



SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

JUNE 15, 2012

A meeting of the Seniors Advisory Committee was held on Friday, June 15, 2012, at 9:38 am in the Business Centre Meeting Room, 2nd Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

PRESENT: Chris Morrissey, Chair
Eddy Elmer
Sharon Fenton
Colin Lazzerini, Vice-Chair
Henry Lee
Dellie Lidyard
Carol Oreck
Rowena Tate
Eva Wadolna

ABSENT: Thomas Brunker (Sick Leave)
Colleen McGuinness (Leave of Absence)

ALSO PRESENT: Commissioner Melissa De Genova, Park Board
Neal Carley, Director, Streets Division (*Staff Liaison*)

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Pat Boomhower, Meeting Coordinator

Leave of Absence

Leave of absence was approved for Colleen McGuinness for this meeting.

The Chair advised that Dan McFaul resigned from the Committee.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the April 20, 2012, meeting were approved.

1. Unfinished Business

The Chair noted follow-up on items from the April 20, 2012, meeting are included in item 4 (*under Workplan and Communications Subcommittee*), and item 6 (*Elections*) of the agenda for June 15, 2012.

The Committee reviewed and ratified the working notes of the May 18, 2012, Seniors Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting.

2. Seniors' Health and Mobility - Summary Report

As follow-up to the October 21, 2011, meeting when the SAC received overview of the *Walk The Talk* (WTT) Program and outcome of the letter of support for the WTT grant application, the Committee reviewed the Researchers' report entitled "Walk in My Shoes: Do Cities Work for Older Adults" (*material distributed - on file*); Summary available at: [http://www.hiphealth.ca/media/Summary%20Report_Walk%20In%20My%20Shoes_May2012\(1\).pdf?xprOpenPopup=1](http://www.hiphealth.ca/media/Summary%20Report_Walk%20In%20My%20Shoes_May2012(1).pdf?xprOpenPopup=1)

Sarah Lusina-Furst, Managing Director, CIHR Walk the Talk Team, and Callista Haggis, KnowLedge Broker, Active Streets, Active People, presented the report and outlined the 3-year project in partnership with the City of Vancouver's Active Transportation branch. They also noted the recent Open House and neighbourhood tour event and other opportunities for seniors' input.

Members were invited to provide feedback by participating in a West End tour using the research tool, a Checklist to rate the walkability of the neighbourhood, to assist in developing an inventory of the built environment which is being gathered over the next two years. Members can forward any additional questions to Ms. Haggis.

Seniors' Healthy Living Secretariat's 2011 information package entitled "Becoming an Age-friendly Community: Local Government Guide" was distributed (*on file*).

3. Committee Liaisons' Updates

(a) Parks and Recreation

Commissioner De Genova, Vancouver Park Board Liaison, provided an update and responded to questions on:

- reduction in hours at Community Centres' impact on seniors programs
- challenges of centres/facilities over 65 years old
- unsuccessful Provincial funding for the Southeast Seniors Centre
- mitigation of pedestrian and bicycle conflict along the Stanley Park Seawall
- Greenest City Action Plan and new re-charging stations for electric cars
- Park Board's strategic framework and community consultation.

Commissioner De Genova will advise of the consultation related to the Park Board's strategic framework.

(b) Council Motions

The Chair advised of recent motions put forward by the Committee's Council Liaison and passed by City Council regarding:

- developing policy to better assist residents with Dementia, and
- opposition to the cancellation of the TaxiSaver Program.

(c) **Business Cards**

Neal Carley, Staff Liaison, advised Committee business cards will be provided through his budget. The blank business cards will include the Committee's generic email address and the City Clerk's Department, City Hall mailing address.

4. **2012 Workplan & Subcommittees Update**

(a) **Work Plan**

MOVED by Sharon Fenton
SECONDED by Carol Oreck

THAT the Seniors Advisory Committee establish the following three Subcommittees:

- Housing Subcommittee
- Transportation Subcommittee
- Communications Subcommittee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Chair noted the importance of participation in and role of the SAC subcommittees. An electronic sign-up sheet will be circulated to members to select a subcommittee.

(b) **Housing**

i. Greater Vancouver Shelter Strategy (GVSS) Homeless Seniors - Steering Committee

Further to discussion at the May 18, 2012 SAC meeting, Chris Morrissey reported a representative is still needed to the GVSS Homeless Seniors - Steering Committee. Sharon Fenton was appointed as the SAC representative and the Meeting Coordinator will forward her information to the Steering Committee's staff.

ii. Mayor's Task Force on Housing Affordability

Sharon Fenton provided an overview of the Mayor's Task Force on Affordable Housing.

The Vice-Chair suggested inviting a member from the *Task Force on Housing Affordability* to a future SAC meeting, and noted another Advisory Committee Chair was also interested in housing issues.

iii. Housing Affordability Forum

Eva Wadolna reported on the *Housing Affordability Forum* she attended which was held on May 2, 2012 at the Peretz Centre, organized by Tikva Housing Society. She noted the discussion was well attended and provided participants with very diverse perspectives on the issue of affordable housing.

(c) Transportation

i. Update on the TaxiSaver Program

Chris Morrissey and Rowena Tate provided an update on the TaxiSaver Program and on the Joint TaxiSaver Task Force which has representatives from the Person With Disabilities Advisory Committee (PWDAC) and the Seniors Advisory Committee (*material from Jill Weiss, PWDAC Liaison to SAC, was distributed - on file*).

The Joint Task Force organized a Community Forum comprised of three sessions to discuss the importance of TaxiSavers. TransLink will have a Board member at each session. Discussion followed pertaining to:

- ways to publicize the Community Forum to be held on June 19, July 3, and July 12, 2012, at City Hall Town Hall meeting room
- petition to save to the TaxiSaver Program
- City of Vancouver's Transportation Plan and active walking as future subcommittee topics.

ii. TransLink Efficiency Review report

The Chair gave a brief overview of the *TransLink Efficiency Review* report findings.

(d) Communications

i. Council of Councils Meeting

The Chair reported on the City of Vancouver meeting of Civic Agencies held on May 30, 2012, at VanDusen Gardens for information sharing and networking with other Advisory Committees to Council.

The Chair noted responses to her follow-up email to committees which had similar issues. The Vice-Chair advised of his email to the Acting City Clerk. Discussion included ways for SAC to connect with other committees.

The *Guidelines for Civic Agencies* (revised April 2012) and *Guidelines for Civic Agency Working Notes* were distributed and will be discussed at a future SAC meeting (*material on file*).

5. New Business

(a) Ministry of Health Seniors' Advocate Consultations

Rowena Tate and Eva Wadolna reported on the meetings they attended on June 4 and 5, 2012 with representatives of the Ministry seeking public input on the scope and responsibilities of a proposed new Office of the Seniors' Advocate.

Following discussion on an appropriate response to the request for input by affected organizations, the Committee agreed to review a draft letter to the Minister of Health at the July 20, 2012, meeting; the deadline for submissions is July 31, 2012.

Creating a Seniors' Advocate for British Columbia: A Stronger Voice for BC Seniors - Consultation Discussion Paper (dated May 2012) and Summary (previously distributed - on file).

(b) Social Amenity Plan: "Development and Coordination Services for the Social Amenity Plan, Seniors Dialogues Project"

Eva Wadolna representing SAC in the consultant selection process for this Project, reported on the selection process currently taking place. She also noted that once the consultant is selected this summer, she and Colin Lazzarini would be both on the project's Steering Committee, reporting regularly to SAC.

(c) TaxiSaver Cuts Community Forum

The public was invited to the June 19, 2012, forum at 1:00 to 3:30 pm, City Hall, hosted by the SAC and PWDAC, to discuss the importance of the TaxiSaver program.

(d) 411 Seniors Centre

Eva Wadolna reported on attending the official opening of the 411 Seniors Centre in their new temporary location on 704 - 333 Terminal Avenue, Vancouver. She indicated that the President and the Executive Director of "411" both expressed interest in hosting SAC meeting as part of our outreach program.

6. Elections of Chair and Vice-Chair

At the April 20, 2012, meeting, elections for Committee Chair and Vice-Chair had been postponed to the June 2012 meeting. The Committee discussed the positions and terms.

MOVED by Dellie Lidyard
SECONDED by Carol Oreck

THAT the term for the Seniors Advisory Committee's Chair and Vice-Chair be to the end of the 2012 calendar year.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Meeting Coordinator conducted elections for Chair and Vice-Chair for the 2012 term and, following due process, Chris Morrissey and Colin Lazzarini were elected as Chair and Vice-Chair respectively, by acclamation.

The decision whether to rotate, alternate or appoint a Secretary for recording the working notes, was postponed to a future meeting.

The Chair recommended that succession planning be discussed at a future meeting.

Next Meeting:

DATE: Friday, July 20, 2012 (*working session*)

TIME: 9:30 am
PLACE: Business Centre Meeting Room, 2nd Floor, Vancouver City Hall

The Committee adjourned at 11:30 am

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