

Date: 15 December 2021

Time: 1:30pm

Location: Via Zoom

Attendance: Sharon Cook (Chair)  
Councillor Marianne Stewart  
Susan Buckingham  
Karen Blake (Administrative Assistant)  
Elena Simone-Simonetti (Vice-Chair)  
Gwen MacDougall (Library)  
Brittany MacLean (Active Living Programmer)  
Dave Nicholson  
Leah Letford (Communications Specialists)

Regrets: Anna Oakes (Lookout Ridge)  
Garth Hamilton  
Erin Stitt (Lookout Ridge)  
Ann Villalta

---

## **1. Call to Order and Declaration of Quorum**

Noting that quorum was present, Chair Sharon Cook called the meeting to order at approximately 1:34pm.

### **1.1 Land Recognition Statement**

The Chair read the following land recognition statement:

"We begin this meeting by acknowledging the land on which we gather 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 and acknowledging reminds us that our great standard of living is directly related to the resources and friendship of Indigenous people."

## **2. Approval of Agenda**

**Moved by** Elena Simone-Simonetti  
**Seconded by** Gwen MacDougall

**THAT the agenda for the December 15, 2021 regular meeting of the Pelham Seniors Advisory Committee be adopted.**

**Carried**

**3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature**

There were no pecuniary interests disclosed by any of the members present.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

The Committee approved the minutes from the November 18, 2021 Pelham Seniors Advisory Committee meeting, as amended.

**Moved by** Gwen MacDougall

**Seconded by** Dave Nicholson

**THAT the minutes of the November 18, 2021 Pelham Seniors Advisory Committee be approved, as amended.**

**Carried**

**5. Correspondence**

None.

**6. Business Arising from Minutes**

**6.1. Niagara Council on Aging**

A Committee member updated the Committee on the Niagara Council on Aging. Discussion surrounded a new member who is an expert on elder abuse, and a new subcommittee addressing the digital divide in Niagara. The next meeting will be in January. The Committee discussed their motion that was put forward regarding digital access and where it has gotten to. Councillor Stewart updated the Committee that five other municipalities are supportive of it and will follow up with the MPP. There will be a report of the Digital Access motion at a subsequent Pelham Seniors Advisory Committee's meeting.

---

**6.2. Calendar of Virtual Speakers ([www.pelham.ca/55](http://www.pelham.ca/55)) – Staff Report**

Staff updated the Committee on the Calendar of virtual speakers including a lunch and learn in January. There are already 7 registrations for the speaker. The presenter will be speaking over zoom and registrants can choose to view speaker from home or in-person at the Meridian Community Centre. Staff updated that there have been advertisements for the Stay Connected program and hopefully in the new year there will be more in-person programming, if regulations allow. Staff updated that 40 people have registered for the Art your Service program.

**6.3. Integrated Regional Niagara Transportation System -Report**

Councillor Stewart updated the Committee that Council has not had their vote regarding the integrated transit system. The vote will be in January 2022.

**6.4. Calendar Honouring Seniors**

Deferred until subsequent meeting.

**6.5. IFN Conference on Aging – Niagara Falls – Report**

A Committee member stated there has been no feedback from the conference but does have a link to the virtual exhibit that the Committee contributed to. Susan will forward it on to Staff and Staff will share to the Committee. A Committee member mentioned that there seemed to be no other representation from the Niagara Region besides the virtual exhibit PSAC was involved with as well as Brock University and Niagara College.

**6.6. Niagara Older Adult Alliance – Report**

No update as meetings have been cancelled. Committee members are hoping momentum will start up again in the new year.

**6.7. Update VIP Program – Staff Report**

Staff updated on the status of the Senior VIP program including training dates and tentative start dates.

## **6.8. New Horizon Grant Application**

The Communications Specialist updated the Committee on the New Horizons grant application that is due on December 21. The grant application will be put forward to support the SayIT on Stage expansion as it would fit within the criteria required within the grant application. The Communications Specialist asked for a letter of support from the Committee. The Committee asked several questions and agreed. Staff will hear back about the application by mid-march 2022. The Chair will meet with the Communications Specialist at a later date.

## **6.9. Year End Review**

The Chair reiterated that the year-end review will occur in January 2022. The Committee discussed having two separate meetings in January – one for the year-end review and one for regular meeting agenda. The Committee agreed.

**Moved by** Gwen MacDougall  
**Seconded by** Susan Buckingham

**THAT the Committee receive verbal reports regarding the Niagara Council on Aging, Calendar of Virtual Speakers, Integrated Transit System, Calendar Honouring Seniors, IFN Conference on Aging, the Niagara Older Adult Alliance, VIP Program, New Horizons Grant and Year-end Review for information.**

**Carried**

## **7. New Business**

### **7.1. Letter of Support – Niagara Age Friendly Council**

The Committee discussed a letter of support for the New Horizons applications being made InCommunities which is supported by the Niagara Council on Aging. The Committee agreed that the Chair can sign the letter.

### **7.2. In Communities 211 Older Adult**

A Committee member updated that an information portal directly for seniors to be able to find support services in the Community has been

launched in partnership with Age Friendly Niagara. Niagara Council on Aging is creating a "how-to" video that should be available by the end of the week. The Committee member will share the link with Staff and Staff will send it to the Committee. The Committee member also mentioned that the portal may be available by phone. Age Friendly Niagara is looking to have workshops in connections with public libraries to teach seniors how to access and navigate the information portal.

### **7.3. 2022 Budget**

The Committee asked for confirmation that they would receive the same funds as previous years in 2022. Councillor Stewart noted that each Committee of Council that received money in the past, would receive the same budget for 2022.

## **8. New Business**

### **8.1. Seniors Development – Park Place North**

Councillor Stewart updated the Committee on a new Seniors Development that is planned for East Fonthill. The design is not solidified but will be geared towards seniors. The Committee asked to be involved in discussions with the developer. Councillor Stewart will discuss this request with Council and ask that the Pelham Seniors Advisory Committee be invited to engage with the developers.

## **9. Next Meeting**

**THAT the Committee approve the following dates for future 2022 meetings:**

- January 13 (Year-End Review) & January 20 (Regular Meeting), 2022 at 1:30pm

**Carried**

## **10. Adjournment**

**THAT this Regular Meeting of the Pelham Seniors Advisory Committee be adjourned at 2:17pm.**

**Carried**

**Sharon Cook, Chair****Karen Blake, Administrative Assistant**