

# Advisory Committee on Older Adults

## Minutes

**Thursday, July 14, 2022**

## Zoom

### Members:

Dominic Ventresca, Gail Riihimaki, Marcy Heit, Ursula Hudson, Francine Geikie, Janet Reid

Absent: Tracey Fox, Marion Hepworth, Marilyn Reynolds

### Staff Liaison:

Koby Vanyo, Programs Supervisor

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1. **Call meeting to order (Chair)**  
Gail Riihimaki called the meeting to order at 2:05pm
2. **Recognition of Traditional Territories**
3. **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**  
Addition of multi-use rail trail subject
4. **Motion to approve the agenda**  
Moved by Marcy Heit  
That the Agenda for the meeting of July 14, 2022 be approved  
CARRIED
5. **Motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting**  
Moved by Ursula Hudson  
That the Minutes of the June 14, 2022 meeting be approved  
CARRIED
6. **Presentations (invited guests)**  
Mayor Walter Sendzik  
Opportunity to look back and forward, challenges the past couple of years,  
recognized staff abilities to pivot – SCWW, utilizing technology, continuing to  
socialize, create safe spaces  
Older Adult Plan (2014) is a living document

- a. Communication piece – overhaul of City website, create better tools for communication  
Park spaces (outside) inclusive, accessible, signage, play structures, mobility mats at beaches
- b. Safety and Security piece – car traffic increase, 40km/hr speed limit project in Port Dalhousie now want same on all city roads  
Park system -creation of paved trails, increase security to navigate spaces for example Grantham Rail Trail -paved 4.1km will be longest connected trail system (outside of Canal path)
- c. Transportation piece – transformational inter municipal transit system
- d. Accommodations/housing – LTC investment in Linhaven, additional beds create a superstructure for efficiencies, Seasons retirement at Hotel Dieu site, West Hills on Louth Ave – LTC with COVID in mind, Extendicare bought property by new hospital, apartment buildings (3) across from Denis Morris high school are all rentals single or couple older adults is a significant investment in density  
Census indicated need for solo living units  
Social housing, more than 250 units built – King St. Bethlehem Place, Carlton St. NRH, Geneva St. 250 affordable units plus attainable housing to purchase
- e. OA programs – elder abuse, fraud, financial security
- f. Dominic comment – downtown core, older adults living there, walkable community, students, community for all ages, old NRP building housing
- g. Ursula comment – NRH waitlist, summer 2021 7000 people and winter 2022 9000 people, Mayor addressed need to move through social housing

Surveys, learnings from COVID, new plan/update plan  
Need to capture the new Mayor to introduce our committee

## 7. **Business arising from the minutes**

## 8. **Business**

- a. Needs Assessment
  - i. No news
- b. Communications
  - i. On hold
- c. Age Friendly Community
  - i. Let's Chat benches – signage and public information piece should begin soon  
AFN did research for design, height, arm rests, walkway leading to bench

Some Port Dalhousie pier benches have no arm rest, Gail reached out to Chair of Accessibility – they advocated for single arm rest in middle

Gail has not heard back from Chair yet, Gail to follow up. Koby to approach staff person for Accessibility

- d. NOAA, Niagara Older Adult Alliance –  
No meeting since last  
Terms of Reference in process
  - e. AFNC, Age Friendly Niagara Council –  
Received \$25000 grant from New Horizons for Seniors, Empowering Older Adults in Niagara  
-Conducted survey with 1000 results submitted  
-Community forums to feed survey information back to the community to inform the AFNC agenda  
-Establish a Founding Board for AFNC
  - f. Work Plan update  
Next Social Sustainability Pillar meeting is August 4  
How to approach updating Work Plan, use track changes and reply to all to send edits  
Feedback by July 20
  - g. Operational – how do we prevent being left off/out of equity, inclusion and diversity discussions? Are we able to still provide input for next committee? Update Terms of Reference? Change name of committee, equity seeking committee, anti-ageism?
9. **Date of next meeting**  
Tuesday, August 09, 2022 at 2pm Zoom  
Marcy Heit to chair this meeting
10. **Motion to Adjourn**  
Moved by Ursula Hudson  
That the meeting be adjourned at 3:44pm  
CARRIED