



SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, September 20, 2016 at 7:00pm
Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338 – 65 Avenue, Langley, BC

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Angie Quaale (Co-Chair)
Sherry Baker (Co-Chair)

Susan Higginbotham, Coral Kaliciak, Jeanne Murko-Wust, and Barb Stack

Staff:

Val Gafka, Senior Manager, Corporate Administration
Chris Marshall, Landscape Architect, Recreation, Culture, and Parks
Lesley Visser, Manager, Community Recreation
Leanne Virtue, manager, Community Recreation
Kim Stepto, Recording Secretary

A. APPROVAL AND RECEIPT OF AGENDA ITEMS

1. Seniors Advisory Committee – September 20, 2016

The September 20, 2016 agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

B. RECEIVAL OF NOTES

1. Seniors Advisory Committee – June 15, 2016

The June 15, 2016 Notes were received by unanimous consent.

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Business Walk

V. Gafka, Senior Manager, Corporate Administration, provided an update on the Business Walk. She noted that Council has approved the Walk which will take place October 26 or November 2. She presented the draft content for the brochure that will be distributed to businesses and asked the committee for their input. She further noted that some Township crew will go along on the Walk to do a physical scan of the sidewalks etc. for accessibility.

COUNCIL

Moved by B. Stack,
Seconded by S. Higginbotham,
Whereas, the seniors population in Langley is projected to grow from the current 13% to 22% by 2030; and

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Whereas, on June 10, 2015, the Provincial Ministry of Health officially announced that the Township of Langley was recognized as an Age Friendly Community; and

Whereas, the Township's Age-Friendly Strategy resolution includes eight principles which include: Outdoor Spaces and Buildings, Transportation, Housing, Respect and Social Inclusion, Social Participation, Communication and Information, Civic Participation and Employment, and Community Support and Health Services ; and further

Whereas, the Economic Development Department piloted a successful Business Walk in the Brookwood community in 2015;

Therefore be it resolved, that the Seniors Advisory Committee recommends that Council approve an age-friendly component be incorporated as part of the Business Walk initiative in 2016, and future years, that will help businesses do a self-assessment and will raise awareness about conducting business in a manner that is comfortable for seniors, and in turn, people of all ages and abilities.

CARRIED

2. Township of Langley – Recreation, Culture, and Parks Division

C. Marshall, Landscape Architect, provided an update on the strategies/tasks in the Age Friendly Implementation Plan regarding Outdoor Spaces that have been assigned to the Recreation, Culture, and Parks Division.

Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

Ensure a diverse range of parks and public spaces that is well-distributed throughout the community to provide opportunities for active living and social interaction for people of all ages:

- Ongoing park planning
- Current Community Plan and Neighbourhood Plan processes will identify locations of new parks to address access for people of all ages.

Review trail guidelines for accessibility provisions such as width, grade, surface materials, wayfinding, and lighting:

- An update to the existing Community Connection Trails Plan has been drafted and requires review by trail users in Fall/Winter 2016.
- Approval to establish a Trail Advisory Group has been received.

Expand opportunities for bench dedication in neighbourhood parks and public spaces:

- Exploring lower pricing for a park standard bench – Fall 2016.

Explore locations and funding sources to establish community gardens, both temporary and permanent, to foster connection with nature and social interaction between generations:

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Newest community garden is in Routley Neighbourhood Park. Expanded by 60 plots at Aldergrove and Topham in 2016. A total of 7 community gardens exist on park sites in the Township with a total of 342 plots.

Continue to involve the public in planning for new parks and public spaces, in the early community planning stages and in the design phase with the parks department and private developers:

- Ongoing
- Exploring the addition of outdoor fitness equipment at Derek Doubleday Arboretum – as funding is secured.

Develop criteria for age-friendly park design and identify priority locations where these elements should be added into existing parks and public spaces:

- Have recently added pickle ball lines to 11 tennis courts.
- Design for Smith View Park with age-friendly features. Finalize design in 2017, build in 2019.
- Various distance loop options are provided for within our trail systems.

Identify locations to create or improve physical connections between neighbourhood parks and other local destinations through sidewalks, bike routes, and off-street trail connections:

- Update to Trails Plan has been drafted with revised mapping for shared use recreational trails.

Work with Langley School District #35 to assess the potential to provide age-friendly features in schoolyards such as benches near playgrounds and outdoor water foundations:

- Start in 2018.

L. Virtue, Community Recreation Manager, continued by providing the following update:

Respect and Social Inclusion

Implement programs or activities associated with Seniors Week, Intergenerational Day of Older Persons, Family Day, or other recognized events:

- Program listings in CLASS and Leisure Guide
- New registration system with ability to target specific market
- Established the Active Legacy Pass
- Programs are community wide
- Intergenerational programs in development for fall 2017.

Develop programs and initiatives to bring multiple generations together to foster mutual understanding and respect for diversity:

- Ongoing review of programs and services
- Continually assess the needs of neighbourhoods and initiate partnerships whenever possible

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Social Participation

Assess the need for additional facilities and explore opportunities to develop or co-locate facilities to serve this need:

- RCP continually reviews need for facilities as community grows
- Aldergrove facility for 2018
- RCP meet regularly with FVRL staff and Council to discuss planning
- All generations are invited to provide input.

Review the scheduling of recreational programs for older adults to provide opportunities for those who are working to also participate in social programs, fitness, and other recreational activities:

- RCP continually reviews its programs and event offerings
- Program descriptions that target “older adults”, early evening, morning, and weekends
- Partnership proposals are considered specific
- RCP staff welcome approaches from LSRS and other seniors serving events and program proposals.

Expand opportunities for joint-use agreements and partnerships with SD#35:

- Meet regularly with counterparts at SD#35 concerning new schools and Neighbourhood Learning Centres (NLC's)
- RCP manages NLC's on behalf of the SD handling facility bookings and coordinating programs at those facilities with a primary focus on children and youth after school programs
- Opportunities exist at these facilities for seniors groups to book rooms and for seniors' activities to be undertaken.
- Programmers often seek input from seniors using our facilities.

Support efforts and create more opportunities to ensure low-income residents have access to social programs and services:

Communication and information

Designate a community age-friendly coordinator to work with agencies and community partners:

- No action to date towards establishing an AF Coordinator
- Currently various staff and councillors are assigned as TOL reps to community agencies and organizations
- In short term, RCP is considering hiring a programmer with a seniors speciality
- Seniors staff team could assess the need for a coordinator position and recommend to Council.

Civic Participation & Employment

Provide support to community organizations to develop and promote programs and events in the community:

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Inventory services and organizations who serve seniors – long range objective to create a list similar to Cultural organization mapping
- Community Grants program currently exists.

Encourage institutions and facilities to recruit volunteers of all ages for community events:

- RCP Volunteer Program
- In-house expertise shared with external agencies
- Volunteer Resource materials sharing through various TOL departments including library, museum, and HAC.

Community Support and Health Services

Work with Fraser health to develop/enhance rehab, health, and fitness related programs available through Township facilities:

- Currently working with Fraser Health (Cardiac Rehab and TIME program)
- Work with Fraser Health and other communities to develop consistent approaches to referral programs
- Physical Literacy campaign and initiatives – promotion of Active Lifestyles and Healthy Living.

Encourage active living and health promotion/illness prevention for people of all ages through education; appropriate and affordable recreation programs; and accessible parks and trails:

- Ongoing

D. REPORTS

1. Co-Chairs Reports

Councillor Quaale provided the following update:

- Culture Days are taking place October 1 and 2
- The new Solid Waste Removal System is going well and people have reported that the new cans are easy to move.
- Many Councillors will be at the Union of British Columbia Municipalities conference in Whistler. Some of the motions they will be considering are regarding providing free prostate specific antigen testing for all men, a provincial Poverty Reduction Strategy, and increasing the number of people on the organ donation list.

E. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Brookwood-Fernridge Community Plan Update

If committee members wish to participate in this community planning process, please contact Russel Nelson, rnelson@tol.ca

F. WORK PROGRAM

1. Age Friendly Funding

The committee discussed the options for using the remaining Age Friendly funding (\$12,000), plus the \$1,000 award. The committee decided to spend the full \$13,000 on one of the following:

- Age-friendly Parking Signs
- Public charging Stations for Scooters
- Benches
- Dementia Friendly Initiative
- Fitness Park
- Age-Friendly Business
- Celebration of Strategy
- Elevated Community Garden Beds

L. Visser will provide further details regarding the costs of this list and the committee will discuss and decide on a project at the beginning of the October meeting.

2. BC Healthy Communities – Age-Friendly Recognition Program

L. Visser commented that she is going to be interviewed regarding the process of being recognized as an age-friendly community. She will be asked the following questions:

1. What are the benefits of pursuing age-friendly recognition?
2. How can the recognition award be improved (would you change or modify anything)? Is it valuable?
3. Is the four-milestone process challenging to complete? Why or why not? (Establish an AF committee. Pass a Local Council Resolution. Conduct AF Assessment. And Develop and Publish an Action Plan.)
4. How could communities be better supported to pursue age-friendly recognition?

The committee commented that it would be helpful if there was better marketing to the community of the age-friendly designation and an explanation of what the designation means. It was suggested to use the remaining age-friendly funds to advertise our age-friendly designation and to explain the work that has gone into receiving this designation.

G. COUNCIL REFERRALS

H. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. Age-Friendly Bus Shelter Ad

This ad will be displayed in bus shelters in the Township during October.

I. **NEXT MEETING**

Date: October 19, 2016
Location: Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338 – 65 Avenue
Time: 7:00 pm

J. **TERMINATE**

The meeting terminated at 9:00pm.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Community Representative Co-Chair

Council Representative Co-Chair