



SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 7:00pm
Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338 – 65 Avenue, Langley, BC

MINUTES

Present:

C. Munnalall (Community Co-Chair)
Councillor P. Arnason (Council Co-Chair)
Councillor S. Ferguson (Council Co-Chair)

E. Brett, S. Hedao, and S. Soheili

Guest:

H. Cowie, Provincial Coordinator, Dementia-friendly Communities, Alzheimer Society of B.C.
S. Baker, Executive Director, BC Association of Community Response Networks

Staff:

P. Ward, Strategic/Social Planner
K. Stepto, Recording Secretary

A. APPROVAL AND RECEIPT OF AGENDA ITEMS

1. Seniors Advisory Committee – May 15, 2019

Moved by S. Soheili,
Seconded by S. Hedao,
That the Seniors Advisory Committee approve the agenda and receive the
agenda items of the May 15, 2019 meeting.
CARRIED

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Seniors Advisory Committee – April 17, 2019

Moved by S. Soheili,
Seconded by S. Hedao,
That the Seniors Advisory Committee adopt the Minutes of the April 17, 2019
meeting.
CARRIED

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Dementia-friendly Communities

H. Cowie, Provincial Coordinator, Dementia-friendly Communities, Alzheimer Society of B.C., provided a presentation regarding the importance of becoming a Dementia-friendly Community, and the Society's provincial initiative. She commented that the Society's vision for a world without dementia must begin with a dementia-friendly society – a world where people living with the disease are welcomed, acknowledged, and included.

Dementia is the umbrella term for any disease that causes physical changes in the brain. The number of people living with dementia in Langley has increased from 1,013 in 2005/2006 to 1,637 in 2014/2015. These numbers are expected to rise due to the aging population.

Dementia-friendly Communities (DFCs) are communities that have a heightened awareness about dementia and through that, support people with dementia to participate in their community to the fullest extent possible. DFCs address barriers in the social and built environment.

Physical characteristics of a DFC include:

- Safe;
- Familiar;
- Accessible;
- Distinctive (signage is clear, legible, etc.);
- Comfortable (calm, welcoming, pedestrian-friendly spaces);
- Inclusive (well designed built environment – curb-cuts, etc.).

Social characteristics of a DFC include:

- Dementia education;
- Recognition of the signs;
- Effective communication;
- Job-specific strategies;
- Inclusive programs;
- Government action; and
- Supportive businesses.

Currently, five communities in the Province have developed Dementia-friendly Action Plans: the City of Burnaby, City of New Westminster, and the North Shore (West Vancouver, City of North Vancouver, and District of North Vancouver).

The process to becoming a DFC involves:

- Partnering in providing dementia-friendly education;
- Setting up a dementia-friendly working group;
- Developing a dementia-friendly action plan (or applying a dementia-friendly lens to an existing age-friendly plan);
- Implementing your action plan; and
- Staying accountable.

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Discussion ensued, and H. Cowie noted that the action planning process normally takes about a year to complete and most municipalities that have developed a plan have used Union of BC Municipalities age-friendly grant funding to support the work.

D. REPORTS

1. Co-Chair Reports

Councillor Arnason reported the following:

- A Seniors' Resource Fair is taking place on May 16 at the Aldergrove Legion;
- Council approved the addition of a non-voting member from Fraser Health on the Seniors Advisory Committee;
- The Walk to End Alzheimer's is taking place on May 25. If anyone is interested, a team could be formed from the Seniors Advisory Committee.

C. Munnalall circulated a folder with different seniors-related resources and information to committee members.

E. CORRESPONDENCE

F. WORK PROGRAM

1. Social Sustainability Strategy

P. Ward and Social Sustainability Task Force member, S. Baker, provided an update on the Social Sustainability Strategy and Social Sustainability Task Force. The following information was provided:

- The Social Sustainability Strategy project was launched in 2018 and will provide the groundwork for action on social issues over the next decade;
- The project is in Phase 3, which involves drafting goals and actions based on the work completed in Phase 2, additional public and stakeholder engagement, and best practice research;
- Community engagement in Phase 2 of the project included:
 - Social sustainability panel discussion
 - Task Force meetings
 - Youth workshops
 - Online survey
 - Pop-up booths
 - Public and stakeholder workshops
 - Thriving TOL conversations

F. WORK PROGRAM

- Phase 2 of the project also involved the preparation of the Social Profile, which provides a comprehensive summary of information to support the preparation of the Strategy;
- The Task Force was established by the Seniors Advisory Committee in early 2018 to provide strategic input at key points in the development of the Strategy;
- The draft vision for the Strategy is: “The Township of Langley is a connected, inclusive, and resilient community where everyone can enjoy and contribute to a great quality of life”;
- The draft strategic priorities include:
 - Community connectedness and engagement;
 - Food;
 - Housing;
 - Lifelong learning;
 - Mobility;
 - Physical and mental health; and
 - Reconciliation and First Nations engagement.
- Phase 4 of the project involves drafting the Strategy, with the implementation phase currently anticipated to commence in early 2020.

Public and stakeholder workshops, which will provide an opportunity for feedback on the draft vision and strategic priorities, are scheduled for May 23 and May 29, 2:00 – 4:00pm and 6:00 – 8:00pm at W.C. Blair Recreation Centre.

G. COUNCIL REFERRALS

H. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. Green Burials (action item from March 20, 2019 meeting)

Report to Council 19-81 (Cemetery Operations Review) was provided on table for information. P. Ward noted that the concept plan for the Langley Lawn Cemetery provides a location for green burials, that the report identifies the required capital improvements as a high priority project, and that Council is anticipated to consider the project as part of future budgets.

2. Township of Langley Website (action item from March 20, 2019 meeting)

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

3. Seniors’ Week Activities (action item from April 17, 2019 meeting)

Schedule of social and recreation activities was provided for information.

H. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

4. Langley Hospice Society Presentation (action item from April 17, 2019 meeting)

Shannon Todd-Booth from the Langley Hospice Society has been scheduled to provide a presentation at the September meeting.

5. Qmunity Presentation (action item from April 17, 2019 meeting)

Posters from past local events and activities for LGBTQ2S+ seniors were provided for information. S. Hedao commented that he has been in touch with the "Seniors of Langley" social group for LGBTQ2S+ seniors. This group does not want to get involved in advocacy, but some members are interested in visiting LGBTQ2S+ seniors living in residential care homes. They are working with Qmunity Seniors Outreach group in Vancouver who are developing an education program for volunteer visiting.

6. Triple A Senior Housing Report Recommendations

E. Brett inquired as to which recommendations from the Triple A Senior Housing Summit Report (2015) have been implemented. This discussion was deferred to a future meeting.

I. NEXT MEETING

Date: June 19, 2019
Location: Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338 – 65 Avenue
Time: 7:00 pm

J. TERMINATE

Moved by S. Soheili,
That the meeting terminate at 9:00pm.
CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Community Representative Co-Chair

Council Representative Co-Chair