

**The Corporation of the Township of Tay
Seniors Advisory Committee Meeting
January 14, 2019
2:00 P.M.**

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

Staff Present: Alison Gray, Clerk
Cyndi Bonneville, Recording Secretary
Jody Bressette, Tay Library
Bryan Anderson, Manager of Parks, Rec. & Facilities*

Regrets: Joanne Granger

*attended item 7.4

1. Call to Order:

The Clerk called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm.

1.1 Appointment of Chair

The Clerk advised that the first item of business of each term of office is to appoint a Chairperson from among its members. Following discussion and consideration the following motion was passed.

Moved by: Joyce Himel

Seconded by: Shirley White

That Cate Root be appointed as Chair of the Seniors Advisory Committee.

Carried.

2. Acceptance of Agenda:

Moved by: Shirley White

Seconded by: Janet Pattullo

That the January 14, 2019 agenda be adopted with the following amendment:

- 6.1 – Follow up from Previous Committee – Re: Accomplishments & Future Goals**

Carried.

3. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest:

None were presented.

4. Adoption of the Minutes:

None were presented at this time.

5. Correspondence:

None were received.

6. Items for Information:

6.1 Follow up from Previous Committee – Re: Accomplishments & Future Goals

To provide some insight on “where do we go from here” the Chair called on the former members for an overview of their accomplishments and future goals for the new committee term.

Councillor Warnock and Janet Pattullo spoke on the following topics.

- Local Aging Plan – Consultant costs, Tiny Township’s Plan and their assistance with the group to implement a plan for Tay.
- Submitted an application through the Seniors Community Grant Program - March 2018 – unfortunately not successful.
- Attempts to engage seniors for community feedback and to bring awareness of the Seniors Advisory Committee and encourage involvement in programs – unfortunately members were not well received by the senior groups.
- Monthly Speaker Sessions in partnership with the Library commenced October 2018 – slow start but there is an interest.
- North Simcoe Senior Advisory Committee (Midland, Penetanguishene, Tiny & Tay) – potential to join forces when undertaking larger projects such as a Directory of Senior Services and a Senior Fair.

At this point in the meeting a copy of Tiny Township’s Directory of Senior Services 2018 was circulated for review. The committee concurred that this project be undertaken jointly to include the surrounding municipalities. A review of tasks and costs to generate the directory ensued.

- County of Simcoe Age-Friendly Committee – Councillor Warnock advised that the County recognized the need for building age-friendly communities and implemented the Age-Friendly Communities Initiative Project. A copy of the County’s Positive Aging Strategy: Older Adults Strengthening our Communities booklet was circulated. Future meeting dates will be provided should members wish to attend as part of the audience.
- Councillor Warnock noted there may be an opportunity for Senior Committees to receive funding through the County and will update the committee as information becomes available.

Staff was directed to contact Christy Skelly (Certified Aging in Place Specialist – County of Simcoe) to update her mailing list to reflect the new members.

7. New & Unfinished Business:

7.1 2019 Meeting Schedule

The committee reviewed the proposed 2019 meeting schedule and it was agreed that the March 11th meeting be changed to March 4th.

7.2 Review of Terms of Reference

The Clerk provided a summary of the Tay Seniors Advisory Committee Terms of Reference policy and responded to questions accordingly.

7.3 Speaker Series

Staff spoke to the upcoming Senior's Talks for February, March and April and expressed encouragement that seniors are aware of the sessions as new people are attending. It was agreed that promoting the sessions is imperative for its success.

The presenters are facilitated by staff but if members are aware of any speakers/organizations they are welcome to provide names and contact information.

Future speaker topics were discussed and it was recommended that the following monthly sessions be considered:

- May – Retirement & Long Term Care Facilities
- June – Managing Medications & Use of Natural Remedies
- July – Elder Abuse

The Chair suggested that Council members be extended an invitation to attend the February session; staff was directed accordingly.

7.4 Seniors Recreation Planning

Councillor Warnock advised that the community expressed interest in recreation programming and the need to attract additional instructors for programs suitable for seniors. The Manager of Parks, Recreation & Facilities spoke to this matter and advised that a public stakeholder meeting is proposed for March.

It was suggested that a walking program, which also provides a social connection for seniors, be held at the Oakwood Community Centre during the winter months. The Manager of Parks, Recreation & Facilities provided an overview of the process and deadlines to promote programs in the Recreation Guide and encouraged members to bring new programming ideas forward.

At this point in the meeting members discussed techniques to reach out to seniors especially those that are isolated and it was agreed that the Senior's Talks flyer be posted at the churches, grocery store, community centres, legions and post office (where permitted). Members that attend the VON programs will promote the talk sessions and it was suggested that book marks listing the talk sessions be provided to seniors visiting the library branches.

8. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Moved by: Shirley White

Seconded by: Joyce Himel

That this Seniors Advisory Committee meeting adjourn at 3:34 p.m.

Carried.

Cate Root, Chair