

**City of Niagara Falls  
Seniors Advisory Committee Meeting  
Thursday June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 1:00pm**

The meeting of the Seniors Advisory Committee of the City of Niagara Falls was held on Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 in the MacBain Community Centre Board Room (and Zoom) with Otto Penner chairing. Otto welcomed all in attendance. Meeting called to order at 1:10 pm.

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

**Regrets:** Ewald Kuczera, Donna Mills, Fred Hodder, Councillor Chris Dabrowski,

**Absent:** Jack Widder

**Agenda:** *a motion* “to approve the agenda of the June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Seniors Advisory Committee meeting” made by Anne Wylie - seconded by Phyllis Wells Giel and ***carried.***

**Minutes:** *a motion* “to approve the minutes of the May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Seniors Advisory Committee meeting” made by Karen Fraser - seconded by Phyllis Wells Giel and ***carried.***

**Business Arising from Minutes**

- a) Water Rebate: Finance Guests –Jonathan Leavens and Stephanie Young
- a. Jon gave a detailed presentation on the current water rates, rebate rates, rebate rates as a percentage, etc.
  - b. Jon explained that finance has not been given direction to annually review the water rebate or its structure.
  - c. Jon also explained that the water rebate has been a flat \$100 for some time and the origins of that decision are not well known. As such the goal and rationale for the original rebate are unknown. With that in mind, it may be time for a formal policy regarding the water rebate to be put into place.
  - d. Stephanie explained the current criteria to be eligible for the rebate
  - e. Otto Thanked Jon and Stephanie for their time.
  - f. Joe opined that this would be a good topic for the show and that Jon/Stephanie could be great guests.
  - g. Karen asked about the policy creation process. Kathy explained that process

***A motion,*** “for Council to direct finance staff to create a comprehensive rebate policy regarding water and property tax for lower income seniors” was made by Karen Fraser, Seconded by Anne Wylie – ***Carried.***

- b) Council Memos
  - a. DJ reviewed the memos that went to council with the committee and explained that they were all accepted – including the free bus fare for June 22 for the Open House.
  
- c) Nametags
  - a. Dj advised the name tags have been ordered and are ready for pickup – they will be available for the open house.
  
- d) Open House
  - a. DJ to source pens/pins from city hall to the event.
  - b. DJ advised the event is now from 10am to 1pm on June 22.
  
- e) Resignation – Wendy McPherson
  - a. As per direction from the last meeting DJ reached out to Wendy regarding coming back into an active role on the committee. Wendy advised her work and family commitments have no lessened and as such she is going to officially resign.

#### New Business

- a) News and views
  - a. Very positive first year with lots of positive words from the community.
  - b. Ready to go for September.
  
- b) Summer
  - a. Subcommittee to meet in August
    - i. Topics to include Niagara College and seniors returning to school as well as possibly Stephanie Young to discuss the water rebate.
  - b. Show taping will be on the first Wednesday of September
  - c. Reminder that the September agenda will need to include the call for nominations for the Senior of the Year.

#### Adjournment

**a motion** “to adjourn the meeting” was made by Anne Wylie, seconded by Joe Szabo. Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

**Next Meeting – Thursday September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.**