

City of Niagara Falls
Seniors Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday January 13th, 2021 1:00pm

The meeting of the Seniors Advisory Committee of the City of Niagara Falls was held on Thursday January 13th, 2022 via Zoom with Otto Penner chairing. Ewald welcomed all in attendance. Meeting called to order at 1:05 pm.

Present: Anne Wylie, Karen Fraser, Joe Szabo, Phyllis Wells Giel, Ewald Kuczera, Fred Hodder, Otto Penner, Councillor Wayne Campbell, Kathy Moldenhauer, Hanya Nagy, and DJ Brooks

Regrets: Donna Mills

Absent: Jack Widder, Linda Winston and Councillor Chris Dabrowski

Agenda: It was requested that News/Views as well as Seniors Month be added to the agenda. It was advised they could be discussed during new business.

a motion “to approve the agenda of the January 13th, 2022 Seniors Advisory Committee meeting” made by Ewald Kuczera - seconded by Anne Wylie and **carried**.

Minutes: Need to change the motion to adopt the minutes in the Dec minutes due to Ewald chairing and therefore being unable to second a motion. Joe Szabo to fill the motion spot. DJ to edit.

a motion “to approve the minutes, with edits as described, of the December 9th, 2021 Seniors Advisory Committee meeting” made by Fred Hodder - seconded by Joe Szabo and **carried**.

Business Arising from Minutes

a) Parking Spots

- a. Kathy advised that after talking with Hanya and the Manager of Parking that spots could be utilized for Seniors and Parents with young children. There are already 15 spots with existing signage that could be identified for seniors as well. Kathy also explained that there are already more accessible spots at MacBain then necessary to meet AODA standards.

b) Bus Subsidy

- a. Kathy advised that the information has been passed to Transit but with the transition to a Regional Transit system their hands are tied currently.

c) DropBox

- a. DJ reiterated the cost was prohibitive for dropbox that the group could use a free product such as Google, or we could continue to use the City servers but the Committee would need to email DJ or Hanya for the documents/images/videos they require.

d) Bus Routes Updates

- a. Kathy explained that with Transit moving to a Regional system this was again something that would take time. Kathy propose we could extend an offer to Carla to come to the next meeting. There was no comment from the committee on this offer.
- b. Otto expressed his worry that with a Regional system the Committee and residents of Niagara Falls would have less say regarding the transit.
- c. Otto and Phyllis to present these concerns at the upcoming Regional Seniors meeting.

New Business

a) News and Views TV Show

- a. Karen to send the email of the subcommittee minutes from their last meeting
- b. Show templates/guest have now been completed until April.
- c. Subcommittee wants to cut video promos to air on Cogeco as well as to promote the show via a facebook page.
- d. Councillor Campbell updated that the Armed Forces could not join the show due to the tight timeframe. Councillor Campbell also volunteered to be part of the show on homelessness as he is on a committee with the city regarding the issue.
- e. Hanya expressed that one of the issue of viewership may be due to Cogeco not allowing us the usage of the shows for online viewing through Youtube or the City website. She wondered if there were other options for production.
- f. Joe Szabo also suggested that post covid we may consider self recording using volunteers from high school or Niagara College.
- g. Fred asked about marketing opportunities. Ideas included the Coronation e-newsletter, commercials during other Cogeco shows, facebook groups, the City Website, and the local papers.
- h. Karen and Fred to work on promotional materials.

b) Seniors Month

- a. Coming up in June. Karen advised the committee could buy a flag from a local Welland company for \$200. This company has already produced seniors/age friendly flags for 6 neighboring municipalities.
- b. Kathy advised that flag raisings are approved through council and flags raised at City Hall as that is the only location in the City with multiple flag poles.
- c. Kathy and Hanya advised that the committee does have a \$2,000 annual budget.
- d. Ewald suggested the committee ask for an official proclamation to go with the flag raising.

a motion “to purchase an age friendly flag; approach council for a formal flag raising and proclamation”, was made by Ewald Kuczera; seconded by Phyllis Wells Giel, and ***carried***.

c) **Homelessness**

- a. Hanya updated the committee of the new partnership with 'Start Me Up Niagara' as they will be using the Main Auditorium of the Coronation Centre 7 days a week from 12-5 to be a warming centre, light soup kitchen, and counselling centre for our homeless. She also suggested they may need volunteers.
- b. Multiple members volunteered clothes, items, or their time. Hanya to follow up with the organization.

Adjournment

a motion "to adjourn the meeting" was made by Phyllis Wells Giel, seconded by Ewald Kuczera. Meeting adjourned at 2:05 pm.

Next Meeting – Thursday February 10th, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.