

Present:

Chair – Councillor Steele
Co-Chair – Councillor Starchuk
M. Drozda
S. Jahan-Chaudhary, DIVERSEcity
L. Lange, Fraser Health, Adult Abuse & Neglect
S. McIntosh, Seniors Come Share
K. Noonan, COSCO
J. Schmalz, BC CEAS
M. Cross

Absent:

R. Cross
C. Hong, Options Immigrant Society
Dr. B. Lalli
A. Poon, BC Securities Commission
A. Sharma
K. Weber, Realty Watch, Fraser
Valley Realty Board

Staff Present:

J. Tyler, Manager, Fraser Heights / Guildford
Recreation Centre
S. Tosdevine-Tataryn, Community Services
Coordinator, North Surrey
I. Stachura, Manager, Read Ability Services,
Library
S. Caley, RCMP Dist. 5, CSO
T. Dykeman, Surrey Fire Services
C. Bejtovic, Legislative Services

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. The minutes of the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee meeting of July 7, 2015 to be adopted.

It was

Moved by S. McIntosh

Seconded by M. Drozda

That the minutes of the Seniors Advisory &
Accessibility Committee meeting of July 7, 2015, be adopted.

Carried

B. DELEGATION**C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS**

1. **Transportation and Mobility Symposium, September 25, 2015**

The following comments were made:

- Staff brought copies of the poster advertising the Transportation and Mobility Symposium and asked members of SAAC to post them in various locations.
- The Symposium will include workshops focusing on mature drivers, scooter training, transit, benefits of pole walking, and cycling in Surrey. It was suggested that a supply of transit schedules be on hand.
- Seniors who have attended previous forums will be contacted and reminded of the Symposium.

2. National Seniors Day, October 1

The following comments were made:

- For National Seniors Day on October 1, workshops focusing on housing will be hosted in Council Chambers, and will include speakers from the Property Tax Department, Tenants' Rights, Fraser Health, and the Realty Board. There will be tours of City Hall and refreshments will be available.
- Chuck Bailey Recreation Centre will host some 'try it activities' visual art displays and more. Fleetwood will host a floor curling event and Newton will have a session on nourishing the mind and body. There will be a pancake breakfast at Guildford Recreation Centre and Cloverdale Recreation Centre will host a seniors' social.
- Once complete, a list of events will be distributed to the Committee.
- A shuttle bus will be on hand to transport people between the City Hall event and Chuck Bailey Recreation Centre.

3. Forums - Update and Discussion (Potential Punjabi Forum)

The following comments were made:

- Discussion was held around the potential for a forum in Punjabi. **November 7** was the suggested date in Cloverdale. Advertising will need to go out as soon as possible.
- Korean Forum at Grace Community Church on **September 10**.
- **October 17** Forum still open for ideas. It was suggested Newton would be a good venue for a financial forum, presented in English.
- Previous strategic planning discussions talked about half-day sessions, one in the morning in one language and a second in the afternoon in a different language. Logistically, this would be difficult and it was decided that single language one-day forums would continue.
- Discussion was held about holding a forum in South Surrey, possibly with a focus on health issues or a *Being Alone* workshop. There are many seniors in South Surrey living alone who may need assistance with financial information as well.
- A Committee member introduced a brochure that seems very comprehensive on the subject of elder abuse. It speaks of different kinds of barriers to leaving an abusive situation and, though resources are available, not all victims use them. Assistance must be made available after the fact for the victims; once they are out of the abusive situation they need education on how to move forward.

ACTION: Sahra-Lea will assist in setting up a working committee to plan an *On My Own* workshop in November in South Surrey.

- A Committee member noted that the United Way has a graph depicting the demographics in different communities in Surrey. This could be a useful tool in determining the kind of forums to present in specific communities.

Councillor Steele arrived at 9:47 a.m.

4. Minds in Motion - Update

The following comments were made:

- A Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) has been completed with the Alzheimer's Society. They will be starting the Minds in Motion Program at Guildford in the fall.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Councillor Steele introduced a new member to the Committee. Val Nielsen is a former City of Surrey staff member who worked in seniors centers for more than 16 years. There were round table introductions.

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

F. CORRESPONDENCE

G. INFORMATION ITEM

H. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Updates

- S. Caley announced that this is her last SAAC meeting until the spring. She is due in Regina on September 21 to further her training; she will graduate February 22. She introduced Ruth and Ashley who will represent the RCMP at all forums in the meantime.
- Councillor Steele spoke about the Concerts in Care at City Hall, led by Daniel Fontaine who is coordinating many events for seniors in Vancouver and now in Surrey. The organization brings in professional entertainers to play for seniors. Seniors were bussed in from different areas to attend the August concert.

- Attempts are being made to hold more events during the week at Centre Stage. For example, Retirement Concepts and Tapestry could bring in speakers and specialists from different segments of aging. These events will hopefully begin in November and would promote what is happening for seniors in Surrey. In-house expertise would be welcome, i.e. representatives from Fraser Health and other organizations around this table.
- A date for the Seniors Summit has not been decided. The Sheraton will be closed in January and February for renovations. It was suggested that someone from Mt. St. Vincent Health Care be invited to speak at the summit. Mt. St. Vincent is a residence that houses 400 seniors and has a pre-school for 125 children; the daycare has a five-year wait list.
- As part of future forums, it was suggested having a separate room set up where seniors could speak privately with an individual who could refer them to the appropriate resources.
- Staff is collaborating with Seniors Come Share and Options to set up a seniors cross cultural connection session. The objective would be to target specific cultural communities, hosted in a more social arena, and provide an opportunity for volunteers to facilitate those relationships. Building relationship and trust with new immigrants may start the process of empowerment.
- Staff met with representatives of the food bank; they are going to host a focus group with some seniors to find out more about what they are interested in doing and engage them more.
- The Food Bank will do a distribution from Chuck Bailey in late December. People line up early in the morning at the Food Bank and staff are trying to find a way to bring them in to Chuck Bailey Center so they are not lining up in the cold, and to make them feel like the facility is part of their community as well.
- Councillor Steele provided an update on the mobile home park by Queen Elizabeth School, and the status of its residents. The City of Surrey is meeting with the mobile home park residents on a one on one basis to ensure their concerns are being heard and that they are cared for.
- It was noted that the minutes of the September meeting indicated an invitation would be extended to Chief Superintendent Bill Fordy to speak to SAAC. It was suggested that the OIC could be a speaker at one of the forums.
- Marilyn and Ron Cross have established a Surrey Pickle Ball club, which now has a web site. The club involves many seniors, including a 92-year-old participant in South Surrey. The Club will appear as a delegation in front of the Parks, Recreation and Sport Tourism Committee. They would like to grow the sport in the City and, although the goal is to

get more seniors out, it is intergenerational. More recreation centres are getting on board and pickle ball will be starting at Chuck Bailey in the fall.

- Tim Dykeman of Surrey Fire Services advised the Committee that he will no longer be in the role of Community Outreach Firefighter. As such, this is his last SAAC meeting. The Committee was unanimously forthcoming with its thanks and good wishes. Councillor Steele specifically offered her thanks for Tim's valued service to the Committee.
- Councillor Steele has been invited to join a delegation to tour Dementia Village in Amsterdam. The concept is one whereby dementia patients with similar interests are housed together in a "lifestyle group". They "*create conditions for the residents so that they are challenged by recognizable incentives to remain active in daily, precious life*". Councillor Steele noted that the new facility being constructed as part of Innovation Boulevard will have space for dementia patients.

I. NEXT MEETING

The next Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 6, 2015

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by S. Jahan-Chaudhary
Seconded by K. Noonan
That the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility

Committee meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Chairperson, Councillor Steele
Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee