

# Advisory Committee on Older Adults

## Minutes

**Tuesday, June 14, 2022**

## Zoom

### Members:

Dominic Ventresca, Gail Riihimaki, Marilyn Reynolds, Ursula Hudson, Francine Geikie

Absent: Marion Hepworth, Tracey Fox, Janet Reid, Marcy Heit

### Staff Liaison:

Koby Vanyo, Programs Supervisor

---

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 Dominic Ventresca  
That the Agenda for the meeting of June 14, 2022 be approved with amendment of attendance of May 10, 2022 meeting  
CARRIED
5. **Motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting**  
Moved by Francine Geikie  
That the Minutes of the May 10, 2022 2022 meeting be approved  
CARRIED
6. **Presentations (invited guests)**
7. **Business arising from the minutes**  
Bonnie Nistico-Dunk, City Clerk retirement, internal staff moved to acting City Clerk and Deputy City Clerk. Donna Delveccio – Deputy Clerk staff was a champion for Age-Friendly in Thorold

## 8. Business

- a. Update work plan at June meeting to submit to pillar for July meeting
- b. Needs Assessment
  - i. Inclusive Community Grant program application status  
Status of application is expected summer 2022  
Completion of grant by March 31, 2023
- c. Communications
  - i. Gail has drafted an email for Communications staff
- d. Age Friendly Community
  - i. Senior's Month – Monday, June 6 10am – 2pm, Dunlop Drive Older Adult Centre  
Flag raising, outdoor art installation and backyard gardens pivot – great to see so many senior staff present!
  - ii. Let's Chat benches – Ontario Special Grant, each Older Adult Centre receives up to \$15000  
Will include some Let's Chat signs for current benches and an education piece  
Work to determine possible locations – high profile public parks, Older Adult Centres, City Hall, Community Centres, at least one per ward while keeping in mind current age-friendly bench traits, ie. Location access, bench height, handles, etc.  
Concrete benches on Port Dalhousie Piers – can we improve age-friendliness by adding arm rests for benches with none, seek input from Accessibility Committee
- e. NOAA, Niagara Older Adult Alliance –good turn out of communities at the Thorold Seniors event, being together in person was very beneficial, minutes and roll up will be shared  
There is another event planned in Fort Erie for June 22
- f. AFNC, Age Friendly Niagara Council – May 12 there was a joint meeting with AFNC and NOAA with Niagara Region Transit Commission which is newly forming an advisory committee and is looking for older adult representatives.  
June 1 there was a Seniors Month flag raising at Niagara Region Headquarters and many other communities in Niagara, age-friendly is gaining momentum  
Welland's flag raising also launched it's first Let's Chat bench and dedicated it to Doug Rapelje.  
Brock University researchers held a webinar – Volunteerism Among Older Adults and will be presenting again for Brock Lifespan Research on June 21 @ 11:30am  
Empowerment of Older Adult project funded by New Horizons is launching a community survey, want 500 respondents

- g. Mayor's attendance at next meeting, Gail will liaise with Julie Hughes – James Street Civic Square, YMCA, AFN survey, etc
- 9. Moved by Dominic Ventresca  
As there is the possibility of re-opening the Council discussion, that this committee submit briefing notes regarding input to the Grantham Rail Trail project  
CARRIED
- 10. **Date of next meeting**  
Thursday, July 14, 2022 at 2pm Zoom
- 11. **Motion to Adjourn**  
Moved by Ursula Hudson  
That the meeting be adjourned at 3:25pm  
CARRIED