

MINUTES
SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
May 10, 2011
4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.

Attendance: Deputy Mayor Jack Heath, Angela Morris, Chair, Shirley Burchell, Sandra Donin, Katy Kwan, Ivy Ng, Manickampillai Velauthapillai, Marsha Mariani, and Laura Gold, Committee Clerk.

Regrets: Councillor Colin Campbell, Jeyasakthy Thayaparan, Susan Leppington, Warren Carroll, Jaswant Dhanjal, and Ramma Chabra, and Susan Watts

Item	Discussion	Action Item
1. Call to Order	The Senior's Advisory Committee meeting convened at 4:09 p.m. with Angela Morris presiding as Chair.	
2. CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA	The presentations on affordable housing and the official plan will be heard prior to the presentation on the re-organization of Recreational Services.	
3. TOWN'S DRAFT AFFORDABLE AND SPECIAL NEEDS HOUSING STRATEGY	<p>Mr. Murray Boyce, Senior Policy Coordinator, provided a presentation on the draft affordable and special needs housing strategy. It was explained that affordable housing needs must be coordinated collaboratively with many stakeholders including the following: federal government; provincial government; York Region; Non Profit Sector; and the private sector. The Town can provide housing needs analysis and a review of policy & effective practices to stakeholders. Markham housing partners collectively set the direction for affordable housing in Markham. Recommended actions included the following: identifying new housing targets in the Official Plan for supportive and affordable housing; developing financial incentives for the development affordable housing; advocating affordable housing to different levels of government; partnering with other levels of government and local organizations to reach affordable housing goals; and educating stakeholder in regards to the benefits of affordable housing.</p> <p>The Committee was invited to join a focus group being held on June 1, 2011 in the Canada Room at 8:30 a.m. on the official plan and supportive housing. It was noted that one of the recommendations specified in the Integrated Leisure Plan is to develop a seniors' plan for</p>	Attend focus group on June 1 regarding the Official Plan and supportive housing – all interested members.

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	Markham, which could include a section on affordable housing for seniors. It was explained that one of the ways to increase the supply of affordable housing is by legalizing second suites/basement apartments in Markham.	
4. OVERVIEW OF THE PLANNING PROCESS FOR THE TOWN'S NEW OFFICIAL PLAN	Mr. Tim Lambe, Manager of Policy & Research, provided a presentation on Markham's new official plan. The official plan provides the direction for land use polices and regulates where growth will be permitted. The Town's official plan must be in compliance with York Region's official plan, which provides high level policy guidelines. The policy direction of the new official plan will be to build a sustainable community in the following ways: protect the natural environment and agricultural lands; increase travel choices; employment and the economy.	
5. RECREATION RE-ORGANIZATION	Mary Creighton, Director of Recreation, provided a presentation on the re-organization of Recreational Services. It was reported that the re- organizational occurred in isolation of the Integrated Leisure Plan and has been going on for about four (4) years. Prior to the change, two (2) staff dealt with seniors' for all of Markham. Additionally, there was one person in charge of all programming and one person in charge of all of the community centres, which sometimes created space conflicts. The new model divides Markham into four (4) communities. Each community has a manager and one person responsible for both the programming and the community centre management. It also has more staff available to assist seniors', noting that the seniors' point of contact will remain the same as it was before the re-structuring. It was clarified that Marsha Mariani is the staff contact for the Seniors' Advisory Committee. Marsha's role includes having a town wide perspective for seniors' and other recreational services.	
6. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES	Moved by Shirley Burchell Seconded by Katy Kwan That the Minutes from the April 12, 2011 Seniors' Advisory Committee be adopted. CARRIED.	

Item	Discussion	Action Item
7. NEW BUSINESS		
a. Celebrate Markham Grant	This item was deferred to the next meeting.	Add use of Celebrate Markham Grant to the next agenda – Laura Gold
b. Seniors' Bus Fares	This item was deferred to the next meeting.	Add seniors' bus fares to the next agenda – Laura Gold
c. Deputation	The Committee agreed to go forward with its deputation regarding the recreation restructuring. The Chair was requested to email the Committee Clerk more information regarding the objective of the deputation.	Email the Committee Clerk more information regarding the objective of the deputation – The Chair
8. Next Meeting	The next meeting of the Seniors Advisory Committee will be on June 14, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.in the Canada Room.	
9. Adjournment	The Seniors Advisory Committee adjourned at 6:18 p.m.	