

Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee - Minutes

Present:

Councillor Starchuk, Vice Chair
Councillor Steele, Chair
S. Bell
M. Drozda
D. Evans
V. Nielsen
R. Noble
K. Noonan
K. Weber

Absent:

S. Jahan-Chaudhary
L. Lange
S. McIntosh
Cst. Majara

Staff Present:

S. Tosdevine-Tataryn, Age Friendly Strategy for
Seniors Project Manager
I. Stachura, Manager, Read Ability Services,
Library
L. Luaifoa, Legislative Services

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. The minutes of the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee meeting of July 5, 2017 to be adopted.

It was

Moved by Councillor Steele

Seconded by V. Nielsen

That the minutes of the Seniors Advisory &
Accessibility Committee (SAAC) meeting on July 5, 2017 be adopted.

Carried

B. DELEGATIONS**1. ElderStory Project**

Gordon Long, Surrey Seniors Planning Table, presented on “ElderStory”, a project about story telling.

- The delegation noted that the Surrey Seniors Planning Table (SSPT) is a multicultural and multi-aged organization trying to bring generations together through story telling.
- The delegation noted that the idea of the “ElderStory” project is to collect and publish stories from elders. The project has published two books which are sold for \$10.00. Stories for the third book have been recorded and will be published in the near future and work on stories for book 4 will commence soon as well.
- The Committee recommended the SSPT look into community grants for funding from organizations such as Fortis BC or Coast Capital Savings.

C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS**D. NEW BUSINESS****1. Age Friendly Strategy for Seniors**

As follow-up to the March SAAC meeting, staff presented a draft Action Plan (2015-2018) for the Committee's review.

The following comments were made:

- Staff noted that the City of Surrey has a lot of other strategies in place and staff is trying to make sure that it all fits together with the Action Plan for the SAAC.
- Staff noted that one of the things not identified is where the gaps are for seniors programs and services in Surrey, in the non-profit sector or community. A mapping process will identify the gaps and let people know what is happening in each pocket of Surrey such as community kitchens; whether or not the services are accessible by walking or transit etc.
- The Committee noted that the information has to be simple and further noted that using the internet can be very confusing for seniors.
- The Committee noted that it is important to address crosswalk safety for seniors and educate drivers and walkers. It was further noted that a Transportation forum to address transit safety, public safety and pedestrian safety is being hosted on Saturday, October 21 in Newton.

2. Fall 2017 – Key Highlights

Staff provided the following information:

- September 21 – Seminar – Presented in Korean – Guildford
- National Seniors Day Celebration Concert - Friday, September 29 from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm at City Hall
- Transportation Forum October 21, 2017 – Newton
- November 24 – Celebrating Seniors '150 Concert' – City Hall
- November 25 – French Forum
- December 5 – SAAC Holiday luncheon celebration (Surrey Arts Centre)
 - The Committee suggested that some type of craft project for the seniors to create such as a wreath be included at the luncheon.
 - The Committee discussed the registration for the luncheon and noted that at previous luncheons, registration was a bit chaotic.

3. Adaptable & Accessible Housing Standards Update

Staff advised that the schedule for the process of the Adaptable & Accessible Housing Standards project is as follows; a scheduled workshop in September with the development industry to review the plans, a workshop with City Council and on November 6, a report will go to Council.

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL**F. CORRESPONDENCE****G. INFORMATION ITEMS****1. TransLink – Fall Services Change****2. Caregivers Report – BC Seniors Advocate**

The Committee recommended that the advocate or designate from her office be invited as a delegation to present on the report at the October or November SAAC meeting.

H. OTHER BUSINESS

- The Committee discussed the changes on 135A Street and noted that a lot of seniors are on 135A Street of which most are dealing with drug issues, in particular opioids. Most people run into issues with opioids due to accidents and painful injuries. Typically, when people are cut off from prescriptions, the only place to get the prescription drugs is off the street. It was noted that a roster of people who are on 135A Street area has been formulated and indicates various information such as: how long a person has been on the street, where they are from or if they have been in a shelter etc. The Committee noted that the RCMP has done a good job to make it safer for those people that are on the street.
- Saturday, September 23 at the Central City outdoor plaza will host the “Pie in the Plaza” event for Agriculture Week.

I NEXT MEETING

The next Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee meeting is scheduled for October 3, 2017 in 1E Committee Room B at 9:00 am.

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by K. Weber

Seconded by V. Nielsen

That the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility

Committee meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee adjourned at 10:45 am.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Chairperson, Councillor Starchuk
Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee