



SENIORS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

JANUARY 21, 2022

A meeting of the Seniors' Advisory Committee was held on Friday, January 21, 2022, at 10:02 am, via electronic means.

PRESENT:

Linda Johnston (Co-Chair)
Marc White (Co-Chair)
Donna Clarke (Co-Vice Chair)
Susan Scott Gabe (Co-Vice Chair)*
Stuart Alcock
Sana Aziz
Conrad Guelke
Varouj Gumuchian
Jenny Konkin
Anthony Kupferschmidt*
Dale Lutes
Andrea Sara
Tricia Sirrs
Jacqueline Weiler

ABSENT:

Margaret Young (Leave of Absence)

ALSO PRESENT:

Winston Chou, Manager, Traffic and Data
Management, (Staff Liaison)
Ian Broadbent, Supervisor, Recreation Services, Park
Board
Karen Liebel, Vancouver Public Library
Lisa Nielsen, on behalf of Councillor Swanson
Tasia Alexis, Persons with Disabilities Advisory
Committee

**CITY CLERK'S
OFFICE:**

Kevin Burris, Manager, Civic Agencies
Ana Denissenko, Committee Clerk

*Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting

WELCOME

Co-Chair Johnston called the meeting to order and acknowledged we are on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.

Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Conrad Guelke
SECONDED by Donna Clarke

THAT the Seniors' Advisory Committee approve a Leave of Absence Request for Margaret Young.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Susan Scott Gabe and Anthony Kupferschmidt absent for the vote)

1. Matters Adopted on Consent

MOVED by Dale Lutes
SECONDED by Varouj Gumuchian

THAT the Seniors' Advisory Committee approve the Consent Agenda for January 21, 2022, meeting as circulated, including Approval of Minutes from November 19, 2021 Regular Meeting, Vancouver Public Library Report, Revised Age-Friendly Motion Submitted to Council, and Housing Committee Minutes.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Susan Scott Gabe and Anthony Kupferschmidt absent for the vote)

2. Councillors' Updates

None.

3. Liaison Reports

Submitted in writing prior to the meeting (appended).

4. Update on Age Friendly Motion Councillor Engagement, Community Engagement, Speakers

Co-Chair White updated the Committee on the motion "Advancing Efforts for an Age-Friendly City of Vancouver," (Member's Motion B.7) which received endorsement from 32 organizations and 4 Advisory Committees.

Following discussion, it was

MOVED by Jacqueline Weiler
SECONDED by Donna Clarke

THAT the Seniors' Advisory Committee endorse Co-Chair Marc White to speak at Council on behalf of the Committee, regarding the above-named motion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Committee Reports and Discussion

a) Planning and Operations

Co-Chair Johnston provided updates on implemented action items and outlined the following issues to be addressed:

- Working together with the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee on addressing issues with pathways in snowfall conditions;
- Working with Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee and City of Vancouver staff on public communication strategy for malfunctioning elevators.

Co-Chair Johnston also suggested a study on the impact changes to the role of volunteers due to technology requirements, COVID and downloading of more administrative tasks are having on volunteers who are older persons or elders.

b) Community Services and Programs

Andrea Sara provided the following updates from the Transportation, Accessibility and Mobility Subcommittee:

- Crafting engagement strategy for the spring;
- Emergency transportation for climate events;
- Translink paused bus stop cuts in Grandview-Woodland area and would like to discuss it with the Subcommittee.

Susan Scott Gabe introduced the detailed work plan for Task Group A.

Conrad Guelke provided updates on the work of the Task Group B:

- Connected with Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability staff, and suggested to discuss a forum: "Seniors understanding and preparing for Vancouver's Climate Future."

Donna Clarke informed the Committee that Renfrew Collingwood Seniors Society received a grant for developing a Emergency Support Framework for Seniors.

The intent is to work with community based seniors organizations, SAC sub-committee CC&EP committee, VEMA Resilient Neighbourhoods, to collect, synthesize and disseminate resources.

The grant outline with outcomes will be circulated to the Seniors' Advisory Committee members in the near future.

MOVED by Conrad Guelke
SECONDED by Varouj Gumuchian

THAT the Seniors' Advisory Committee endorse planned Forums on Foods Security and Climate Emergency Preparedness, a three part online-event that would lead to recommendations in collaboration with the City of Vancouver.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c) *Housing*

Co-Chair White updated the Committee on primary objectives and milestones of the Housing Subcommittee:

- 2022 data collection, research, and sharing; identifying housing needs related to older persons and elders.

6. **New Business**

MOVED by Dale Lutes
SECONDED by Jacqueline Weiler

THAT the Seniors' Advisory Committee approves the 2022 meeting schedule below.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Month	Day	Time	Meeting Type	Online/Hybrid
January	21	10:00 AM	Regular Meeting	Hybrid
February	18	10:00 AM	Working Session	Online
March	11	10:00 AM	Regular Meeting	Hybrid
April	8	10:00 AM	Working Session	Online
May	20	10:00 AM	Regular Meeting	Hybrid
June	17	10:00 AM	Working Session	Online
July	15	10:00 AM	Regular Meeting	Hybrid
August	19	10:00 AM	Working Session	Online
September	16	10:00 AM	Regular Meeting	Hybrid
October	21	10:00 AM	Working Session	Online

Regular meetings will be clerked by the Committee Clerk for the public record.

The Manager, Civic Agencies, updated the Committee on the Advisory Body Review and Improvement Report.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Dale Lutes
SECONDED by Andrea Sara

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting:

DATE: Friday, March 11, 2022
TIME: 10 am
PLACE: TBD

The Committee adjourned at 11:50 pm.

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Vancouver Public Library Update, Karen Liebel, Coordinator, Accessible Services

Thank you for the opportunity to share information about what's happening at Vancouver Public Library this month.

With the current health orders, VPL has reintroduced additional safety measures as a precaution against the spread of the latest COVID variant. With the colder temperatures, we are aware library branches serve as a warming location throughout the day and therefore has no occupancy limitations. All currently-working VPL staff meet the vaccination requirements approved by the Library Board in late 2021.

Previously I shared that in-person programming would be increased in early 2022.

However, due to the current health orders, programming is scaled back to online-only programs to help minimise spread of the latest variant until at least January 31. There will be a reassessment in late January pending improvement to the numbers of infections and hospitalisations, and changes to the current health orders.

Public meeting rooms are available for use for free in the Central branch. The rooms on Levels 4, 5 and 6 are bookable on the day of use; first come, first served.

<https://www.vpl.ca/location/central-library>

A fun program we've been running quietly since 2021 is Caring Cards, which allows the general public to bring in or create an anonymous, glitter-free card to be included in deliveries to our Accessible Services patrons, who may be isolated. Branch locations have additional information.

Upcoming [programs](#) may be of interest. These are programs that may be of particular interest to [Seniors](#):

The listings will indicate if the event is online or in-person (please note: all are currently online only).

- [Personal Empowerment: Managing Your Mental Health in Uncertainty](#) – Monday, January 24: 3:30-5:00pm – Learn how to deal with the stresses in an uncertain time. Online by Zoom
- [ESL Conversation Practice](#) – Wednesdays 11:00am-12:00pm – This weekly online conversation allows participants to practice their language skills in a supportive and casual way. Online by Zoom.
- [Simplify Weekly Meal Planning](#) – Tuesday, January 25: 11:00am-12:00pm – The class will cover ways to creatively stretch meals over multiple days and simple strategies that work for all budgets. Online by Zoom.
- [In the Golden Age of Surveillance, Can Privacy Laws Save Us?](#) – Wednesday, January 26: 1:00-2:30pm – Tamir Israel, the staff lawyer for the Samuelson-Glushko Canadian Internet Policy & Public Interest Clinic, will be in conversation with Andrew Clement, host of the CFE Taming Big Tech series and Professor Emeritus at University of Toronto's Faculty of Information. Online by Zoom.
- [Meditative Drawing Basics](#) – Wednesday, January 26: 12:00-1:00pm – Join this free mental wellness program where we explore the art of drawing as a form of mindfulness. Online by Zoom.
- [Let's Talk: Self-Learning](#) – Monday, January 31: 11:00am-12:00pm – Join this discussion about what makes successful self-learning and learn about library resources to help you expand your knowledge on a range of subjects. Online by Zoom.
- [Lunar New Year: The Secret of the Red Envelopes](#) – Thursday, February 3: 6:30-7:30pm – Learn how to shape red envelopes for Lunar New Year with Jeffrey Wong, and listen to Doris Chow talk about common Lunar New Year traditions. Online by Zoom.

Ongoing Series

- [Chinese Friday Morning Book Club \(in Mandarin\) 星期五中文讀書會\(國語\) – Friday, January 28: 11:00am-1:00pm – Every month we read a book and meet twice to engage in lively discussion. Conducted in Mandarin with Cantonese support. Online by Zoom.](#)
- [Book Lovers Reading Circle Online](#) – Friday, February 11: 3:00-4:30pm – A fun way to share what you are reading with other book lovers, monthly. Online by Zoom.
- [Library Stitch-Up](#) – Tuesday, February 15: 6:30-7:30pm – Connect monthly to other fibre craft enthusiasts and talk about what you're working on! There will also be a discussion about VPL's craft resources. Online by Zoom.
- Cook and Tell series – A monthly online Zoom discussion with other food lovers. There is an upcoming session:
 - [Cooking on a Budget](#) – Wednesday, January 26: 11:00am-12:00pm – Discuss ways to stretch leftovers and where to find deals on produce, meat, and more! Online by Zoom.
 - [The Wonders of the Spice Rack](#) – Wednesday, February 23: 11:00am-12:00pm – Share the best ways to add flavour to dishes. Online by Zoom.
 - [Marvelous Muffins](#) – Wednesday, March 23: 11:00am-12:00pm – Share your favourite recipes and learn about baking resources at VPL. Online by Zoom.
- Digital Essentials series – Learn more about the internet, internet security, and more. Online by Zoom.
 - [Let's Talk About Participating Online](#) – Thursday, February 10: 7:00-8:00pm
 - [Get to Know the Internet](#) – Thursday, February 24: 6:00-7:30pm
 - [Get the Most Out of Internet Searching](#) – Thursday, March 3: 6:00-7:30pm
 - [Let's Talk About Online Privacy](#) – Thursday, March 10: 6:00-7:30pm
- [Story Stream: Storytime for Adults](#) – Tune in to hear live storytelling, every second week on Fridays from 10:00-11:00am. Online by Zoom. Upcoming sessions:
 - February 4
 - February 18
 - March 4

Many past programs are also available on the VPL YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/vancouverlibrary/videos>

A favourite on colder days is the Library Fireplace video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=caJ-fR6inOY>