

**MINUTES**  
**SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**June 14, 2011**

**4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.**

Attendance: Councillor Colin Campbell, Angela Morris, Chair, Ramma Chabra, Jaswant Dhanjal, Sandra Donin, Katy Kwan, Susan Leppington, Marsha Mariani, Ivy Ng, Jeyasakthy Thayaparan, Manickampillai Velauthapillai, and Laura Gold, Committee Clerk.

Regrets: Deputy Mayor Jack Heath, Shirley Burchell, Warren Carroll, and, and Susan Watts

Item	Discussion	Action Item
1. Call to Order	The Senior's Advisory Committee convened at 4:09 p.m. with Angela Morris presiding as Chair.	
2. COMMUNITY & HOME ASSISTANCE TO SENIORS (CHATS)	<p>Ms. Carol Edwards, Director Community Programs, Community &amp; Home Assistance to Seniors' (CHATS), provided a presentation on the CHATS programs. The presentation included a review of its governance model; CHATS services; its funding sources; its wellness framework; its respite programs; and its strategic Plan. Some of the key points regarding CHATS included: it has served 6800 seniors in Markham; it has 550 volunteers; it has 60 partners; it had 10.5 million dollars in revenue in 2010; and it has weekly senior programs for Tamil and South Asian seniors in Markham. Dr. Jeyasakthy Thayaparan was requested to provide more information on the Tamil program for seniors in Markham at the next meeting (note: the information should include the location of the program).</p> <p>It was reported that being social is important to healthy aging. Some of CHATS new programs that focus on healthy aging include: Home at Last; and Balance Care. These programs help keep seniors healthy, in their home and out of long term care facilities.</p> <p>There was a discussion regarding obtaining space and transportation for seniors. It was noted that CHATS attains space for seniors by obtaining a permit from the local municipality. The program often moves into elementary schools for the summer or break due to a lack of community centre space. CHATS also provides subsidized transportation services for seniors.</p>	Provide more information with respect to the Tamil program for seniors in Markham (note: the information should include the location of the program) at the next meeting - Dr. Jeyasakthy Thayaparan

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	Seniors' are charged a flat rate of ten dollar for local transportation within a municipality. It was noted that seniors can also use York Region Transit Mobility.	
3. CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA	There were no changes or additions to the Agenda.	
4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES	<p>The May 10, 2011 Seniors' Advisory Committee Minutes were updated to reflect Shirley Burchell as present at the meeting.</p> <p>Moved by Susan Leppington Seconded by Jaswant Dhanjal</p> <p>That the Minutes from the May 10, 2011 Seniors' Advisory Committee be adopted as amended.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED.</p>	
5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES	<p>A. <u>Celebrate Markham Grant</u></p> <p>The Committee discussed how it could use its \$5,000 Celebrate Markham Grant. The discussion included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reimbursing members for transportation costs to and from meetings;</li> <li>• Enlarging the seniors' section of Markham Life and possibly making the print larger (note: check with Corporate Communications if there is a page limit and a cost to adding additional pages to Markham Life);</li> <li>• Publishing a one (1) page pamphlet about the Committee that can be placed on Seniors' Boards and at other key locations (note: find out the cost of printing);</li> <li>• Having a one page insert in Markham Life (note: find out the cost of having an insert);</li> <li>• Promote the Celebrate Markham Seniors Grants to Markham seniors groups;</li> <li>• Request that a note about the Seniors' Advisory Committee be included in the free event section of the Markham Economist &amp; Sun.</li> </ul> <p>It was requested that the Committee Clerk invite a representative from Corporate Communications to the next meeting to discuss adding additional information to the seniors'</p>	Invite a representative from Corporate Communications to the next meeting to discuss adding additional information to the seniors' section of Markham Life – Laura Gold, Committee Clerk

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	<p>section of Markham Life.</p> <p>Moved by Susan Leppington Second by Manickampillai Velauthapillai</p> <p>That \$600 from the Celebrate Markham Grant be allocated to transportation costs associated with the transportation of members to and from Seniors' Advisory Committee meetings.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED.</p> <p>B. <u>Defining Seniors'</u></p> <p>There was a discussion about how seniors are defined (e.g. as older adult or as seniors). It was requested that this matter be discussed at the next meeting.</p> <p>C. <u>Seniors' Bus Fares</u></p> <p>There was a discussion regarding seniors' bus fares. It was noted that bus fares are set by York Region. The Chair was requested to write a letter to the Regional Councillors' requesting that the bus fare be reduced for Seniors'. The letter should include the email from the City of Brampton regarding its one dollar bus fare for seniors. It was suggested that Regional Councillor Gord Landon be invited to the next meeting to discuss transportation issues pertaining to seniors in Markham. It was noted that bus tickets should be sold in places accessible to seniors'.</p> <p>D. <u>Seniors' Space</u></p> <p>It was requested that space for seniors' be added to the next meeting. It was noted that it is challenging balancing various stakeholder space needs in the summer months, as the Town is actively accommodating child care needs at this time.</p>	<p>Add Defining Seniors' to the next agenda – Committee Clerk</p> <p>Write a letter to the Regional Councillors' requesting that the bus fare be reduced for Seniors' (note: the letter should include the email from the City of Brampton regarding its one dollar bus fare for seniors) – Angela Morris</p> <p>Invite Regional Councillor Gord Landon to the next meeting – Committee Clerk</p> <p>Add Seniors Space to the next meeting – Laura Gold, Committee Clerk</p>

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6. Next Meeting	<p>The Chair wished everyone a nice summer.</p> <p>The next meeting of the Seniors Advisory Committee will be on September 13, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.in the Canada Room.</p>	
7. Adjournment	The Seniors Advisory Committee adjourned at 6:01 p.m.	