



Wednesday, January 29, 2025  
1<sup>st</sup> FBR  
Moncton City Hall  
1:00 p.m.

## MINUTES

### SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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- Present:** Payson Rowell, Chair  
Lillian Surette  
Winston Pearce  
Claude Laviolette  
Councillor S. Crossman, via Web ex  
Councillor D. Bourgeois  
Terri Allen Schoenfield  
Susan Plewes  
Claude Laviolette  
Mike Richard  
Eileen Whyte, via Web ex  
Sandra Wallace  
Isabelle LeBlanc, General Manager, Community Services  
Ellen Jeffries, Community Development Officer, Seniors and Youth  
Shelley Morton, City Clerk & Director, Legislative Services  
Monica Tucker, Manager, Recreation
- Absent:** Betty Peacock

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

## 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was accepted as circulated.

## 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

**Motion:** That the minutes of December 5, be adopted as circulated.

*Moved by Terri Allen Schoenfield*

*Seconded by Claude Laviolette*

**MOTION CARRIED.**

## 4. Presentation re: Administration of Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Committees Policy

Isabelle LeBlanc opened remarks by thanking the committee for their invaluable work as volunteers. Marcia King was thanked for her work on the committee with Payson Rowell and Isabelle LeBlanc presenting gifts on behalf of the committee and Community Services. I. LeBlanc advised that Ellen Jeffries, in her position as Community Development Officer, Seniors and Youth, will now oversee the committee. She also acknowledged the work of Monica Tucker, Manager, Recreation, on this file.

I. LeBlanc presented an overview of the ABCC (Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Committees) Policy adopted in 2024 which established a clear structure for internal and external committee meetings. The following key points were covered in the presentation:

- The policy provides a structured process for recruitment

- The mandate the Seniors Advisory committee was referenced and read into the record.
- I. LeBlanc clarified the distinction between "advocacy" (actively supporting a cause or proposal) and "advisory" (offering guidance or suggestions). The role of the committee is to gather information, taking into consideration the City as a whole, and submit recommendations to Council who make the final decision.
- The policy is in place to protect the integrity of the committee.

Discussion ensued on the advisory role as it related to the proposed seniors centre with Councillor Bourgeois noting that the committee can submit recommendations to City Council in advisory role, however, it does not have decision-making authority. He noted that while it is one's right to sit on advocate committees, caution should be exercised to avoid impacting decision making as well as creating a perception of bias. Stepping outside the boundaries of this committee could result in a member being removed from the committee.

Sandra Wallace commented that committee members represent seniors from various groups, hear their comments and bring forward research to this committee. While it may be deemed as advocacy, she felt that it was bringing forward valuable research which could be used to provide advice.

Winston Pearce advised of difficulties in representing MLCC, noting that he is completing the files to turn over to the City and that he has been assisting with 1010 St. George but will be resigning from that committee to avoid any conflict.

I. LeBlanc continued to review the mandate with the following points noted:

- Ellen Jeffries will be sending out meeting invitations for the year.

- Vacancies on the committee will result in a call for interest from the community as per the City's Policy.
- The composition of the committee was reviewed with notation made that some the renewal terms will end in October. Appointments are a maximum of three years with a maximum of one reappointment.
- Ellen Jeffries' role is as a liaison to the committee. She will be preparing terms of reference for the committee as well as the role of the role of the chair.

## **5. Presentation – Seniors Recreational Needs Public Engagement**

Monica Tucker presented the Public Engagement piece that has been conducted to understand the types of activities in which the seniors were currently participating, to determine priorities, identify gaps and barriers to services and determine what part of the senior population was not captured. Multiple meetings were held with community partners including those currently offering services to seniors. While the data is preliminary, the most popular activities sought related to educational and fitness classes as well as walking clubs. In person sessions were held at various locations and the points raised have been documented.

M. Tucker agreed to send a copy of the PowerPoint to the committee.

In reply to Councillor Bourgeois, Administration advised that they will be presenting the data to City Council. The information gathered will be combined with the Recreation Master Plan, Social Inclusion Plan and other relevant documents. The report from Let's Chat will also be posted.

Discussion continued with the following feedback from the committee noted:

- Mike Richard noted that a Facebook page was created by Sara Lord re: Project 1010 – which contains a lot of comments and feedback.
- The survey closes February 10. Community Services will work with Communications to determine gaps in responses from specific age groups. This information will be captured in the report. It was noted that the quality of the responses is considered more important than the amount received.
- Councillor Bourgeois commented that some seniors are challenged by language, mobility and finances and asked if those exclusionary hindrances had been considered. E. Jeffries noted that one of the questions asked if they were willing to pay for the programming.

Discussion concluded with the team agreeing to return to this committee with the results. Committee members with additional feedback were asked to contact Ellen Jeffries. The report will be presented to Council in the coming weeks and will be shared on Let's Chat.

## **6. February meeting – Initial discussion for 2025 committee**

Ellen Jeffries asked committee members to identify 2- 5 action items for the next meeting as to what projects they wish to undertake in 2025. She highlighted following items for consideration as presentations:

- The Recreation Master Plan and Social Inclusion Plan offers opportunities
- She has reached out to the new Provincial Minister responsible for Seniors to attend a meeting but has received a response. Mike Richard noted that a seniors' advocate works under the direction of the Minister and would be a good invite.
- Presentation on the public engagement by Codiac Transpo

- Presentation on Active Transportation by Leslie Tse
- Presentation on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion by Angelique Reddy-Kalala
- Seeking input on activities for Seniors Month in June
- Speakers' series and open house by Seniors Committee
- Seeking ideas for Intergenerational Day – June 1<sup>st</sup>
- Seeking ideas for International Day of Older Persons Event
- Volunteer opportunities at Open House prior to the Santa Clause Parade – Intergenerational Activity possibility
- Speakers' series and educational events – requested ideas on possible speakers
- The 8 domains in the World Health Organization may help in determining the types of services delivered to the public.
- Terri Allen suggested a newcomer group from seniors
- Councillor Bourgeois noted the need to gauge seniors' happiness. Sandra Wallace noted that a professor at U de M carries out such work.

Winston Pearce suggested that E. Jeffries send the list of activities outlined today to the committee to allow time for thought. He added that loneliness among seniors needs to be addressed and how to access this sector. Ellen reported that she was meeting with an individual commencing a project regarding isolation among seniors.

## **7. Round Table**

Claude Laviolette suggested in future that public engagements be conducted in the spring when the weather is more agreeable for seniors to attend.

Sandra Wallace thanked Councillor Crossman and the City for their assistance in securing a full-time a staff person dedicated to seniors. She

added that the seniors are also seeking better communication and thanked the City for their efforts in this regard. She noted the need to reach people who cannot be reached or “fall between the cracks”.

Lillian Surette noted the need for sites throughout the city for seniors to access.

Councillor Bourgeois noted that since the last meeting a meeting was held with Social Inclusion Committee and the Human Development officer verified that they have information on the data on age profiles and geographically locations. E. Jeffries noted that the information is not publicly available at this time but agreed to determine if a speaker would be available.

Sandra Wallace reported that she met with MAGMA noting that seniors from other cultures are seeking activities for seniors in their families. She added that Project 1010 is proposing intergenerational and cultural activities, in which MAGMA could participate.

Councillor Bourgeois reported that he presented a notice of motion to Council to create a multicultural committee which has not yet been voted on.

Councillor Crossman requested a presentation on the Riverfront Master Plan. Isabelle agreed to organize with Jim Scott to meet with the committee.

## **8. NEXT MEETING**

- February 26, 2025

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

The committee adjourned @ 3.45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Marcia King

Recorder