

## Seniors Advisory Committee

Tuesday May 9, 2017

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Canada Room

### Minutes

**Attendance:**

Patricia Anderson  
Satya Arora  
Diane Gabay  
Laila Jiwa  
Yash Kapur  
Anthony Ko  
Mithan Lal Kansal  
Gail Leet, Chair  
Kamla Malhotra  
Arul Rajasingam  
Ramma Chabra, Vice-Chair  
Dr. Devendra Mishra  
Mithan Lal Kansal  
Christine Wong  
Councillor Amanda Collucci

**Regrets:**

Almas Mawani  
Alam Muhammad  
Councillor Colin Campbell  
Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong  
Jason Tsien

**Staff:**

Janet Beatty, Recreation Coordinator  
Josh Machesney, Acting Legislative Coordinator, Committee Clerk  
Sara McMillen, Sr. Manager, Corporate Communications &  
Community Engagement

Item	Discussion	Action Item
<b>1. Call to Order &amp; Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest</b>	The Seniors Advisory Committee convened at 3:05 PM with Gail Leet presiding as Chair.	
<b>2. Approval of the April 11, 2017 Seniors Advisory Committee Minutes</b>	That the April 11, 2017 minutes be approved.  Carried.	
<b>3. Role of Corporate Communications</b>	<p>Sara McMillen, Sr. Manager, Corporate Communications &amp; Community Engagement was present to update the Committee on a recent meeting between herself and Gail Leet, Chair regarding the Committee's web presence.</p> <p>It was decided that the City would allow the Senior Advisory Committee Facebook Page as a pilot project while the City updates its website infrastructure. Sara will work with the Committee to create a web space on the Markham website for the Seniors Advisory Committee once the new Markham Website update is completed. However, in the mean time, the City would work with the Committee to create a webpage on the City's current website.</p> <p>Sara encouraged the Committee to think about specific short-term content that members would like to see on the Committee's City webpage.</p> <p>Gail suggested that the City use the content from the Committee's Facebook page as a guide for building a City webpage for the Committee, and that a subcommittee be created to help build content for the Committee's web space once the new website becomes available.</p>	The Seniors Advisory Committee will include Sara McMillen as an administrator on the Committee's Facebook page.
<b>4. Art Showcase and Sale Update</b>	<p>Ramma Chabra, Vice Chair, provided an update on the Seniors Art Showcase taking place June 13-15, 2017. She advised members that there will be a Mayor's Reception taking place as part of the Showcase on Thursday June 15<sup>th</sup> from 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. and encouraged members to attend.</p> <p>Ramma further advised that the Committee will have a booth at the Art Show, and although they already have enough volunteers, she encouraged members to come out and join the volunteers to raise awareness of the Committee.</p> <p>Ramma also thanked the Thornhill Community Centre and acknowledged its contributing artists as an integral part to the success of the Art Showcase thus far.</p>	

<b>5. Unionville Home Society Update</b>	Discussion on this item was tabled until the next meeting.	
<b>6. Free Dental Care for Markham</b>	<p>Prior to the meeting, news articles were distributed to members regarding free dental care being offered to seniors in Region of Peel and the City of Toronto. Arul Rajasingam advised that he spoke to Federal Health Minister Jane Philpott about the possibility of securing free dental care for seniors in Markham, who informed him of York Region's existing family dental program. Arul inquired to Staff about the process in which the Committee would take in order to bring this to the attention of Council and other appropriate decision making bodies.</p> <p>Gail suggested that this issue needs more study from Committee in order to put together a proposal to Council for them to look at it more closely. Councillor Collucci advised that Council would welcome a proposal from the Committee to discuss this issue further.</p>	
<b>7. New Business/ Announcements</b>  <b>S/B Yash Kapur, Chair  Mayors Hall of Fame  Committee</b>	<p><u>June Meeting Date</u> Gail advised that the June meeting date may be moved or cancelled due to the Art Show. Gail will follow up with the Committee to advise them of the meeting status.</p> <p><u>Congratulations to Arul</u> The Committee extended their congratulations to Arul for his recent article that appeared in Markham Life.</p> <p><u>Seniors Hall of Fame Awards &amp; Canada 150 Celebration Parade</u> Dr. Devendra Mishra advised Committee that the nomination forms for the Seniors Hall of Fame Awards are due on September 9<sup>th</sup>. The residency requirement has been reduced from 10 years to seven. Nomination forms can be found on the City's website. The ceremony is October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Members are encouraged to nominate other outstanding seniors in the community.</p> <p>The Committee was also advised that the People's Parade for Canada's 150 Celebrations welcomes Seniors Hall of Fame award recipients and Senior Advisory Committee members to take part in the parade.</p>	Gail will advise Josh if the Committee is to meet and Josh can explore alternative meeting dates and book a meeting room for a date decided upon by Gail.
<b>8. Adjournment</b>	The meeting adjourned at 4:05 PM	