

Social Sustainability Pillar Committee

Minutes

Thursday, February 03, 2022

Electronic Meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Attendance:

Councillor Bill Phillips, Chair
Councillor Greg Miller ~ joined at 4:33 p.m.
Phil Cristi, Director of Community, Recreation and Cultural Services
Jeanette Pillitteri, Director of Corporate Support Services
Gail Riihimaki, Vice-Chair, Older Adults Advisory Committee
Jim Richardson, Chair, Recreation Master Plan Advisory Committee
Rick Kennedy, Vice-Chair, LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee
Saleh Waziruddin, Chair, Anti-Racism Advisory Committee

Absent:

Councillor Sal Sorrento
Michelle Sanders, Co-Chair Accessibility Advisory Committee

Guests:

Andrea Connelly-Miele, Community and Events Coordinator ~ left at 5:00 p.m.

Staff Liaison:

Anika Forde, Manager of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Chantal Switzer, Equity & Inclusion, LGBTQ2+ and Anti-Racism
Eric Lamothe, Recreation Master Plan
Koby Vanyo, Older Adults Advisory
Lori Mambella, Manager of Program and Culture
Megan Detlor, Accessibility Advisory
Leanne Kurek, Social Pillar

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1. **Call meeting to order (Chair, Bill Phillips)**
4:30 p.m.

2. **Recognition of Traditional Territories**

Councillor Phillips acknowledged that the land on which the Social Sustainability Committee meets today is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples, many of whom continue to live and work here today. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and is within the land protected by

the Dish with One Spoon Wampum agreement. Today this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Peoples. Acknowledging this is a reminder that our great standard of living is directly related to the resources and friendship of Indigenous people.

3. Amendments to the Agenda

9.4 – Anti-Racism Advisory Committee vacancy not included

4. Motion to approve the agenda

That the Social Sustainability Committee adopt the agenda as amended.

Moved by: J. Richardson

Carried as amended

5. Motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting

Motion to adopt the SSC minutes Nov 4, 2021.

Moved by: R. Kennedy

Carried

6. Declarations of Interest

None were declared

7. Presentations (invited guests)

NA

8. Business arising from the minutes

NA

9. Business

a. 9.1 Chair's Report

Chair Phillips apologized to the Equitable Recovery Subcommittee regarding the special meeting that was scheduled for December 9, 2021 but could not go forward due to not having quorum. Chair Phillips gave verbal update on the Recovery Plan, the importance of quorum and committee members sending regrets in advance of the meeting.

Chair Phillips thanked members of the Equitable Recovery Subcommittee for their work on the report and reported the Recreation Master Plan Advisory Committee was able to tour the new Canada Summer Games Park.

b. 9.2 Intro of Anika Forde

Anika Forde introduced herself as the Manager of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for the City of St. Catharines. She also gave a brief statement on her past work and life experience and looks forward to working at the city.

c. 9.3 Review waiving of fees applications

Motion to approve the request for waiving of fees in their applications for the following organizations:

Motion to approve to waive \$356.25 for the Get up and Move Volleyball tournament in support of Jumpstart Canada.

Motion to approve to waive \$481.82 for the BIPOC Market organized by Black Owned 905.

Motion to approve to waive \$232.59 for the Coldest Night of the Year Walk in support of Start Me Up Niagara.

Motion to approve to waive \$868.81 for the DSBN Skills competition.

Moved by: S. Waziruddin
Carried

d. 9.4 Review of applications for vacancies on the Equity and Inclusion, Older Adults, Accessibility and Anti-Racism Advisory Committees and recommendations for the vacancies.

Motion to go In Camera at 5:00 p.m.

That the Social Sustainability Committee go In Camera for personal matters about identifiable individuals, including municipal or local board employees

Moved by: G. Miller
Carried

In Camera ~ Review applications for the Equity and Inclusion, Older Adults, Accessibility and Anti-Racism Advisory Committees

Motion to move to Open Session at 5:10 p.m.

That the Social Sustainability Committee move to Open Session

Moved by: G. Miller

Carried

That the Social Sustainability Committee approve the recommended names for the Equity and Inclusion, Older Adults and Anti-Racism Advisory Committees as discussed in the In Camera Session and for the recommendations to be referred to council.

Moved by: S. Waziruddin

Carried

**e. 9.5 Advisory Committees Terms of Reference proposed amendment
– Accessibility Advisory Committee**

That the proposed Terms of Reference be updated to include an appointment of person(s) who identify with a disability for all advisory committees be referred to staff for consideration as part of the review of advisory committee procedures for the next term of Council

Moved by: J. Richardson

Carried

**f. 9.6 Exit Interview/ Survey for committee members who resign –
Accessibility Advisory**

That the proposed exit interview process for members who resign and all committee members at end of term from advisory committees and task forces be referred to staff for consideration as part of the review of advisory committee procedures for the next term of Council.

Moved by: J. Richardson

Carried

**g. 9.7 Land Acknowledgement proposed amendment – Anti-Racism
Advisory Committee**

i. Proposed amendment attached (updated from agenda)

Whereas the Deputy Mayor for each month of the year is invited to share their own personal land acknowledgement or recite the City's land acknowledgement; and

Whereas the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee has provided suggested amendments to the City's land acknowledgment;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the proposed Land Acknowledgement amendments from the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee be referred to City Council to review the proposed amendments with the Niagara Regional Native Centre; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff implement the amended Land Acknowledgement, based on the input from the Niagara Regional Native Centre and the city's Indigenous communities and organizations.

Moved by: S. Waziruddin

Carried

h. 9.8 Let's Chat Benches – Older Adults Advisory

- i. Proposal attached

That the Older Adults Advisory Committee work in partnership with City staff to identify appropriate locations and potential grant funding opportunities for Let's Chat Benches.

Moved by: G. Riihimaki

Carried

i. 9.9 International Federation on Aging Conference Outcome- Older Adult Advisory

- i. Information attached

That the Social Sustainability Committee accepts the verbal update from the International Federation on Aging Conference Outcome from the Older Adults Advisory Committee.

Moved by: G. Riihimaki

Carried

10. Date of next meeting

Thursday, April 28, 2022 at 4:30 p.m.

11. Motion to Adjourn

That the Social Sustainability Committee be adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Moved by: J. Richardson

Carried

Attachments:

- Anti-Racism Advisory Committee: Land Acknowledgement proposed amendment
- Older Adults Advisory Committee: Let's Chat Benches background information
- Older Adults Advisory Committee: International Federation on Aging Conference Outcome

Proposed Amendments to Land Acknowledgement from Anti-Racism Advisory Committee

January 18, 2022

WHEREAS the City of St. Catharines includes the territories of the Hatiwendorank and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, as well as the already mentioned First Nations; and

WHEREAS the process of colonization is on-going and has not ended

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee recommends City Council amend the Land Acknowledgement to include the Hatiwendorank and to add “including Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation” after “Anishinaabeg peoples”; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee recommends City Council amend the Land Acknowledgement to add “acknowledging this land reminds settlers that they directly benefit from the on-going process of colonization” at the end of the current Land Acknowledgement; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee recommends City Council consult the city's Indigenous communities and organizations, including the Niagara Regional Native Centre as per the City's Memorandum of Understanding, to get further advice on updating the land acknowledgement statement

Older Adults Advisory Committee
January 24, 2022

Motion: The City of St. Catharines consider designating a target percentage of new and/or retrofitted park benches as “Let’s Chat” benches.

Background: A number of communities across the world have designated benches that are “Let’s Chat” benches. The sign simply breaks down the invisible wall between strangers who might be sitting side by side but are uncertain about starting a conversation. With 1 in 5 Canadians identifying as being lonely and 40% of older adults, these low-cost signs can help increase socialization and decrease loneliness. Further, the pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on older adults and this includes increased social isolation. The health and economic impacts of loneliness are well documented. The City of Welland has installed signage on new and retrofitted benches that is 4 inches by 48 inches and is countersunk into the slat on the back of the bench in order not to protrude and be uncomfortable on the person’s back. The signage design could easily be modelled after those that have been installed in Welland.

With the installation of new benches on the Port Dalhousie pier, it appears to be an appropriate opportunity to consider a pilot of the “Let’s Chat” benches.

City of St. Catharines Older Adults Advisory Committee
January 24, 2022

Motion: That the following be shared with City of St. Catharines Council as information.

On behalf of the City of St. Catharines Older Adults Advisory Committee, I would like to thank the City of St. Catharines for their contribution to the Age Friendly Niagara Council's virtual exhibit at the International Federation on Ageing Conference held November 9 to 12, 2021. The Conference was held both virtually and in Niagara Falls, Ontario, and was a resounding success. Through the contributions by the City of St. Catharines, other municipalities in Niagara and corporate sponsors, our virtual exhibit was comprised of a professionally created video as well as a brochure with the theme of Niagara's Empowered Older Adults (shared below and attached). The brochure was distributed to the 1200 delegates in attendance and will be made available to the municipalities, including St. Catharines, for sharing with their residents. The exhibit prompted inquiries from all over the world.

We feel that the contribution of \$125.00 represented an excellent investment in raising the profile of the City of St. Catharines and the Niagara Region as an Age Friendly Community in a global forum, and thank the City for the support.

Gail Riihimaki
Chair, City of St. Catharines Older Adults Advisory Committee

Link to Video:

<https://youtu.be/2KToL2egyko>

Niagara's Empowered Older Adults



Envisioning a Community for All Ages



Of the almost 450,000 people living in the Niagara region of Ontario, about **36% are older adults** (55+ years of age), compared to 30% for all of Canada.

Statistics
Canada, 2016



Older adults are empowered and making a difference in Niagara's progress as a WHO (World Health Organization) Age-Friendly Community (AFC). They are working with all of Niagara's municipalities to create:

- An Age-Friendly network of over 500 members raising awareness and promoting local action on the eight WHO AFC domains
- Municipal Advisory Committees (MACs) providing advice to local municipal councils and advocating on issues relevant to older adults
- A MACs Collaborative which spans the municipalities and provides a strong voice for older adults on identified issues.

As well, the local Niagara chapter of C.A.R.P., with its over 6,000 members, is active in various advocacy efforts to benefit Niagara's older adults.

Action is underway to strengthen Niagara as an Age-Friendly community, in all of Niagara's municipalities:

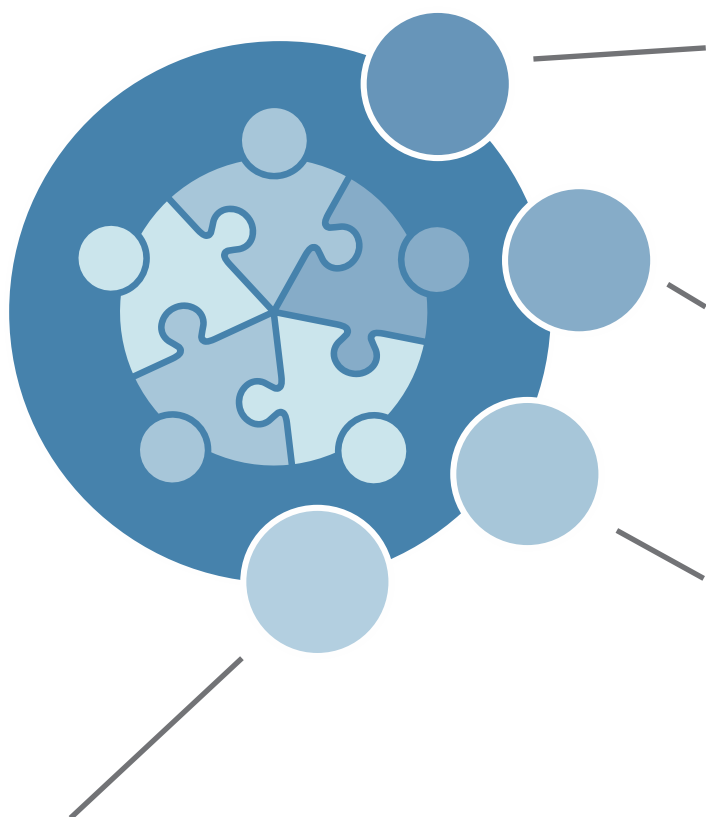
Fort Erie
Grimsby
Lincoln
Niagara Falls
Niagara-on-the-Lake
Pelham
Port Colborne
Regional Municipality of Niagara
St. Catharines
Thorold
Wainfleet
Welland
West Lincoln

Thank you to our sponsors:



Age-Friendly Niagara Council
www.agefriendlyniagara.com

Age-Friendly Niagara - Levels of Action



Niagara Collaborative of Local Municipal Seniors/Age-Friendly Advisory Committees

A total of 112 volunteers who work at the local municipal level to advocate for the interests of older people and age-friendly principles in their communities. Representatives of these committees meet regularly to share information and align planning and action.

Age-Friendly Niagara Council (AFNC) Board of Directors

Includes 15 volunteers who oversee and plan AFNC activities

Engaged Individuals

Includes a network of more than 500 people with an interest in an age-friendly Niagara

Niagara Aging Strategy and Action Plan (NASAP) Implementation

People working together to advance strategies based on NASAP goals:

1. Community Engagement and Communication
2. Recreation, Learning and Leisure
3. Improved Services, Systems and Infrastructure



A Community for All Ages

www.agefriendlyniagara.com

Vision: An Age-friendly Niagara -
A community for all ages.



World Health Organization (WHO) Eight Domains of Age-Friendly Communities

The AFNC is committed to increasing awareness of the eight domains through partnerships and shared learning, knowledge and planning.

- Outdoor Spaces and Buildings
- Transportation
- Housing
- Social Participation
- Respect and Social Inclusion
- Civic Participation and Employment
- Communication and Information
- Community Health and Support Services

