

Delta Seniors Planning Team

June 17 2014

Ladner Pioneer Library, Ladner

Minutes

Chair: Val Windsor

Recorder: Kay Dennison, Coordinator

Attendance: Lynda Brummitt, Kay Dennison, Lindsay Eldridge, Jenn Fancy de Mena, Marg Kennett, Hilda Mantler, Christiann Munro, Margaret Toews, Joanne Van Snellenberg, Lyn Walker, Val Windsor, George Winkelhorst, Angelica Wrobbel, Sheila Zerr, John Yu

Guests: Vicki Huntington, Jessica Steinwand, Rachel Hislop-Hook

Item	Discussion/Information	Action
1. Welcome	Val Windsor welcomed everyone to the meeting and each person introduced themselves. She welcomed our guests Vicki Huntington and Youth Ambassadors Jessica Steinwand and Rachel Hislop-Hook	
2. Approval of Agenda	Agenda approved as circulated with additions – report on John Friesen conference at SFU and workshop – Depression, Delirium and Dementia	Moved by Lyn Walker Seconded by Margaret Toews
3. Approval of Minutes	Minutes on the May 2014 meeting approved as circulated	Moved by Lyn Walker Seconded by Angelica Wrobbel
4. Follow up from May Minutes	4.1 <u>Senor Expo events</u> sponsored by Municipality of Delta - Invitation still not received from the Municipality for the Delta Seniors Planning Team to attend their Fall Senior Expos. Sepia Sharma has requested they send us one. Kay will follow up. 4.2 I'd <u>Rather Stay Video</u> – Kay will contact to arrange a community event for the fall. The producer and medical researcher will attend	

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	<p>the screening and facilitate a dialogue – to view film on internet - http://www.shapethepath.ca/ The film was shown to the Langley Seniors Planning table and about 100 people came out and the dialogue afterwards was very interesting. It was decided that we should see if it can be screened in both North and South Delta.</p> <p>4.3 <u>Action Plan</u> for Planning Team will be included in the application that was submitted to United Way for July 2014-March 2015 – a copy will be circulated at the September meeting. It is based on the work of the Planning Team, Action Teams and requirements of UW.</p> <p>4.4 <u>Seniors Advocate Meeting</u> - organized by the United Way on behalf of the seniors planning tables (10 in the lower mainland). Scheduled for this month, it had to be postponed and a new date has yet to be set. Vicki Huntington drew to our attention problems with transition housing (patients who need therapy, healing etc). There is a lack of physiotherapists in transition housing and patients are often not getting the mobility exercises needed to maintain level of mobility and are bedridden because of the lack of support services. As a result, the senior needs to go into care. Stays in transition housing were meant to be 3-4 weeks and the usual is now 17 weeks. Concern about the old Kinsmen Lodge in Surrey which is now overloaded as a transition care facility. Lyn spoke about Queens Park in New Westminster only being a little better.</p>	
5. Updates from Action Teams	<p>5.1 <u>Non Medical Services</u> – Kay Dennison Funding for Emergency Medical cards still being pursued. Vicki will contact the Delta Fire Fighters Fund on our behalf and Kay will do follow up and contact Scott Hamilton MLA to see if he presented our request for funding to the Mayor and Council. Kay will contact North Delta Rotary again to see if a decision has been made to</p>	

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	<p>provide funding for this worthwhile project.</p> <p>5.2 <u>Housing</u> – Lynda Brummitt Housing Forums on Paterson Park was held in March and April. A follow up workshop was presented to Mayor, Council and municipal staff on June 16th. The presentation, given by ML Burke, included information on innovations in housing, growing population of seniors in Delta, dementia issues and talked about Holland building a village for those with dementia. It was noted that 1 out of 3 single persons are living in a home alone. There is a need for the municipality to be on board with addressing the changes in housing needs. The Mayor closed the workshop with no questions as the time allotted for the workshop had run out. Mayor stated that her staff would do a report and get back to us in the future. At the request of Council we will be putting all the councillors on our mailing list. Next steps: Thank you to Mayor and Council for the opportunity to give our presentation. Prepare for municipal election – questions for all candidates meetings on seniors housing. Next meeting of Housing Action Team is Thursday, June 26th at 10:00 at Ladner Library.</p> <p>5.3 <u>Transportation and Mobility</u> – no update</p>	
6. Updates from other Committee	<p>6.1 <u>Access Transit</u> – Kay Dennison Compass cards are not working as expected, another delay in use of cards for the general public. Reminder by Kay, to let her know if individuals are having issues with HandyDART. Discussion about HandyDART raised the concern about the use of taxis when HandyDART buses not available – Lorraine Logan, of COSCO, is designing training program for taxi drivers. <u>Denial of rides</u> – HandyDART will only book a ride if they can get the</p>	

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	<p>rider to and from their destination. If that isn't possible it is counted as a denial. The number of denials is steadily increasing. Angelica Wrobbel has been using HandyDART recently and her experience is that between 10 and 2 is the best time as the peak hours before 10 and after 3 are booked by students and workers. Kay explained that many of the rides are also for medical appointments. Kidney dialysis is now offering evening appointments which is helping.</p> <p><u>Accessible bus stops</u> – 51% of Delta's bus stops for regular transit are now accessible but other communities are 80%.</p> <p><u>6.2 Seniors Advisory Committee</u> Follow up since call for volunteers - no meeting has been called Mayor and Council are reviewing Terms of Reference.</p> <p><u>6.3 Better at Home</u> Provincially funded, Deltassist is providing non-medical services to seniors – including: light housekeeping (provided by Nurse Next Door). Handyman and yard work will be provided soon. Fees are charged on a sliding scale, depending on income and subsidy available. It was noted that Deltassist is already providing seniors with friendly visits, volunteer driving and grocery shopping.</p> <p>The Services Action Team (non-medical) will be part of the Advisory Committee for Better at Home. This contract will be for 3 years and each year Deltassist will apply for continuing funds. There is an expectation that Deltassist will do some fundraising for the program.</p>	
7. New Business	<p><u>7.1 John Friesen Conference SFU</u> ML and Kay attended. The conference was on Housing and an Aging Population. Several of the speakers were at the Delta Seniors</p>	

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	<p>Planning Team/ Housing Action Team, Paterson Park Forums. Some interesting trends are emerging that raise concern regarding housing for seniors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in seniors using more than 50% of their income for housing is raising the risk of homelessness among seniors. • There is also an increase in the number of seniors using more than 30% of their income for housing – putting them in the position of choosing rent over other living necessities – food, prescription drugs, etc. • Current community emergency planning does not take into account the different aspects of care for seniors during and after an emergency • Seniors are living longer – more seniors over age 75 and they are living 25 years longer than seniors did in the 1900’s. Many seniors are expected to live well into their 80’s. • The world needs the energy and wisdom of seniors and it is important to pay attention. Canada currently does not have a plan for senior care. <p>7.2. Depression, Delirium and Dementia – mental health and wellness workshop for seniors. Sepia Sharma of Fraser Health Authority is organizing this workshop for the fall.</p> <p>7.3 <u>Vicki Huntington, MLA Delta South</u> Vicki introduced two of the youth ambassadors from her Youth Advisory. Rachel Hislop-Hook and Jessica Steinwand. The Youth Council had a discussion on transit in South Delta, lack of service, badly placed bus stops, lack of covered waiting area on highways and streets. All of these concerns impact both seniors and students using the bus system. The Youth Council wants to look at the possibility of seniors and students working together to bring this</p>	

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	<p>situation to the attention of the community. When transit is not available to seniors there is a likelihood of the senior becoming housebound and isolated. Youth often choose not to attend functions because of much of the same issues that seniors have - dark streets, transit routes that involve many changes of buses, lack of shelter, bus stop too far away from home, unsure of how to use the bus system. Seniors and teens have much the same concerns about assault in isolated areas.</p> <p>Plan: Students would like to do a survey on this topic, go with seniors on a bus to see what the problems are, go by bus, to places seniors would like to go – hospital, library, doctor, medical treatments, help seniors to use Senior Transit tutorial. Kay has agreed to meet with the youth council to discuss how to work together.</p>	
8. Announcements	8.1 Steve Wilson of Delta Police is holding a workshop at Kennedy Senior Recreation Centre on June 24 th from 10 – 11 on Frauds and Elder Abuse.	
9. Adjournment	<p style="text-align: center;">Next Meeting September 16, 2014 10:00 am Deltassist Family and Community Services 9097 – 120th Street, North Delta</p>	