

Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee - Minutes

Present:

Councillor Steele, Chair
Councillor Starchuk, Vice Chair
M. Drozda
D. Evans
S. Jahan-Chaudhary
S. McIntosh
R. Noble
K. Noonan
J. Schmalz
K. Weber
Cst. Majara

Absent:

S. Bell
L. Lange
V. Nielsen

Staff Present:

S. Tosdevine-Tataryn, Age Friendly Strategy for Seniors Project Manager
J. Tyler, Manager, Guildford Recreation Centre
I. Stachura, Manager, Read Ability Services, Library
C. Bootsma, Community Services Assistant
L. Luaifoa, Legislative Services

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. The minutes of the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee meeting of March 1, 2017 to be adopted.

It was

Moved by S. McIntosh

Seconded by D. Evans

That the minutes of the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee (SAAC) meeting on March 1, 2017 be adopted.

Carried

B. DELEGATIONS

1. **First Link Program, Alzheimer's Society of Canada**
File: 0250-20

Avalon Turner, Support and Education Coordinator, First Link, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the First Link program and its mandate.

The following comments were made:

- The delegation advised that the Investors Group Walk for Alzheimer's is Sunday, May 6, 2017. The event entails participants from all provinces uniting to walk together and raise funds to fight against Alzheimer's disease.

The Committee made the following comments:

- It is important to note, asking a person with Dementia questions could be upsetting as it is a reminder that there is an issue with their memory.

- “Beyond Love: a resource book for caregiver support and education” is highly recommended as it provides valuable information for those caring for loved ones with Dementia.

2. **Adaptable Housing Standards**

File: 4815-01

Tom Ainscough, City Architect, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Adaptable Housing Standards in Surrey.

The following comments were made:

- The Committee noted that most townhouse complexes are designed with numerous steps or doorways that are not accessible which is not practical for seniors looking to downsize or for disabled people. The Committee expressed interest in getting developers to take another look at suitable housing for seniors. Staff advised that there are standards by the Safer Home Society which includes provisions such as a closet that can be turned into a lift and designing the stairway to accommodate that upgrade. The Chair included that there are developers that are focusing on designing and building housing suitable for seniors.
- The Committee expressed a concern about emergency responders being able to reach senior residents in the event of an emergency, in a timely manner. It was noted that it would be beneficial for the Strata to keep a registry or database of the senior residents.
- The Committee inquired about whether the bylaw should be solely based on the requirements of the BC Building Code (BCBC) Adaptable Housing Standards (currently 2012), in case the BCBC is not updated on a regular basis. Staff noted that the City of Surrey standards developed would have to be complimentary to the adaptable standards.
- Staff advised that the City of Surrey approves 1000 units of apartment form buildings every year which adds to the accessible housing stock and addresses the needs in the region.

C. **OUTSTANDING BUSINESS**

D. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Committee Round Table Reports and Updates**

C. Bootsma

- Information booths were set up at multiple public safety events including Simon Fraser University, South Surrey and the Fleetwood Community

Centre. Len Shepard Manor hosted an Earth Day event. Staff set up a booth to enable networking.

- Mandarin Forum – Tuesday, May 9, 2017. The half day seminar will include 3 presentations in Mandarin regarding Elder Abuse, Personal and Senior Safety and Wills & Estates information. The seminar will include resource tables. Come Share Society will have volunteers in attendance that speak Mandarin.
- KPU Presentation – May 18, 2017. The Seniors Group (3rd Age Learning) presentation.
- Healthy Active Aging Conference - June 3, 2017. More information will follow.
- “Raising a Profile” project – A full report has been issued and distributed to the SAAC. The work throughout the province is a lead up to the provincial summit hosted by the City.

S. McIntosh

- The 40th Open House of Come Share Society (CSS) at the Guildford site went well. Not as many people as expected were in attendance; however, the event was still a success.
- Two new programs with CSS are as follows:
 - 1) **Come Share Roundtable** is a community kitchen based in Whalley. The objective of the program is to build a recipe book that will welcome and unite newcomers into the community. This program provides the community an opportunity for people to share their recipes.
 - 2) The **Pro Program** is a 3 year program and was developed through a grant from the Peace Arch Hospital Foundation. The program is designed to assist people with a “discharge plan” once they leave from a hospital.

K. Noonan

- It was reported in a newspaper that Delta no longer has any subsidized beds for patients with Dementia and that the government will not be renewing the program.
- There may be a need to explore culture specific care facilities.

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

F. CORRESPONDENCE

G. INFORMATION ITEMS

H. NEXT MEETING

The next Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee meeting is scheduled for June 6, 2017 in Room 405, City Centre Library at 9:30 am.

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by R. Noble
Seconded by S. Jahan-Chaudhary
That the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility

Committee meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee adjourned at 10:30 am.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Chairperson, Councillor Steele
Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee