

Delta Seniors Planning Team

March 17, 2015

Ladner Pioneer Library

Minutes

Co-Chairs: Joanne Van Snellenberg, Val Windsor

Recorder: Kay Dennison, Coordinator

Attendance: Lynda Brummitt, Kay Dennison, Jenn Fancy de Mena, Brittany Fyffe, Adrienne Johnson, Marg Kennett, Nancy McLeod, Christiann Munro, Rita Sager-Nunns, Margaret Toews, Joanne Van Snellenberg, Lyn Walker, Val Windsor

Item	Discussion/Information	Action
1. Welcome	Joanne Van Snellenberg chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone Val Windsor thanked Lynda Brummitt for her dedication and hard work over the past 5 years with the Delta Seniors Planning Team as a co-coordinator and wished her the very best in the future. This meeting will be the last General meeting with funding from United Way of the Lower Mainland as of March 31, 2015. Delta Seniors Planning Team will continue and Kay Dennison will stay on as a volunteer coordinator until funding can be found.	
2. Approval of Agenda	Agenda approved with amendments. Additions to agenda – New Business – Dates of Open Houses by Delta Corporation, Transit Referendum and update from Friends of Delta Hospital.	
3. Approval of Minutes	Minutes on the February 2015 approved as circulated NB: it was noted after the meeting that the February meeting was held at Benediction Lutheran Church in Tsawwassen, not our North Delta location as recorded.	Moved Val Windsor Seconded Margaret Toews
4. Follow up from February Minutes	<u>4.1 Update from meeting of Senior Advocate’s Council of Advisors – March 6, 2015 - Kay Dennison</u> Kay Dennison and ML Burke attended the first meeting in Richmond. The day started at 8:00 am and concluded at 4:30. Thirty representatives (over 400 applied for the Council) came from all over the province, large towns, small towns, representatives from all the	Suggested Action: Send a letter to Delta Council to advise them of the appointment of Kay and ML, also point

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	<p>health regions. Members are all seniors from 65 to 85. Unfortunately, there were no representatives from the Aboriginal communities. The Seniors Advocate went to many First Nations to ask for applications. She is going to be encouraging applications in the future. The day was spent answering questions about the duties of the Council of Advisors, discussing the reports and research that is going to be done. The first report/surveys will be on Housing, with transportation (HandyDART), residential care and home care to follow. The Council of Advisors will provide insight and feedback from each of the areas they represent on the reports as they are prepared.</p> <p>The next meeting of the Council of Advisors will be in September. A meeting the night before will be planned as well. In between there will be conference calls or webinars to participate in along with reading/background material.</p> <p>Discussion and Q&A:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms are staggered, so that only a portion of the Council changes each year, current members have 2 and 3 year terms. Val Windsor is on the list to start her term in the second year. • Bridging The Gaps – this report from the Seniors Advocate’s Office was released in March. It reports on a survey that was conducted to gauge senior’s access to information that can help them. One of the notable findings is that 65% of low income seniors surveyed do not have extended health benefits that help for things like mobility aids, vision and hearing. The link to the full report is http://www.seniorsadvocatebc.ca/reports/ . • The above noted report highlights the need for all levels of government to work together. Relating to that, Kay will be presenting on behalf of Delta Seniors Planning Team at a community workshop on March 31 called Plan H and the topic is from Silos to Systems: Building Partnerships for a Healthier Community in Delta which will address working together at the community level. 	<p>out that the priorities of the Advocate match to priorities of Delta Planning Team and also Delta community.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Advocate's website has really been ramped up in terms of the information that is available. There is a tab that highlights the priority issues and concerns that the Advocate has identified. There is also a tab "Seniors Information" which is a good place to start looking for information on a variety of related senior information items – income support, finding housing, transportation, etc. 	
5. Updates Action Team	<p><u>5.1 Non-Medical Services</u> – Kay Dennison, Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding for Emergency Medical cards as been provided by Ladner Legion in the amount of \$500.00. There are approximately 125 cards left from the last printing of 1000. The Low vision group has had an uptake in membership and are requesting more copies. HandyDART was unable to schedule a ride to a specialist for Angelica Wrobbel and she contacted Kay. Translink was contacted and Angelica was informed that a taxi trip will be available to her in the future. Linda McGowan, Consumer Advocacy Manager for HandyDART, has asked Angelica to contact her directly when she next needs a ride to her doctor. Kay Dennison met with Minister of National Revenue, Kerry-Lynne Findlay (MP for Delta-Richmond East) and her Executive Assistant, Isaac Kendall, to discuss the letter sent from the DSPT concerning the stopping of mail delivery to individual homes (Ladner will be the first community in Delta to get the community mail boxes). Minister Findlay and Isaac Kendall agreed to develop a brochure, using plain language, giving seniors and those with disabilities information on how to receive assistance if they are not able to access the mail boxes. Isaac will contact Kay for input on the brochure. In the meantime the phone number to call for information is 1-844-454-3009. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kay sits on the DOVE committee representing seniors and volunteered to attend the Burnsville High School gala which raised funds for a new playground at a Second Stage Transition House in Surrey. <p>Better At Home Advisory: Lyn Walker Is receiving more calls from North Delta for services, volunteer rides, since added to the program is well used and the volunteer drivers, if available, will drive clients to other areas of the Lower Mainland. Expecting yard work requests to increase with the good weather. The services are on a sliding scale and clients are asked for their annual income. Next meeting of Services Action Team is on April 14 at 10 am at the Ladner Library.</p> <p><u>5.2 Housing</u> – ML Burke, Chair – Lynda Brummitt reported The Paterson Vision land is jointly owned by Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) and the Municipality of Delta. There was a meeting in Victoria of all the college/university Presidents with the Minister of Advanced Education to discuss land that is owned by educational facilities and not being used. It was stated by the Minister of Education that plans must be made to utilize the land or it will be sold. There is now renewed interest by Kwantlen in the Paterson Park vision and the development of their 9 acres. They will be initiating a meeting with Delta Corporation regarding Paterson Park, our Vision, etc.</p> <p><u>5.3 Transportation and Mobility</u> – Marg Kennett The current project of this action group is a scooter/pedestrian safety event for Tsawwassen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The event will be held in September at the Remax Parking Lot. • Will include displays, presentations. Save on Scooters will be there to give hands on instruction. Other groups that will be invited – Delta Police and Fire Departments, Tetra Society of North America (provides adapted devices for seniors to assist 	

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	<p>with mobility), KinVillage, Fraser Health Authority, Deltassist, ICBC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other planning will include volunteers for the event, communications/promotion, some funding to help with some costs (photocopies, St. John's Ambulance to be on hand to assist with first aid, etc). • The regular Transportation meeting will be on March 20 at 1:30, KinVillage group room. 	
6. Updates from other Committees	<p><u>6.1 Access Transit – Kay Dennison</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skytrain emergency evacuation planning has been developed by Translink. Those with mobility challenges will be extracted immediately if danger is evident or too much time has gone by (1 hour). Wheelchairs will not be removed which was a concern for owners of very expensive wheelchairs. Additional staff is now trained to assist in an evacuation. Access Translink members suggested a mock disaster be designed to test the plan. • Public art on platforms will now be reconsidered as those with sight impairment find the shadowing effect difficult. • Bathroom plumbing is now being installed in new Skytrain stations and those stations receiving refurbishment. The installation of the bathrooms will be up to each city/municipality to install. Benches and shelters at bus stops are also decided on by each city. <p><u>6.2 Seniors Advisory Committee –</u> No update to report regarding the Seniors Advisory Committee to Delta Council for 2015 – looking at terms of reference. A meeting has not been held since October 2012. Kay attended a recent Council meeting where the letter sent by Delta Seniors Planning Table on the Rental Housing Index information was discussed. A staff report was requested on this item.</p>	
7. Funding and Sustainability	<p><u>7.1 Updates on current fundraising:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New brochures printed for Delta Seniors Planning Team – has new logo and is in card format rather than booklet format. Looks 	Action: Follow up letter to Council regarding request for

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	<p>great.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-going Planning Team organization - Val and Joanne have offered to continue as co-chairs and will help with minutes and agenda. Each of the chairs of the Action Teams will continue and Kay will be their support person. There will no funding available for printing/copying etc. Emails will be used and limited copies of agenda and minutes will be made available at each of the meetings. The venues we have for DSPT meetings have offered to let us continue using their facilities. • Letter of Intent to Council – co-chairs will do a follow up letter on status of request. • Projects to be completed: Emergency Medical cards, Scooter Fair and Paterson Park Vision. • Other funding opportunities: <p>Tsawwassen Rotary – Kay will be speaking to this group and will ask for help with Emergency Medical Cards. It has also suggested that she go back to North Delta Rotary as well.</p> <p>TOOBS – request financial assistance for Scooter event.</p> <p>Delta Lions – Jenn Fancy de Mena has a contact for this group if needed.</p> <p>Delta Community Foundation – deadline is June.</p> <p><u>7.2 Friends of Delta Hospital – Marg Kennett</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Petition for support of the Delta Hospital and signup sheet is available at the Deltassist office in Ladner. • There are now 34 locations for the petition in Ladner, 6 in Tsawwassen and 1 in North Delta. There are now 3500 signatures. • Need to have 4 surgical beds reinstated, 2 million dollars is needed to bring the Delta Hospital back to a full facility hospital. • Delta Council is in support and will request a visit from Fraser Health in the near future. Fraser Health only uses 1.8% of its medical budget at the Delta hospital, less than in any other community in the Fraser Health region. 	funds

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	<p><u>7.3 Volunteer Recognition Event</u> A luncheon will be planned for April during Volunteer Recognition week to recognize the work of Delta Seniors Planning Team volunteers. More details to follow.</p> <p><u>7.4 Delta Open Houses</u> Talk Delta Municipal Open Houses are to be held in April. Purpose to meet staff about the issues facing our community and learn more about the range of services and activities offered in our community. Time for all – 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm Date/Location – April 8 – Ladner Leisure Centre - April 9 – South Delta Recreation Centre - April 15 – Sungod Arena</p> <p>Discussion: Important that as many members as are able attend the open house in their area. Encouraged to discuss the issues that have been identified as important to seniors – access to services, housing (options and housing for low income seniors who are living on one income) and transportation (improved transit service and alternate bus services for seniors).</p> <p><u>7.5 Transit Referendum - Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ballots for the referendum are coming out in the mail this week. They are to be mailed back by May 29th. If voters are currently on the BC Election voters’ list, the ballot should come automatically. <p>Discussion followed regarding the referendum and what it means to seniors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information can be found on Mayors’ Council website http://mayorscouncil.ca/ . For information on benefits to South Fraser region http://mayorscouncil.ca/vote-yes/ - scroll down to where it says “Benefits to your Region” and click on South Fraser <p>Some areas need addressing and are included in what the tax will pay for:</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridge to New Westminster needs replacing. • Better road system - Delta needs relief from road congestion in Ladner and North Delta. • More buses and bus routes - need a bus, B line, running every 8 minutes from Tsawwassen to Ladner running longer hours. • HandyDART – 30% increase. • Exchange upgrade in Ladner and a new one at 99 Hwy in South Delta. <p>Other comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation is important for those with low incomes- in Advocates survey in “Bridging Gaps report” it was found that only 3% of low income seniors have a car. • Isolation is a health problem for those who do not have an opportunity to use transportation. Seniors need bus regularly, not just in the busy hours, keep regular schedule. • If we are to be an Age Friendly Community, transportation is a key component. • The provincial sales tax – is NOT paid on food and prescriptions – two major expenses for seniors. • Need for bus service in Sunshine Hills - Previously Sunshine Hills residents did not want a community bus in the neighbourhood. As a result there are no community transit buses in ND at all. 	
8. Announcements	None	
10. Adjournment	<p>Next Meeting April 21, 2015 Deltassist Family and Community Services 9097 – 120th Street</p>	