



SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 19, 2019 at 7:00pm
Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338 – 65 Avenue, Langley, BC

MINUTES

Present:

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

E. Brett and S. Hedao

Staff:

C. Molina, Recreation Programmer
R. Stare, Deputy Director, Parks and Recreation
P. Ward, Strategic/Social Planner
K. Stepto, Recording Secretary

A. APPROVAL AND RECEIPT OF AGENDA ITEMS

1. Seniors Advisory Committee – June 19, 2019

Moved by C. Munnalall,
Seconded by S. Hedao,
That the Seniors Advisory Committee approve the agenda and receive the
agenda items of the June 19, 2019 meeting.

CARRIED

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Seniors Advisory Committee – May 15, 2019

Moved by E. Brett,
Seconded by S. Hedao,
That the Seniors Advisory Committee adopt the Minutes of the May 15, 2019
meeting.

CARRIED

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Recreation Opportunities for Low-income Residents

C. Molina provided a presentation regarding recreation opportunities for older
adults and lower-income residents. The following information was provided:

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Senior Specific Programs and Events:

- Seniors Week (June 1-7, 2019) – Opportunity to demonstrate some of the programs the Township offers, including social opportunities.
- Let's Dig It – Senior's Gardening Club at Derek Doubleday Arboretum.
- Registered and Drop-In Programs – A variety of programs and classes that are geared towards older adults on land, water, and ice.

Pricing Options for Older Adults:

- The Township offers competitive rates for older adults, as well as the new Super Senior rate of \$1 for people 80 years and older.
- Financial assistance is available to all Township residents who meet the criteria.
- Many of the older adult programs are shorter in duration (time) and shorter sets (weeks) to help keep the prices lower.

The Township partners with different agencies such as Fraser Health and BC Recreation and Parks Association to offer specific programming for older adults with different physical limitations and to increase strength, stability and balance:

- TIME – program for those with mobility issues.
- Choose To Move – for those 65 years and older who are sedentary and need more movement.
- Get Up and Go – entry level program to increase balance and mobility.
- Active Age – group exercise based program to increase physical activity and abilities in those 65 and up.

Discussion ensued, and there was a suggestion to highlight the programs listed in the Leisure Guide for adults that may also appeal to older adults and seniors. There was also a suggestion to broaden the activities and events during Seniors Week, including considering opportunities to partner with local businesses.

R. Stare reported that the Aldergrove Credit Union Community Centre had a very successful first year and that many seniors use the walking track year round.

D. REPORTS

1. Co-Chair Reports

C. Munnalall reported that BC Hydro has a fund to assist people experiencing a temporary financial crisis and, as a result, have fallen behind on their bill.

Councillor Ferguson reported the following:

- Fraser Health has recommended the appointment of W. Magnusson, Director of Clinical Operations, Langley Memorial Hospital and Community Health Services as the non-voting member of the Seniors Advisory Committee.
- Information provided by Councillor Arnason regarding hidden mobility disability will be distributed to the committee by email.
- Members of Council recently attended the Federation of Canadian Municipalities conference, which covered a number of topics, including housing, cannabis, transportation, and Indigenous relations.

E. CORRESPONDENCE

F. WORK PROGRAM

1. Dementia-friendly Communities

P. Ward provided the following summary of information received by the committee this year on dementia-friendly communities:

- Dementia is an overall term for a set of symptoms that are caused by disorders affecting the brain, including memory loss and difficulties with thinking, problem-solving or language, severe enough to reduce a person's ability to perform everyday activities.
- There are approximately 1,600 people living with dementia in Langley, and these numbers are expected to rise due to the aging population.
- Dementia-friendly communities support people with dementia to participate in their community to the fullest extent possible by addressing barriers in the social and built environment.
- The Alzheimer Society of B.C. has an initiative to support municipalities in working towards a dementia-friendly community through the following process:
 - Partnering with the Society 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 the action plan; and
 - Staying accountable.
- The Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) has historically made available grant funding to support dementia-friendly community work through its Age-friendly Communities Grant Program.

F. WORK PROGRAM

P. Ward stated that UBCM's Age-friendly Communities Grant Program is typically open for applications during a short period in the fall each year, and that due to the scheduling of Seniors Advisory Committee and Council meetings, the committee may wish to consider a motion at this meeting, if the committee wanted to recommend that the Township undertake dementia-friendly planning work next year. Discussion ensued, and committee members expressed support for an application to the Age-friendly Communities Grant Program to facilitate dementia-friendly planning work in 2020.

MOTION

Moved by C. Munnalall,

Seconded by S. Hedao,

That the Seniors Advisory Committee recommends a future application to the UBCM Age-friendly Communities Grant Program to assist the Township in working towards becoming a dementia-friendly community, by applying a dementia-friendly lens to its existing Age-friendly Strategy.

CARRIED

P. Ward noted that, with this recommendation, staff will prepare an Age-friendly Communities Grant Program application for Council's consideration once the details of the program are released, provided dementia-friendly planning work is accommodated in the program for 2020.

G. COUNCIL REFERRALS

H. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

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

P. Ward displayed the Township website for committee members to give input in making seniors-related information easier to find. Some of the following suggestions were provided:

- Have a "Seniors" link on the homepage or have a "Seniors" link under the "At Your Service" and/or "Residents" buttons.
- Have the Seniors page use the same format as the Social Sustainability page, which uses tabs with photos for the different categories.
- Have a link to BC211 on the Seniors page.
- Do not use compressed font.
- Have a button on the homepage to make the font bigger and turnoff the background photos.

Action: Staff to further explore these suggestions and report back to the committee.

H. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

2. HandyDART Service (action item from April 17, 2019 meeting)

Material on HandyDART service and eligibility was provided for information in the agenda package. P. Ward noted that the approximate 300 HandyDART busses are deployed regionally, based on demand.

Action: Staff to invite a representative from Coast Mountain Bus Company to give a presentation on HandyDART service delivery. Representatives from other stakeholder groups (e.g. the Langley Seniors Community Action Table and Langley Seniors Resources Society) will be invited to hear the presentation.

3. Green Burial - Royal Oak Burial Park

E. Brett reported that he toured the Royal Oak Burial Park in Victoria where they have a green burial section. Information regarding the rates will be distributed to the committee by email.

I. NEXT MEETING

Date: TUESDAY, September 17, 2019
Location: Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338 – 65 Avenue
Time: 7:00 pm

J. TERMINATE

Moved by S. Hedao,
Seconded by E. Brett,
That the meeting terminate at 8:45pm.
CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Community Representative Co-Chair

Council Representative Co-Chair