

**The Town of Oakville**

**Department of Recreation & Culture**

**Seniors' Working Action Group (SWAG) - We're Age Friendly**

**Minutes – January 24, 2024 via ZOOM**

**In Attendance:** Darlene Cox, Councillor Duddeck, Julie Pennal, Ruth Sheridan, Jennifer McPetrie, Pat Moore, Margaret Kirwin, Ted Lambert, Ruth Sheridan, Tom Carrothers, Ayaa Mohamad.

**Regrets:** Beth Robertson, Michelle Nichols, Pierre Wong, Shahzi Yasmin Bokhari

**Guest:** Stephanie O'Keefe

**Minutes:** Kelly Meeussen

1. **Call to Order:** by Darlene Cox – 1:30 p.m.

2. **Introduction of new committee member: Stephanie O'Keefe**

- Served on the Housing Advisory Committee with Councillor Duddeck
- Involved with the Halton Region housing services. “Be the hero for affordable housing with focus on homelessness and affordable housing.
- Volunteer with CMHA Halton with focus on mental health/addictions and affordable housing.
- Served on many advisory committees including the Oakville Community boundary review and other Parks and Recreation committees.

**Introduction of Ayaa Mohamad – Community Development Specialist for the Town of Oakville.**

- Started in the position a few months ago.
- Works in partnership with Chris Clapham.
- Worked for the Halton Region with a background in Community Investment.
- Focus on accessibility, community activation and funding.
- Will be going on maternity leave in April.

3. **Attendance / Regrets –** Regrets as noted.

4. **Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda**

Ted Lambert, seconded by Margaret Kirwin. Carried.

5. Update from Jen McPetrie

- Furniture for 16 Mile - Discussed options for tables, round or square and chairs, chair with arms or without/fabric or non-fabric. Suggestions to be sent to design team.
- Many activities taking place in the town for Black History Month.
  - Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton (CCAH) launch Black History Month at the [Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts](#) on Thursday, February 1 at 6 p.m. with an evening including a keynote speech about Oakville’s Black history by Anthony Sherwood and performances by Juno award winner Jully Black, Whitney Houston tribute artist Geri Defoe and Arthouse Children’s Choir. This year’s theme is “Celebrating Culture and History.” Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased by visiting the [Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts](#)

[website](#).

- Art exhibits “Explore the Essence of a People: Celebrating Black History Month through Art” from February 1 to February 29 at Oakville Town Hall and QEPCCC. Art in the North Atrium of Town Hall features work by Désiré Betty, Omar Hopkinson and Paul Dias while work by Joan Butterfield will be on display in the QEPCCC Gallery in the exhibit ‘Explore the Essence of a People: Celebrating Black History Month through Art’. Opening reception at QEPCCC on Sunday, February 4 from 2 to 4 p.m. [Reserve your spot today](#).
- Participate in Black History Explorers, a partnership between the Oakville Museum, Oakville Public Library and CCAH, on [Friday, February 16](#) at noon or [Saturday, March 9](#) at noon. The event, taking place at Oakville Museum, invites families to participate in arts and crafts, story-time, and a family-friendly tour. Oakville Early Black History, a travelling exhibition by Oakville Museum will display pictures and cultural information. Participating schools include St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Secondary School; Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School; Bishop P. F. Reding Catholic Secondary School; E.J. James Public School; St. Catherine of Alexandria; Garth Webb Secondary School. A complete listing of BHM activities are shown here [Black History Month \(oakville.ca\)](#)
- February 19 is Family Day activities and town community centres will be hosting various activities including free skate.

6.

### **Standing Agenda Items**

#### **Halton Age Friendly**

- Julie will be attending meetings moving forward and will have a full report to share at the next SWAG meeting.

#### **Councillor update: Cathy Duddeck –**

Attended a meeting on January 22 with the Planning and Development Council. The Town of Oakville passed a motion to direct staff to undertake the drafting amendments to the town’s zoning by-law that would permit four units per property across Oakville. The official plan and zoning by-law will be reviewed, and updates will be prepared for the public. The amendments will go to Council for approval. Council will also request the Government to support the inclusion of a gentle density strategy, and to permit the conversion of suitable commercial properties near residential areas in the mixed-use. This activity is centered on the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF), announced by the Federal government in the Spring of 2023 and intend to provide incentive funding to local governments to encourage initiatives aimed at increasing the housing supply. It is also intended to support the development of complete, low-carbon and climate resilient communities that are affordable, inclusive, equitable and diverse.

Also in the January 22 meeting, Planning and Development Council voted unanimously to reject a development application for a 10-storey, 38.25m mixed use building at 42 Lakeshore Road East. The area in question is currently zoned for a building height of 5 stories, however the application requested 10, along with approval for 152 units in 12, 593 square meters of residential floor area and 630 square meters of commercial and retail floor area. The Town planning staff advised that they would accept an 8-storey building. Additional concerns were voiced which included increased traffic in the area. It was noted that other recent developments in the area kept to three and four stories and in one case 6 stories. The application was not seen as being compatible with the area.

January 30, consultants and staff provided a presentation built around a Preferred Alternative created for Midtown which featured a high density mix of buildings that would range from 10 to 48 stories and spread across an area extending from Chartwell Road in the east to the portion of Cross Avenue beside the 16-Mile Creek in the west. Trafalgar Road and Cross Avenue were depicted as the major intersection with each road accommodating 6 lanes and planned green space throughout to serve more than 50,000 people who might inhabit the area years from now. Concerns, comments and suggestions were presented as to how to address future directions for the planning of the Midtown area. On Thursday, February 15 staff and consultants will present a proposed design concept and policy approach for Midtown Oakville followed by a series of public engagement activities. Doors open at 6 p.m. and talks begin at 6:30 p.m. On February 27 a Special Meeting of Council will be held to provide feedback from the February 15 public information meeting, and to discuss how council will act on recommendations, issues and concerns voiced.

### **Oakville Meals on Wheels – Michelle Nichols**

- March for Meals: We are putting our wheels in motion for our annual March for Meals Campaign running from March 1- 31 2024. We will be launching a fundraiser with some great prizes! We will also be doing spring Purdy's Chocolate fundraising sale.
- Central Registry: The Central Registry is directing all inquires regarding food support in Oakville to the Victorian Order of Nurses as they are mandated to only use those programs that are LHIN funded.
- The Meals in Home Program for those in our community who have both a low annual income and health conditions is the main reason OMoW left the LHIN in 2018. At that time, the LHIN made the requirements for those needing financial support very challenging.
- As well, the LHIN was moving to the Central Registry system, a more clinical setting for our most vulnerable to navigate vs the more friendly "live" person-to-person interaction they get with OMoW. OMoW felt it was

imperative that the Town of Oakville have a local connection along with fresh hot meals from within our town and not from a neighbouring community.

- New Partnerships: We are honoured to be delivering lunches to the Seniors Life Enhancement Centre. This program is in Oakville and is an adult day program that provides social and recreational activities.
- Thanks to funding from Community Services Recovery Fund, we are working with Community Development Halton to research and develop best policies and practices for the OMoW subsidy program to ensure we are meeting the needs of our community.

#### **Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore**

- Loneliness, Isolation to Empowerment (LITE) Education - hosted by CDH, presenter Shahzi Bokhari, Community in Action team. Senior Connectors have attended or will be present at 2 locations in Oakville libraries and Roman Catholic Church.
- S+Age Group 55+ with Shaarei-Beth El held 2 times per month at the Calvary Baptist Church and luncheons are provided once per month.
- Milton libraries 2 locations once per month.
- McMaster presentation online at 7:00 p.m. on sleep disorders.
- An email was sent to Mr. Don Jarett an Optimist Club member who was not aware of SWAG. Julie & Darlene have been copied.

#### **enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan.**

- Our support group now has 25 members; 18 of whom actively participate in our virtual &/or in person meetings.
- Beginning in 2024, we meet in person on the first Tuesday of every month at Trafalgar Park Community Centre, & Virtually the third Tuesday of every month using ZOOM.
- November 27 - CNIB Mobile Hub @Glen Abbey  
Dec. 1 enVISION Christmas party at Mo's  
Dec. 5 enVISION Oakville In Person meeting #179 at Walton Church  
Dec. 11 enVISION Oakville Virtual meeting # 180  
January 2024.

#### **OAAC – Darlene Cox**

- There was great concern about how residents would get Regional news and updates now that the local newspapers are no longer publishing. This website has been set up for you to receive news of what's happening in the Region. It is free and easy to subscribe to. I signed up and suggest it is worth considering as we lost all contact with the Region when the Oakville

	<p>Beaver stopped publishing. <a href="https://www.halton.ca/The-Region/News">https://www.halton.ca/The-Region/News</a></p> <p><b>Connection in Action – Shahzi Yasmin Bokhari –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ No report provided.</li> </ul>
<p>7.</p>	<p><b>New Business Arising/Information Sharing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CRA and Service Canada Presentation review: 172 people registered and 89 were in the meeting virtually. Comments shared: there was a lot of information.</li> <li>○ Up coming presentations: Virtual: Thursday, February 22 (poster attached) 1:30 p.m. Housing and HomeShare Options for Seniors. Dr. Vipan Nikore from Home Care Hub and Jackie Tanner from Spaces Shared. Register here: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEtf-2gqjgrH91FZS2p79cDQPn8rtZv-ISh">https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEtf-2gqjgrH91FZS2p79cDQPn8rtZv-ISh</a></li> <li>○ In person: Tuesday, March 5, 1 – 3 p.m. Wills and Power of Attorney with Andrea Parliament at Sir John Colborne Recreation Centre for Seniors. <b>This is a ticketed event and space is limited. To register please visit the Colborne Senior Centre or call 905-815-5960 and ask to be added to the guest list.</b></li> <li>○ The OACAO/SALC received over 600 responses from their senior’s centre survey. Digital and hard copies were provided.</li> <li>○ The OACAO has a new business partner called RHRA -Retirement Homes Regulatory Authority. The RHRA is an independent, self-funded, not-for-profit regulator mandated by the government to protect and ensure the safety and well-being of seniors living in Ontario's retirement homes under the Retirement Homes Act, 2010.</li> <li>○ QEPOAC will be hosting a Seniors Information Fair on Tuesday, April 30 from 9 a.m. to noon. This in response to the success of the Housing Fair held in October. This is an opportunity for community partners and companies serving seniors to share their information. Not for profit will be provided a table for free and for profit will pay \$150 per table.</li> <li>○ Bev, Ted, Darlene and Pat volunteered to help on the day of the event. – Thank you in advance for your willingness to support this event.</li> </ul> <p><b>Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.</b></p>
<p>8.</p>	<p><b>Date of next meeting – Wednesday, February 28, at 1:30 p.m. on Zoom</b></p>