

Seniors Advisory Committee

January 14, 2020

Canada Room

2:30 PM

Attendance:

Present:

Members

Gail Leet, Co-Chair, Diane Gabay, Co-Chair, Councillor Amanda Collucci, Councillor Keith Irish, Yash Kapur, George George, Patricia Anderson, Javaid Khan, Lily Liu, Anthony Ko, Arul Rajasingam, Satya Arora, Mithan Lal Kansal, Kirk McDonald, and Laila Jiwa

Staff

Mary Creighton, Portia Lee, Emma Girard, Jason Tsien, Ragavan Paranthoathy, and Laura Gold, Committee Clerk

Regrets:

Alice Chao, and Richard Tu

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Call to Order	The Senior's Advisory convened at 2:30 PM with Gail Leet in the Chair.	

Item	Discussion	Action
<p>2. Carefirst Seniors and Community Services</p>	<p>Crystal Ng, Program Manager Carefirst Seniors and Community Services provided a presentation on their services.</p> <p>Some of the reasons Carefirst exists include: to fill service gaps in regards to providing services to seniors; to meet the unique needs of communities; to help seniors continue to live in their communities, and to provide senior services in one location.</p> <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <p>The following responses were provided to Committee inquiries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hoping to open up a new Carefirst Seniors and Community Services facility at Leslie and Major Mackenzie in Richmond Hill, which will provide all of its seniors services in one location; • Does not currently provide hospice services, but does provide overnight respite services for caregivers; • Some services are paid for the by the client and others are partially paid for by the government, like respite overnight care; • Serves all communities; • Has a waiting list for most of its services; • Clients are assigned a Care Coordinator to help decide which services they need; • The language of the client is considered when assigning personal support workers; • Holds scheduled intergenerational activities from time to time; • Provide paid transitional care for seniors being released from the hospital; 	

Item	Discussion	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is typically no waiting list for transitional care services, as this is a paid service; • Clients hear about Carefirst Seniors and Community Services through hospitals and other agencies, like Link Support Services; • Clients also contact Carefirst Seniors and Community Services directly regarding their services. <p>Committee suggested that Carefirst Seniors and Community Services consider opening a facility in Markham. It also recognized the need for more Senior's day programs in Markham, suggesting there may be an opportunity to provide this service at the Angus Glen Community Centre.</p> <p>Staff advised that space would need to be opened up at the Angus Glen Community Centre to provide this type of service. The Angus Glen Seniors Club would also need to be included in any discussion on this matter.</p> <p>It was noted that there are other organizations in York Region that provide Senior's programs, including day programs.</p>	
<p>3. Approval of the Minutes</p>	<p>The November 19, 2019 Senior's Advisory Committee Minutes were updated to reflect that the Middlefield Senior's Wellness Club raised funds that will be presented to the City for future Celebrate Markham seniors' initiatives.</p> <p>The Seniors Advisory Committee approved the November 19, 2019 Minutes as amended.</p>	

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<p>4. Amalgamation of HOF going forward- open discussion</p>	<p>Committee was advised that the Senior's Hall of Fame Awards Committee and the Senior's Advisory Committee have been amalgamated.</p> <p>Each Committee Member introduced themselves.</p> <p>A brief overview of the Senior's Hall of Fame Awards was provided to the Committee. The date for this year's event has already been set for October 1, 2020.</p> <p>The Committee was requested to think of possible keynote speakers for the 2020 Senior's Hall of Fame Award. Preferably a senior that lives and volunteers in Markham.</p> <p>A Member suggested asking last year's Senior's Hall of Fame Award winner to be the keynote speaker.</p> <p>Emma Girard, Communication Advisor was requested to update last year's nomination form and poster, check if the October 1, 2020 date has been confirmed with the Mayor's Office, and ensure the Council Chambers has been booked for the event.</p> <p>Emma Girard also agreed to share more information about the event at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Think of possible keynote speakers for the Senior's Hall of Fame Awards – All Committee Members</p> <p>Update the Senior's Hall of Fame Nomination Form and Poster – Emma Girard</p> <p>Check if October 1 has been confirmed with the Mayor's Office, as the 2020 Senior's Hall of Fame date - Emma Girard</p> <p>Confirm the Council Chambers has been booked for the 2020 Senior's Hall of Fame – Emma Girard</p>

Item	Discussion	Action
<p>5. Dates for the Fashion Show, Health Fair, and Senior's Hall of Fame Award Presentation</p>	<p><u>Senior's Health Fair</u></p> <p>The Committee agreed to hold the 2020 Senior's Health Fair on Thursday, November 5, 2020 from 10.00 am until 2.00 pm at the Aaniin Community Centre. Last year's event was very successful. There were 52 vendors and approximately 350 people that attended the fair.</p> <p><u>Fashion Show</u></p> <p>A fashion show is being planned to make seniors aware of other cultures and customs, and to organize a different type of an event for seniors. The goal is to have all Markham communities represented in the fashion show, including males. Amica is being asked to sponsor the event. The Committee suggested holding the fashion show on Thursday, June 11, 2020 Staff suggested holding the fashion show at the Cornell Community Centre in the community hall rather than at the Aaniin Community Centre, as it can only hold a maximum of 120 people.</p> <p>Other suggestions included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holding the fashion show at the Milliken Mills Arena, or at the Thornhill Community Centre; • Presenting accessible senior's fashion as part of the fashion show. <p>Committee Members were asked to start spreading the word about the fashion show.</p>	<p>Book Aaniin Community Centre for the Health Fair – Portia Lee</p> <p>Book the Cornell Community Centre for the Fashion Show – Portia Lee</p> <p>Start spreading the news about the Fashion Show - Committee Members</p>

Item	Discussion	Action
6. Markham Life – Corporate Communication - 2020	<p>Emma Girard provided an update on the Senior's section of Markham Life. The next issue is being released on January 30, 2020. It includes an article on the 2019 Senior's Health Fair, and on an entertainment grant received by the Angus Glen Older Adult Club.</p> <p>Staff advised that it is a legal requirement under Accessibility for Ontarians with Disability Act (AODA) for the senior's section of Markham Life to be written in a larger font. This puts some limitations on the amount of content that can be included.</p> <p>The Committee asked if the senior's section of Markham Life could be extended to four pages in length to include more content, as it was this length in the past.</p> <p>The Committee was requested to provide ideas for the summer issue of Markham Life. The content for this issue needs to be finalized prior to the March break. Ideas for articles can be sent to the Co-Chairs.</p> <p>The following suggestions for content were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of the June 11 fashion show; • Information on social media classes provided by the City for seniors, possibly including feedback from past participants. 	<p>Provide ideas for the summer issue of Markham Life – All Committee Members</p>
7. Business Cards – Diane Gabay	<p>The Committee inquired if it can:</p> <p>1) Have generic business cards made for the Committee with the City's logo on the top;</p>	<p>Report back at the next meeting on the</p>

Item	Discussion	Action
	<p>2) Have a vertical banner to use at events.</p> <p>Emma Girard will look into the Committee's request regarding having business cards made for the Committee, noting the cards would need to be generic so that they can be reused. Event staff had a vertical banner created last year for the Senior's Advisory Committee, and for the Senior's Hall of Fame Awards. These banners can be borrowed and used at events, as required.</p> <p>The Committee asked that the vertical banners be brought to the next meeting for the Committee to view.</p>	<p>Committee's request to have business cards made – Emma Girard</p> <p>Bring the Senior's Advisory Committee and Senior's Hall of Fame banners to the next meeting for the Committee to view – Emma Girard</p>
8. Mileage Allowance	After some discussion, the Committee withdrew its request for a mileage allowance.	
9. Next Meeting Date	The next meeting of the Senior's Advisory Committee will be held on February 11, 2020 at 2:30 PM in the Ontario Room.	
10. Adjournment	The Senior's Advisory Committee adjourned at 4:30 PM.	