



SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

December 13, 2013

A special meeting of the Seniors Advisory Committee was held on Friday, December 13, 2013, at 11:05 am, in Committee Room 1, Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

PRESENT: Chris Morrissey, Chair
Eddy Elmer
Sharon Fenton
Clemencia Gomez
Dellie Lidyard
Colleen McGuinness, Vice-Chair
Carol Oreck
Rowena Tate
Eva Wadolna

ABSENT: Thomas Brunker
Scott Graham

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Tony Tang, Vancouver City Council

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Nicole Ludwig, Meeting Coordinator

Roll Call

1. Integrated Health Care for Seniors

MOVED by Sharon Fenton

SECONDED by Rowena Tate

WHEREAS:

1. 'Ageing in place' means "not having to move from one's present residence in order to secure necessary support services in response to changing needs"; (Pastalan, 1990)
2. Between now and 2027, the population aged 65 and older in the Lower Mainland/Sea to Sky area will more than double (United Way of the Lower Mainland, 2008 Environmental Scan);
3. 18 per cent of Metro Vancouver's population aged 65 and older was living in poverty in 2005, the second highest prevalence of low income seniors in Canada (Vital Signs, 2007);
4. The World Health Organization's vision and agenda for older adults states that "active aging is the process of optimizing opportunities for health, participation and security in order to enhance quality of life as people age" (World Health Organization, Active Aging: A Policy Framework: 2002);
5. Stakeholders and not-for-profit service agencies in the seniors' sector report that the sector has been impacted by government cutbacks in funding over the past 10 years (United Way of the Lower Mainland, Interviews with Seniors' Sector: 2007);
6. The seniors' service sector is well positioned to provide support for meal preparation at home but is not adequately resourced to undertake this work;
7. Health Research U.B.C. is concerned about off-loading of services for seniors on to the volunteer sector and non-profit service agencies which do not have the

resources to cope with increased demand (Jennifer Baumbusch, Health Research Scholar, School of Nursing, UBC);

8. Separated medical and non-medical services have led to lack of coordination in supplying the needs of a senior living at home (Gloria Levy, Coordinator, Integrated Care Agency);
9. The Ombudsperson's Report clearly states that "no actions have been taken by Ministry of Health to address the question of adequacy of the home support services delivered by the health authorities. Instead, the government focus has been exclusively on creating a parallel, largely volunteer program for delivering non-medical home support services (such as friendly visits, shopping assistance and transportation) to seniors in their homes" (Ombudsperson's Report on Seniors Care: A Brief Analysis of the Government's (Non) Response: November 2013).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Seniors Advisory Committee recommend to Council

THAT the City of Vancouver take up these issues with the appropriate Provincial and Federal Government authorities at the earliest opportunity, and request this be discussed with the Lower Mainland Local Government Association (LMLGA) and Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) at their annual meetings with the express purposes of

1. Implementing the Ombudsperson's Report on Seniors Care;
2. Restoring funding, that has been cut over the past 10 years, for comprehensive support services for seniors (Jennifer Baumbusch, Health Research Scholar, School of Nursing, UBC);

3. Ensuring that seniors receive both medical and non-medical supports they need to help them remain safe in their homes and connected to their communities;
4. Integrating medical, preventive and therapeutic support services for seniors living at home;
5. Increasing funding of non-profit service agencies that are caring for the needs of seniors.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(Eddy Elmer abstained from the vote)

2. Pearson-Dogwood Redevelopment

a. Age Friendly Designation – Pearson/Dogwood Redevelopment

MOVED by Eva Wadolna

SECONDED by Dellie Lidyard

WHEREAS

1. On October 8, 2013, Vancouver City Council approved a motion directing staff to apply to the Province of British Columbia, on behalf of the City of Vancouver, to declare Vancouver an Age Friendly City;
2. The same motion committed the City of Vancouver to work toward becoming a United Nations World Health Organization designated Age Friendly City;
3. The campus of care model has been recommended by researchers as the best model to allow older adults to age in their communities;
4. In March 2005, a press release issued by BC Housing and Vancouver Coastal Health stated: “The campus of care model offers a range of housing and care options in one location, from independent housing to assisted living and complex care.

Campuses of care minimize the transition for seniors when their care needs change. Aging in place allows couples, family members and friends to remain on the same site when their levels of care are different”.

5. The Pearson-Dogwood Redevelopment is designed to be a village.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Seniors’ Advisory Committee recommend to Council

THAT Council require that the Pearson-Dogwood Redevelopment incorporate all levels of housing and support needed by seniors through to palliative care.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Affordable Housing for Seniors at the Pearson-Dogwood Redevelopment

MOVED by Sharon Fenton
SECONDED by Carol Oreck

WHEREAS:

1. The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation recommends that “affordable” housing should not exceed 30 per cent of household income (such that, for example, a senior earning a basic pension of \$1,200 per month should pay no more than \$360 for rent);
2. The City of Vancouver has set the maximum rent developers can initially charge for studio, one-, and two-bedroom apartments in new rent-only buildings at \$1,443, \$1,517, and \$2,061, respectively;
3. The City believes that the new maximum rates are geared toward people with a combined household income of \$58,000 to \$82,000, which is within the range targeted by Mayor Robertson’s Affordable Housing Task Force;

4. Nearly 40 per cent of single seniors who filed taxes in 2010 reported an income between \$15,000 to \$20,000 and couples with at least one partner over age 65 reported a median income of \$56,550.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Seniors' Advisory Committee recommend to Council

THAT the City of Vancouver require the number of units of social housing in the Pearson-Dogwood Redevelopment be increased, in consultation with the Seniors' Advisory Committee, so that older adults have access to more affordable housing, as defined by the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. Range of housing options and Green House project model needed for Ageing in Place at the Pearson-Dogwood Redevelopment

MOVED by Clemencia Gomez
SECONDED by Dellie Lidyard

WHEREAS

1. Ageing in place refers to remaining in one's own home and community;
2. Ageing in place is an important aspect of a healthy community and individual health;
3. Facilitating ageing in place is considered best practice for older adults and is part of an age-friendly city;
4. The Pearson-Dogwood Redevelopment is centered on the principle of Whole Health, which refers to developing a community that nourishes and sustains people, communities and ecologies;

5. The Green House Project model of housing was developed in 2003 as an effective home-like alternative to traditional nursing home facilities;
6. Studies have shown that residents of the Green House Project have reported increased mobility and social interaction, lower bed ulcer and hospitalization rates, less depression and weight loss, and higher quality of life compared to those living in traditional nursing homes;
7. By 2051 surviving Baby Boomers will be 80 years of age and the population of older adults will begin to decline, so a smaller, home-like model will be more flexible and appropriate in the future than a large facility.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Vancouver's Seniors Advisory Committee recommend to Council

THAT Council require there be a variety of housing options for older adults in the Pearson-Dogwood Redevelopment, from independent living to palliative care, and that any residential care conforms to the "Green House" model, as described in the table below:

Comparison of Institutions to Greenhouse Model

Institution	Greenhouse
Large building	House
Up to hundreds of people	6-12 people
Facility centred	Person centred
Hospital environment	Home environment

Institution	Greenhouse
Routine set by institution: person gets bath, meals, in/out bed on set schedule determined by institution's needs	Person-centered: no set schedule; person can eat what and when they want, get up/go to bed when they want
Different staff at different times; no stability of staff to help specific person	Same staff help every day; very stable
Staff can only do certain things: cannot help with outings, volunteer work etc	Staff can do whatever is needed: can take people on outings, can help with a full life
Residents not allowed to help with daily chores, housework, shopping	Residents can help with the work of the house if they want to
Staff are separate – do not eat with residents	Staff are part of community: staff eat with residents
Relationships between staff & residents discouraged	Deep relationships between staff & residents encouraged
Staff organized hierarchically, each with specific roles	Staff organized as team; Shabazz total care workers can do any needed work
Meals prepared off- site or meals mass-prepared on-site	Home cooked meals in kitchen
Eating/dining area large, like a cafeteria; can be far away	Eating/dining area home size, next to person's bedroom
No pets or plants	Pets & plants ok
Furniture supplied by institution	People can bring own furniture
Lower staff ratio	Higher staff ratio

Lower staff time providing direct care	Higher staff time providing direct care
Low staff time providing contact & interaction	Much higher staff time providing contact & interaction
Self-care skills deteriorate	Self-care skills maintained better
Elders stay in bed more often; higher pressure-ulcer rate	Out of bed more often; lower pressure-ulcer rate
Depression common	Less likely to be depressed
Lower quality of life	Higher quality of life
Lower satisfaction by elders, families, workers	Higher satisfaction by elders, families, workers
Meets nursing home standards	Meets nursing home standards
Cost = Greenhouse	Cost = Nursing Home

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

d. Endorsing the Proposal for Housing and Support for the Pearson-Dogwood Redevelopment passed by the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee on December 9, 2013

MOVED by Eva Wadolna
SECONDED by Clemencia Gomez

WHEREAS

1. On December 9, 2013, the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee approved a motion recommending a proposal outlining appropriate housing and support models for persons with disabilities;

2. This proposal provides an excellent range of housing and support options that also meets the needs of older adults;
3. This proposal needs to be revised to specifically include older adults;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT the City of Vancouver Seniors' Advisory Committee endorses the proposal for housing and support contained in the document dated December 9, 2013, entitled "A Proposal for Housing and Support for the Pearson Redevelopment";
- B. THAT the Seniors Advisory Committee requests the Pearson Residents Redevelopment Group, the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee and the BC Coalition of People with Disabilities work together with the Seniors' Advisory Committee to revise the proposal to include references to "older adults" and "the Dogwood redevelopment".

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- e. **Inclusion of Support in Considerations of Housing for Seniors at all City of Vancouver Planning Stages for the Pearson-Dogwood Redevelopment**

MOVED by Sharon Fenton
SECONDED by Dellie Lidyard

WHEREAS

1. Many seniors need adequate and appropriate support services to age in place;
2. Appropriate and adequate support is integral to the use of housing for many seniors.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Seniors Advisory Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council require assurances that adequate support is part of all phases of planning for the Pearson-Dogwood Centre Redevelopment.
- B. THAT the planning process for the Pearson-Dogwood Redevelopment be modified ensure that support is included in all considerations of housing.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Eva Wadolna
SECONDED by Rowena Tate

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Committee adjourned at 11:27 am.

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