senior centres.
- Committee member Leanne Lange was awarded with *Outstanding Individual Contribution Award*. This is an important acknowledgement of Leanne's contribution, as she is an outstanding representative and resource for this committee.
- Councillor Steele met with Ralph Sultan, the MLA appointed as the Minister of State for Seniors on September 5, 2012.

Councillor Steele spoke to the Provincial Government's effort to establish a Seniors Advocate. It is anticipated that the Seniors Advocate will be announced by April 2013. The Office of the Advocate will focus on monitoring seniors' services, promoting awareness, identifying solutions to systemic problems and making recommendations to government to improve seniors' welfare. There are about 600,000 seniors in BC.

Committee was advised that Minister Ralph Sultan is impressed with what Surrey is doing about elder abuse and asked what Surrey needs. He was not aware of how wide-spread elder abuse is and will be recommending a pilot project to provide support in Surrey. He spoke about providing a provincial staff person to Surrey who has both authority and knowledge to address issues of elder abuse via the pilot project.

Committee members were requested to think about Surrey's needs, populations and cultures to work with, and what can be done within the members' own organizations.

- New Focus on Seniors pamphlets, and Resources cards were provided on table.
- Ron Cross will continue to work with the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee and the Focus on Seniors Forums relative to Fire Safety matters.

I. NEXT MEETING

The next Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee meeting is scheduled for March 14, 2013.

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by S. Jahan-Chaudhary

Seconded by M. McIntosh

That the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility

Committee meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee adjourned at 10:55 am.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Councillor Steele, Chair

Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee