

RICHMOND SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 10, 2017

Richmond City Hall

Meeting Room M.1.002 at 9:30 a.m.

In Attendance: Hans Havas (Chair), Doug Symons, Mohinder Grewal,
Becky Wong, Jackie Schell, Neil Bernbaum, Sandra Gebhardt,
Peter Chan, Paul Cassidy, Yasmin Ali, Shams Jilani, Carol Dickson

Heather Muter (Staff Liaison), Nora Wright (Recording Secretary)

Regrets: Councillor Ken Johnston, Daryl Whiting, Joan Haws, Sheila Rooney,
Seemah Aaron

1. Meeting called to order at 9:40 am with welcome and Introductions by the Chair.
2. **Guest Speaker – Donna Chan, Manager, Transportation Planning, City of Richmond**

Donna provided a slide presentation on the highlighting transportation projects underway and other initiatives as follows:

- Overview of Transportation Department
- Other transportation agencies that have jurisdiction of roads in Richmond i.e. Translink, Vancouver Airport Authority and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
- City wide initiatives – Lansdowne Road extension, Ackroyd Road extension, No. 2 Road Upgrade, Street name signs (eg Illuminated and memorial street name signs, with Richmond Pioneer signs currently being designed), Transit amenity improvements (e.g., upgrading of up to 10 bus stops to be fully accessible).

During the discussion on the Transit amenity improvements, Donna asked the Committee for feedback in regards to bus stop address panels indicating the location of the bus stop and provided 3 on screen options (using a shelter on Minoru near Granville as an example):

1. Minoru Blvd
2. Granville & Minoru
3. Granville Ave & Minoru Blvd.

Option No. 2 with an amendment to change “&” to “at” (to read “Granville at Minoru) was chosen. Questions and responses followed in regard to current signage at other locations.

- City wide initiatives continued – update on pedestrian walkways, pedestrian crosswalks, Active transportation i.e. anti-skid paint on bike lanes and pathway improvements

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- Updating of Traffic Bylaw 5870 (i.e. new or increase in fines for motorists failing to yield to pedestrians in a crosswalk and pedestrians jaywalking)
 - External funding received from Translink and ICBC – samples shown
 - Translink’s Southwest Area Transport Plan which will include public consultations (planned to commence on May 23, 2017)
 - Richmond Brighthouse Bus Mall project
 - Provincial Province’s George Massey Tunnel Replacement project and conceptual design displayed

Presentation concluded at 10.20 am and the Committee thanked Donna for her comprehensive overview.

3. Approval of Agenda – Moved: Becky Wong, Seconded: Doug Symons, Carried.

4. Approval of Minutes from April 12, 2017 with amendment to page 4 under Transportation – *Shams expressed concern about bus availability for seniors to temples and mosques on No. 5 Road.* Amended minutes Approved – Moved: Becky Wong, Seconded: Sandra Gebhardt, Carried.

5. **Correspondence**

Heather advised that an invitation had been received for one member to attend the “Rethinking the Region” Forum to be held on Saturday June 17, 2017. Heather asked that should anyone be interested in attending to please let her know.

6. **Business Arising**

National Seniors Agenda

Doug provided background and history on the National Seniors Agenda and the Bill on Dementia which did not pass. Doug then referred to the National Seniors Strategy which had been approved in January 2014 but since then no action had been taken especially in regard to an Elder Abuse Plan. Doug recommended that RSAC move forward on this issue by contacting the Provincial Government. Heather reminded the Committee that a letter would need to be submitted to Mayor and Council rather than from the Committee directly advocating on the issue.

Mohinder stated that documentation was available on this subject on both the Provincial and Federal government web sites and a New Horizons Grant had been received for the Elder Abuse issue. Yasmin responded that education was important but emphasized that any elder abuse should first be reported to the family doctor. Carol agreed and confirmed that Home Health investigates every case reported as they are required to do under the Guardianship Act.

Raising the Profile Update

Sandra reported on this event with the primary focus being to look at the roles of Senior Centres and Community centres in the health and wellbeing of seniors. Identification of seniors issues was also addressed. Richmond was recognized as a City taking a proactive approach towards seniors. Sandra circulated information.

Yasmin commented on the great networking opportunity and Heather agreed as meeting with other non-profit agencies, municipal governments and health authorities was beneficial to all those attending. The Raising the Profile Report update will be available in November.

7. **New Business**

Seniors Week June 5-11, 2017

Heather circulated the program details for this event (available in 3 languages) and briefly reviewed the events that would be taking place, most of which would be free or low cost.

8. **Reports**

COSCO

Mohinder confirmed that following the Conference the COSCO Board was looking at the recommendations to move forward on the issues raised.

Mohinder reminded everyone that 43 Health and Welfare Workshops were provided by COSCO hosted by volunteers with more information available on their web site.

Falls Prevention Network – report from Sheila Rooney attached to the circulated agenda.

Health

1. Presentation given by Dr. Meena Dawar on State of the Community
 - Journey of Wellness is important to continue.
 - There is a shared commitment to creation of an active caring and connected of an active, caring and connected community
 - Continue with original priorities: active living, wellness and belonging.
 - Recommend an added focus on healthy eating, mental wellness, and early childhood development.
 - Incorporate the role of the built environment on health and wellness.
 - Focus on reach and population impact.
 - Use local level data to target programs and services.
2. Jennifer McKenzie C.O.O.
 - Request what would having Traditional Chinese Medicine do for Richmond community and how would we integrate that with western medicine?

- Developing guidelines for Palliative Care unit on No. 4 Road.
- Exploring initiatives related to Live in Care for 12 hours per day and current levels of subsidization.
- Developing standards of care for residential care.
- Reviewing demands for foot care for seniors.

Multicultural – no report.

Promotions – information circulated.

Richmond Community Services Advisory Committee

Sandra referred to the presentation by the Translink Police who identified two major criminal occurrences with No. 1 being sexual abuse and No. 2 being the theft of cellphones from transit users standing by the doors and the thieves snatching the phones as the door closes Sandra confirmed that although there would be an increase in transportation, there would be no increase in security.

Housing and poverty challenges continue to be addressed. Sandra then commented on the Raising the Profile Project and strongly recommended that a senior be included as a representative on this project.

Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee – no report.

Seniors Advocate – no report.

Transportation

Hans stated that he had been appointed as a member of the Stakeholders Committee for HandyDART which would be addressing improving service quality and delivery. Hans reviewed the letter from HandyDART in detail with regard to his appointment and mandate of the Committee.

Hans confirmed he would be attending a meeting on May 18th with regard to implementation of the new program and would report back to RSAC in June.

Council Liaison – no report.

MPAC/Seniors Services/Staff Liaison

Heather circulated the Minoru Seniors Society's latest newsletter.

Heather continued that staff were in the process of gathering information for the updating of the Senior Services Plan. A report would be going to Council in June.

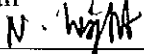
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9. **Next meeting – Wednesday June 14, 2017 at 9.30 am, Richmond City Hall, Meeting Room M.1.002 – there will be no meetings in July or August**

No further business and meeting adjourned at 11.15 am.



Hans Havas

Chair



Nora Wright

Recording Secretary

