

Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee Minutes

Pondside
City Hall
14245 - 56 Avenue
Surrey, B.C.
THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2013
Time: 9:00 am

Present:

Chairperson – Councillor Steele
Denise Darrell
S. Jahan-Chaudhary
Kuldip Gill (in place of S. Match)
S. McIntosh
K. Noonan
P. Petrala
J. Schmalz
A. Sharma
A. Rutherglen
K. Weber
R. Cross

Absent:

Councillor B. Rasode
Councillor M. Martin
M. Cross
Dr. B. Lalli
L. Lange

Staff Present:

J. Tyler, Senior Services Rep, Community & Recreation Services Manager, Guildford
Sahra-Lea Tosdevine-Tataryn, Seniors Coordinator, CSC2, Community & Recreation Services
I. Mander, Manager, Library Read-Ability Services PRC
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

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. It was Moved by P. Petrala
Seconded by D. Darrell
That the minutes of the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee meeting of April 4, 2013, be adopted.
Carried

B. DELEGATION**C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS**

1. **Calendar of Events** (*standing item*)

Available on the City of Surrey website.

<http://www.surrey.ca/city-government/6390.aspx>

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. The Provincial Seniors Advocate was to have been announced in April 2013. Seniors Advocate will not go to public consultation to be held in nine communities around the province from May to July 2012. British Columbians are invited to consider the questions in the discussion paper – as an individual, family, caregiver or service provider – and send

ideas and comments via mail or email by July 31, 2012.

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/topic.page?id=CoBB629187954DE488BA1692B10ECFAo>

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

F. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter dated April 12, 2013, from the Deputy Minister of Health regarding **the proposal for a pilot program to address abuse and neglect of seniors.**

It was

Moved by P. Petrala

Seconded by D. Darrell

That the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility

Committee receive the correspondence from the Deputy Minister of Health regarding the pilot program on abuse and neglect of seniors, as information.

Carried

G. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. **Public Art Unveiling: *Gnomon***, Saturday April 27, 2013, at Fleetwood Park Gardens
2. **Custom Transit Service Review Workshop Invitation – May 23, 2013**, 1:00-4:00 pm, at SFU Surrey Room #5240

Staff noted that TransLink has recently begun a review to develop a sustainable custom transit service model (HandyDART) to better meet the transportation needs of people with disabilities, and to operate the transit service more efficiently. Staff advised that this topic will be revisited after the May 14, 2013 Provincial Election.

The following articles will be forwarded to Committee members:

- *Profile of Seniors' Transportation Habits*, by Martin Turcotte, Statistics Canada, January 23, 2012; and
- *Transportation and Accessibility Project, City of Surrey*, by consultants Raey Consulting, and Westcoast Facilitators Group, September 2009.

3. **Aging in Place Conference – May 31, 2013**
8:30 am – 4:00 pm, at Fleetwood Community Centre
The conference focuses on three key areas: Healthy Lifestyles, Education, and Advocacy and Safety.
4. **Seniors Week – June 2-8, 2013**
A brochure outlining many activities planned for seniors throughout the City's six town centres during Seniors Week was provided on table.

5. Seniors Planning Tables

It was noted that the Seniors Planning Tables in New Westminster and Vancouver did not receive grant funding this year. Since the Seniors Planning Table is for people in the region, efforts should be made to continue the planning tables.

Staff advised that the **Bear Creek Villa Resource Fair** held on Friday, March 15, 2013 had a big turnout. The group is very supportive and interested in what the SAAC is working on. Staff have been receiving requests for information and accordingly a presentation is being planned to take place at the Bear Creek Villa in the near future.

6. Surrey Food Bank Breakfast was held May 2, 2013 at 7:00 am.

7. Imperial Place residents would like to host a Forum at Imperial Place. The residents offered to provide the refreshments. The date of the forum has yet to be determined.

8. Outreach – the School District 36 would like to hold a mini Forum session for the students and to provide a viewing of the video "*Finding a Future for Ellen*" and addressing the issue of about Ellen's grieving process and her mental health.

9. Seniors Come Share Society - Susan McIntosh noted that 33 volunteers are currently undergoing training at the Seniors Come Share Society. The volunteers range in age from 20 to 70 years of age, and speak a multitude of languages including Punjabi, Hindi and Mandarin. The program is in partnership with Sources, Alexandra House and Semiahmoo House.

10. A Roof over Our Head workshop was held on April 26, 2013 at the Guildford Community Centre. In terms of attendance, there were 38 registrants, plus a few drop-ins who participated. Staff advised that the feedback was positive regarding the valuable technical information that was provided on the topic of "tenants".

The next **A Roof over our Head: 'Home is Best'** workshop will be held Friday, May 17, 2013, 10:00am - 2:00pm, at Sunnyside Hall, 1845 - 154 Street. The workshop is free of charge but pre-registration is required.

11. BC Securities Commission have been great partners in providing funding for the Focus on Seniors Forums and were thanked for their sponsorship.

12. World Elder Abuse Awareness Day will be announced at the June 17, 2013 Council meeting at 7:00 pm. SAAC members were requested to attend.

13. Project for Connecting with Our Elders - Joyce Schmalz stated that the City of White Rock, the Ministry of Health, and Surrey School District are working on a project for connecting with our elders.

It was noted that the lawyer could provide information at the Forums regarding the changes that will occur in March 2014 to Wills and Estate Law. It was stated a since a will is for the disposition of assets, and in the case of a minor inheriting, those assets would go into trust until they are 18/19 years old. One major change will be to the age limit being lowered to 16 years of age whereby people can establish a will. This ties in with Family Law and gets complex with blended families and second marriages, etc. and

can get very serious when people make mistakes when putting their affairs in order, and where things can go wrong.

- 14. **Newton Advocacy Group** has relocated to 13771 - 72A Avenue, Surrey, across from Fruiticana.
- 15. **Next Focus on Seniors Forum** - to be presented in English only. Date (June) and venue to be determined.

H. OTHER BUSINESS

I. NEXT MEETING

The next Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee meeting is scheduled for June 6, 2013.

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by M. Pyne
Seconded by P. Petrala
That the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility

Committee meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee adjourned at 9:45 am.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Councillor Steele, Chair,
Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee

The Committee then moved into a workshop facilitated by Susan Papadonniou and Michelle Nino.