

**The Corporation of the Township of Tay
Seniors Advisory Committee Meeting
March 4, 2019
2:00 P.M.**

Present: Councillor Mary Warnock
Cate Root, Chair
Joanne Granger
Joyce Himel
Janet Pattullo
Shirley White

Staff Present: Alison Gray, Clerk
Cyndi Bonneville, Recording Secretary

1. **Call to Order:**
The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.
2. **Acceptance of Agenda:**
Moved by: Joanne Granger
Seconded by: Janet Pattullo
That the March 4, 2019 agenda be adopted with the following amendment:
 - 7.10 – Program Ideas - Seniors Craft Day with Kids
Carried.
3. **Declarations of Pecuniary Interest:**
None were presented.
4. **Adoption of the Minutes:**
Moved by: Joyce Himel
Seconded by: Shirley White
That the January 14, 2019 minutes be adopted as presented.
Carried.
5. **Correspondence:**
 - 5.1 **Invitation from the Age-Friendly Advisory Committee – Re: Geriatric Developments**
The Chair advised that the upcoming presentation will focus on the geriatric developments happening in Simcoe County and speakers will provide an update on the specialized geriatric services in our area. The Chair extended an invitation to all members to attend, if available.
6. **Items for Information:**
None were presented.
7. **New & Unfinished Business:**
 - 7.1 **Seniors Talk Series**
Members commented on how well attended the February Senior's Talks session was and it was agreed that additional marketing techniques be implemented to attract more seniors to attend.

It was suggested that a list of local groups be collected and that members approach the groups to announce the Senior's Talk sessions during their events. It was also suggested that the Senior's Talk Series flyer be placed in the Welcome Wagon packages circulated to new owners. Concern was expressed with ensuring the information was current and Joyce agreed to oversee this project.

Discussion ensued with respect to upcoming topics and it was suggested that Ted Chivers who selects the talks for the MCC series be contacted. It was agreed that Joyce extend an invitation to Ted to attend a future meeting. Other topics for consideration included Alzheimer's Awareness, Hydro Grants (winterization) and Elder Abuse.

The Chair highly recommended that members review the Ontario Health and Wellness website which provides information on resources available for seniors in Ontario, including tax credits, health, caregiving, housing and staying safe.

www.ontario.ca/page/guide-programs-and-services-seniors

7.2 County Funding - Update

The Chair recapped discussions with Jane Sinclair, General Manager Health & Emergency Services, with respect to future funding. Councillor Warnock added that the money is in the budget however the County has yet to develop the criteria and process for the application.

Discussion ensued with respect to consultant fees to create a Seniors Aging Plan for Tay and the Chair questioned if this process could be incorporated with the work of the Township's Strategic Planning Consultant. Staff spoke to the matter.

Councillor Warnock suggested that we mirror Tiny's Seniors Plan and seek assistance of consultant, Dave Clark. Staff recommended with the Province undertaking a review of regional government the Committee may want to postpone the Seniors Aging Plan as some services and programs may be at risk of being cut.

7.3 Meeting with Maggie Off, Tiny Township

The Chair provided a comparable of Tiny and Tay's Recreation Department as it relates to the time and commitment required to successfully carry out a Seniors Plan. Councillor Warnock noted that the Town of Midland and Penetang are scaling back and chances are that the North Simcoe Senior Advisory Committee will not continue.

After discussion and consideration it was agreed that the Tay Seniors Advisory Committee continue to work with Tiny's Seniors Committee.

7.4 Age Friendly Communities – Determinants of Health

For information the Chair provided a list outlining eight dimensions which form the basis of age-friendly communities. These dimensions consider both the physical and social aspects of communities that contribute to independent and active aging.

7.5 Transportation – Update MET

The Chair provided the committee with an update on the MET program which was initiated as a pilot project from Honey Harbour and the District of Muskoka. A discussion ensued with respect to transportation hindrances seniors' face on a regular basis.

To bring awareness to seniors as to what services and resources are available to them it was agreed that a list be compiled and posted to the Township's website and other social media. Services can include grocery and prescription delivery and volunteer groups that provide transportation to appointments.

7.6 Housing – Update Seniors Housing at Oakwood

The Clerk provided an update on the status of the County's affordable seniors and persons with disabilities residence to be built off of Maple Street behind Oakwood Community Centre. The three-storey building will house 41 units and construction is expected to commence within the next few weeks.

7.7 Food Security – Food Banks, St. Mary's

The Chair spoke of food banks available to residents in Tay and it was agreed that the area food banks and the Good Food Box program be included on the list of services/resources available to seniors.

7.8 Health Care

The Chair queried where information on senior's health care issues can be obtained and the following organizations were noted.

- *Care Partners* is an organization that provides health care, PSW's, rehabilitation and nursing care for patients in home.
- *Bayshore Health Care* is an organization that provides services to enhance the quality of life for seniors at home.

7.9 Safe Public Places

The Chair questioned if there are any services and programs available that will keep seniors connected while providing a state of well-being. It was noted that the Port McNicoll Library is accessible and offers programs, the VON's offer free low impact programs at the community centres and the North Simcoe Family Health Team provides a variety of programs and services.

7.10 Seniors Craft Day with Kids

The Chair suggested that the group consider a craft that could be done with both seniors and children in mind. It was agreed that a gingerbread house making session be held in December and further that members approach the local food store for donation of kits.

At this point in the meeting a discussion ensued with respect to relocating the kiosk at the corner of Triple Bay Road and Talbot Street to the area at First and Woodlands Avenue. It was agreed that the proposed location would welcome more users to the kiosk and Shirley offered to maintain the board if relocated. Staff will check into this request and report back accordingly.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by: Shirley White

Seconded by: Joanne Granger

That this Seniors Advisory Committee meeting adjourn at 3:50 p.m.

Carried.

Cate Root, Chair