

Date: 17 February 2022

Time: 1:30pm

Location: Via Zoom

Attendance: Sharon Cook (Chair)
Councillor Marianne Stewart
Susan Buckingham
Karen Blake (Administrative Assistant)
Elena Simone-Simonetti (Vice-Chair)
Brittany MacLean (Active Living Programmer)
Erin Stitt (Lookout Ridge)
Dave Nicholson
Barb Wiens
David Cribbs

Regrets: Ann Villalta
Gwen MacDougall (Library)
Garth Hamilton

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. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Susan Buckingham
Seconded by Elena Simone-Simonetti

THAT the agenda for the February 17, 2022 regular meeting of the Pelham Seniors Advisory Committee be adopted, as amended.

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 January 20, 2022 Pelham Seniors Advisory Committee meeting.

Moved by Elena Simone-Simonetti
Seconded by Dave Nicholson

THAT the minutes of the January 20, 2022 Pelham Seniors Advisory Committee meeting be approved.

Carried

5. Correspondence

None.

6. Business Arising from Minutes

6.1. PSAC's Role in Development Applications related to Seniors Housing and Care Facilities

The Chair noted that the Committee had been previously included on discussions regarding care facilities and seniors housing and noted the expertise on the Committee including personal and professional experience. The CAO noted the motion that was approved at Council regarding the Committee's involvement in the development process and the staff directive to bring a report to Council on how the Committee could be involved. The CAO noted that there could be a few ways forward. Discussion surrounded where the Committee could and want be involved, what is of interest to the Committee, circulating applications, timelines on applications, site-plan level versus subdivision plan, and authorities under the planning act. Staff noted that the Zoning Bylaw and Official Plan are being amended and the Committee could have

some input on them via public meetings. Staff asked the Committee where they believe their voice needs to be heard. The Committee members noted that they would like to be included in the consultation process and Staff encouraged the Committee to take some time to think of the things that they would like included in the Zoning By-law. A Town planner will be invited to a subsequent meeting to discuss the planning process and how the Committee may add value.

6.2. Proposed Three Month Committee Term Extension due to Municipal Election

The CAO noted that the proposed extension to the Committee term is not viable and that the Committee will not meet from August 2022 until after the next Council is inaugurated. The CAO noted that the Committee may make the request of Council but will not have the support of Staff. The CAO noted that the Staff's view on the extension is not specific to the Pelham Seniors Advisory Committee but for all Committees of Council. The Committee expressed its concerns the extended break including the lag in function, and preparing and holding the fall seniors fair. The CAO suggested that the Committee look at their Terms of Reference to see where their focus should be in the coming months and also create a transfer memo for the subsequent Committee on the key areas on which the Committee has been focused on to assist with the transition time.

6.3. Digital Access Follow up – Letter to MPP

The Chair thanked Council for passing along the Committee's concerns regarding digital access to other municipalities, the region and the MPP but wanted explanation on why a follow-up letter could not be sent by the Committee. The CAO explained that Advisory Committees are set up to give guidance to Council but Council gets to make the final decisions and actions. As that is the logic of the system, the letter would need to be endorsed by Council or it does not get sent. The Committee discussed the opportunity to address the digital divide and push the issue through the Niagara Council on Aging. Councillor Stewart noted that she had the opportunity to talk with MPP Oosterhoff regarding this issue a few weeks prior to the meeting and gave him a printed copy of the motion and a brief letter regarding the concerns and impacts and he seemed receptive.

As Erin Stitt left after this conversation, quorum was lost.

6.4. Seniors Active Living Centre Special Grant Application – Update

Staff updated the Committee that the Seniors Active Living Centre Special Grant application was successful and reminded the Committee on what the application included. Staff are starting to look at purchasing the products including the flagpoles, buddy bench and accessible picnic table with shades. Staff noted that the Committee can start looking at location and displays. The Committee discussed installation date, choosing the correct locations, and free standing permanent signage. Staff will present drafts for signage including wording before finalization.

6.5. Year End Review – Update

Elena sent the Committee a follow-up email regarding changes to the Committee's goals and priorities and had not heard any responses. A Committee member noted that she had a few additions and will send her comments later. The Committee noted that they would like to review their Goals and Priorities document at a subsequent meeting and would like to incorporate accomplishments in the past year to the annual Year End Review. Staff will be able to fill in the details on dates of accomplishments.

6.6. NOAA (Niagara Older Adults Alliance) Update

Susan updated the Committee on the NOAA and a study that was conducted. Susan noted that the Pelham Seniors Advisory Committee was ahead of most other Seniors Advisory Committees on the projects and programs they were able to hold over the course of the last two years. The NOAA is looking to address the digital divide and a member is a researcher looking at this topic at Brock. The Committee discussed having the Brock researcher come to Pelham Seniors Advisory Committee's March meeting to discuss digital equity. Susan also noted that Thorold's 2023 senior's calendar is being produced for April and that Brock University has developed an app that will match seniors with snow buddies and hoping to expand it to include other assistances.

6.7. NFNC (Age-Friendly Niagara Council) Update and Promotional Material

A Committee member updated the Committee on the Age-Friendly Niagara Council including a presentation on integrated transportation and promotional brochures for the information phone number and website PSAC can decide on distribution dates and locations. The Committee discussed having Mary Wiley give a presentation on aging and inviting her to speak during the Pelham Seniors Advisory Committee's April meeting.

6.8. Welcome Back events

Staff updated the Committee on a welcome back event that staff are working on now that the Community Centre is open to the public again. This event is tentatively on June 1st to kick off Seniors month, Recreation month and unveil the new flagpoles, buddy bench and accessible seating. Staff noted that the funding for the seniors fair this year is only for digital fairs.

7. New Business**7.1. Ontario Age Friendly Communities Outreach Program Webinar on Ageism and Mistreatment of Seniors**

A couple Committee Members updated the Committee on a webinar that they attended regarding ageism and the mistreatment of seniors. They felt the webinar address the issues but gave no solutions. They noted there is a seniors information hotline number that was shared and the Committee discussed if the number could be placed on the buddy bench signage and other seniors related publications (ie. seniors calendars, etc.)

7.2. Elder Abuse Webinar (Crime Stoppers) – February 23rd

A couple Committee members noted that they will be attending the Elder Abuse webinar and will report back at the subsequent meeting. Staff noted that if any Committee members know of any future webinars to let Brittany know so she can add them to the monthly Seniors Calendars.

7.3. Declaration of Age-Friendly Community by Mayor and Council

A Committee member asked if Council could declare Pelham to be an age-friendly community. Councillor Stewart will put forward a motion at Council.

7.4. Regional Event – Moving forward with planning partners

The Chair reminded the Committee about the regional event that was being planned prior to the pandemic for Spring of 2020 including an activity circuit, lunch-break and speaker. The event was bring organized by a regional group and included Brock and Niagara College students. The Committee discussed opportunities for this event for 2022 and decided that due to the current infection rate that the Committee were not prepared to host the event until at least Fall 2022 or Spring 2023. Sharon will inform the regional group on these decisions.

7.5. Lookout Ridge Volunteer Opportunities

Staff updated the Committee that Lookout Ridge is looking for volunteers for their recreational programming and invited the Committee to pass along this information to those who may be interested.

7.6. Scam Seminar

The Chair updated the Committee that Brock Godfrey who hosted a scam seminar in Fall of 2019 was willing to come back to Pelham for a follow-up seminar. Discussion surrounded dates, the opportunity to stream to overflow rooms to accommodate more attendees and scheduling. Staff will look into streaming his seminar to other community rooms at the Meridian Community Centre as well as have an online option.

7.7. Hydro Use/Telephone Scams

The Chair informed the Committee that that there are many current scans including ones about hydro use. The Committee discussed government involvement and changing hydro rates.

8. Next Meeting

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

- March 17, 2022 at 1:30pm
- April 21, 2022 at 1:30pm

Carried

9. Adjournment

The Regular Meeting of the Pelham Seniors Advisory Committee was adjourned at 3:28pm.



Sharon Cook, Chair

Karen Blake, Administrative Assistant