

# Advisory Committee on Older Adults

## Minutes

**Tuesday, September 13, 2022**

## Zoom

### Members:

Gail Riihimaki, Ursula Hudson, Francine Geikie, Dominic Ventresca, Marilyn Reynolds, Marcy Heit (2:30pm), Janet Reid (2:55pm)

Absent: Tracey Fox, Marian Hepworth

### Staff Liaison:

Koby Vanyo, Programs Supervisor

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1. **Call meeting to order (Chair)**  
Gail Riihimaki called the meeting to order at 2:06pm
2. **Recognition of Traditional Territories**
3. **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**  
Committee membership terms
4. **Motion to approve the agenda**  
Moved by Marilyn Reynolds  
That the Agenda for the meeting of September 13, 2022 be approved  
CARRIED
5. **Motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting**  
Moved by Marilyn Reynolds  
That the Minutes of the July 14, 2022 meeting be approved  
Moved by Ursula Hudson  
That the Minutes of the August 9, 2022 meeting be approved  
CARRIED
6. **Presentations (invited guests)**
7. **Business arising from the minutes**  
Feedback from the Mayor meeting – excellent information, great tie-in to committee work/focus, appreciate the amount of time spent with us, get on new Mayor's calendar asap

New public appointment policy

Committee is still able to meet, how to be proactive to ensure OAAC continues in next council structure?

Election candidates brief coming from AFNC

Draft a letter to congratulate new Mayor and Councillors – highlight accomplishments, welcome to attend meeting, Dominic to draft letter and circulate for comment

## 8. **Business**

### a. Needs Assessment, ICG grant

- i. As for Inclusive Communities and Seniors Grants, I reached out to our regional advisor, Jennifer Hay, and she explained that both programs received hundreds of applications and the ministry is currently evaluating and reviewing each one, she anticipates we will hear back very soon but there is no definitive timeline to when they will finish combing through applications.

### b. Communications

- i. Gail/Koby to work collaboratively on an email

### c. Age Friendly Community

- i. Let's Chat benches –Accessibility Advisory Committee (Michelle)  
Arm rests on each side or mid arm rest look at Let's Chat specs and accessibility perspective  
Port Dalhousie pier benches have no arm rest, should retrofit, approach people with lived experience, international standards for Let's Chat  
Both committees agree that arm rests are needed on benches on PD pier, a joint recommendation to staff
  - a. Retrofitting pier benches
  - b. Additional benches

Municipal park benches – extra width, dimensions/design of bench, access to pathway, select strategically sign with Let's Chat

Can we tie to the Older Adult Plan?

### d. NOAA, Niagara Older Adult Alliance – No meeting since last

### e. AFNC, Age Friendly Niagara Council – Preliminary survey results presented in Fort Erie Capacity to extract municipal information 1300 surveys completed Brock grad students compiling results Focus groups for Francophone, newcomers and Indigenous October 28 community consultation meeting in Welland, Pat Spadafora to present data and it will be interactive session

Founding Board to involve big players ie. Niagara Health, Niagara Region, etc to raise profile of AFNC

Submitted application to Niagara Community Foundation – business planning process looking for sustainable funding so work continues

Preparing municipal candidates brief

- f. Social Sustainability Pillar Committee
  - 2 separate motions made
  - a. Ask council to cancel performance
  - b. Work with partners to develop an overarching policy for future
- g. Membership
  - Marian Hepworth not participating, officially remove
  - Tracey Fox, Gail to reach out – reference Committee Guide for attendance, leave of absence, quorum

- 9. **Date of next meeting**
  - Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at 2pm Zoom

- 10. **Motion to Adjourn**
  - Moved by Marilyn Reynolds
  - That the meeting be adjourned at 3:20pm
  - CARRIED