

**City of Niagara Falls
Seniors Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday June 13th, 2019**

The meeting of the Seniors Advisory Committee of the City of Niagara Falls was held in the Blue Room of the Coronation Centre on Thursday June 13th, 2019 with Wendy McPherson chairing. Wendy welcomed all in attendance. Meeting called to order at 2:00 pm.

Present: Karen Fraser, Ewald Kuczera, Wendy McPherson, Anne Wylie, Stewart Black, Jack Widder, Councillor Wayne Campbell, Kathy Moldenhauer, Donna Mills, Hanya Nagy and DJ Brooks

Regrets: Councillor Chris Dabrowski, Otto Penner, Fred Hodder and Francine Beattie

Absent: Noreen Bald

Minutes: *a motion* “to approve the minutes of the May 9th, 2019, Seniors Advisory Committee meeting” was made by Ewald Kuczera - seconded by Stewart Black and *carried*.

Guest Speakers – Marianne Tikky (Manager of Municipal roadways)

Marianne began with a presentation on what assets the municipal department has, the challenges it faces, and how decisions and planning are implemented within the department. The presentation slides are attached.

Wendy thanked Marianne for her time and the valuable information.

Business Arising from Minutes

a. Advocacy and Role of Committee

- i. Stu spoke of the need to focus our time and energy on a Strategic Plan and Priorities instead of these 1 off and piece meal ideas.
- ii. Committee needs to focus on age-friendly and not ‘seniors’. Cannot ignore segments of the population.
- iii. Need to encourage council to make decisions through age-friendly eyes.

b. Debrief from Age Friendly Network Meeting

- i. Wendy spoke of her experience and said all separate Age Friendly Committees need to work together but they also have to make the committee uniquely theirs.

- ii. Ideas are to start small, start with Niagara Falls, and then try and move the ideology to the regional realm.
- iii. Councillor Wayne Campbell echoed these statements, explaining that if we can make something happen here we can give reason for it to be possible in other places.
- iv. Wendy suggested a sub-committee be put together to work on a skeleton of the strategic plan over the summer months when there are no scheduled meetings. This idea, ultimately, was deemed insufficient as the Committee preferred the idea of scheduling a summer meeting with a facilitator.
 - a. Hanya and Wendy to reach out and schedule a facilitator to help create a strategic plan in a full day meeting tentatively scheduled for July 11th.

c. Priorities

- i. Members identified their top priorities to the group
 - a. Karen – Transportation, Curb Cuts, and Regional Housing
 - b. Anne – Transportation, Housing, and Safety
 - c. Stu – Focus on a strategic plan is his only priority.
 - d. Francine (sent via email) – Housing, Free Transit, and Promotion.
- ii. A discussion around transportation ensued that lead to a **motion** by Wayne Campbell, seconded by Karen Fraser that reads as such, “The SAC requests consideration of free transportation for residents 65 and older”. 5 for, 1 against, ***and carried.***
 - a. Councillor Campbell said he would talk to other Councillors about supporting the idea.
 - b. It was suggested that Hanya would have to be at the meeting to answer any necessary questions.
 - c. DJ/Hanya to contact the disability Committee for a letter of support for the motion.
 - d. Councillor Campbell explained he would send DJ the appropriate information about the process for contacting the City Clerk to ensure the committee can speak at the next Council meeting.

New Business

a. Bus Maps

- i. Jack aired his frustration with the online guide map not having as much information as the folded, detailed, printed map. He has spoken to Jason in Human Resources as well as Carla in Transportation about the issue. He has also brought it up in his Accessibility Committee. As such, the SAC felt that waiting for more information from that committee was prudent rather than have both committees doubling the work.

b. Information Sessions

- i. Karen expressed that while she found the information sessions educational they need to be put to a time limit as we are running out of time during the sessions to discuss the direction of the committee. Wendy agreed and it was

agreed upon that future guests would be given a predetermined amount of time to present to the group.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:55pm on a motion from Stewart Black; seconded by Jack Widder and carried.