

The Town of Oakville

Department of Recreation & Culture

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

Minutes – January 25, 2023 via ZOOM

In Attendance: Darlene Cox, Julie Pennal, Dee Webber, Ruth Sheridan, Bev Cathro, Margaret Kirwin, Pierre Wong, Pat Moore, Ted Lambert, Nabeel Rahman, Jen McPetrie, Kelly Meeussen, Councillor Cathy Duddeck

Regrets: Beth Robertson, Michelle Nichols

Guest: Tom Carrothers

1.	Call to Order by Darlene Cox – 1:30 p.m.
2.	Introduction of Kelly Meeussen, Recreation Assistant, Recreation and Culture to SWAG Committee,
3.	Attendance / Regrets – Regrets as noted.
4.	Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda Ruth Sheridan, seconded by Pierre Wong. Carried.
5.	Update from Jen McPetrie – no update provided at this time.
6.	Standing Agenda Items a. Older Adult Isolation Table Update – LITE Training: Nabeel Rahman -This is an opportunity for organizations to participate in an informative session to learn about social isolation and loneliness among older adults and how you can help. -This workshop is designed for service providers and volunteers who support older adults in their communities across Halton. -Heather Thompson, Community Development Halton 3350 South Service Road, Burlington, ON. 905-632-1975 x. 3, thompson@cdhalton.ca , www.cdhalton.ca -LITE Training/Education Dates: January 30, 2023 – 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. February 27, 2023 – 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. March 20, 2023 – 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. -LITE Education is onsite in Burlington at Community Development Halton. Space is limited. Free of cost. Senior Active Living Centre Grant Application: -Grant in the process of being submitted for Sir John Colborne, Trafalgar Park and Iroquois Ridge Senior Centres. Senior Community Grant Application Now Open: -Seniors Community Grants(SCG) support local not-for-profit community groups and organizations to deliver programs and opportunities that encourage greater social inclusion, volunteerism and community engagement for older adults (aged 55+). Since 2018, more than 950 organizations have received Seniors Community Grants to benefit older Ontarians. -Grants are available from \$1,000 to \$25,000.

b. Councillor Update – Councillor Duddeck was welcomed on the SWAG Committee :

- Approval for building of 4 story rental apartments, 3 stories of apartments and 1 story will house PACE Community Hub (Program of All-Inclusive Care) which will be a Wellness Hub for seniors in the Kerr St. area. This property will be operated by Halton Region.
- 52 units (45 will be subsidized and 7 will be 79% of market rate)
- Budget process: provisions for comments on budget. Link to be sent to Darlene.
- Require a better coordination of services and agencies supporting mental health and homelessness issues.

c. Oakville Meals on Wheels – Michelle Nichols

No report (Darlene indicated Michelle is always looking for volunteers)

d. Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore

- Minister of Seniors tax credit/payment dates to be sent to Darlene.
- Senior Connectors attend events offered by ‘Pastor Fran’ (St. Aidans Church, Oakville) to help provide senior information to isolated, lonely seniors that can assist them in getting connected with other seniors.

e. enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan

- Monday, January 23rd - held their 152 meeting since the group was formed, September 18, 2017.
- The CNIB’s Mobile Hub and SmartLife Store will be at Trafalgar Park Community Centre February 21 offering us programs, services and products to try out and purchase.
- Ruth is taking training sessions for Mental Health and Wellness.
- Virtual meetings have been extended one hour to 1.5 hours every second Monday.
- In person meetings have received funding that will continue into August 2023.

f. OAAC – Darlene Cox

- Currently not meeting yet.

g. Halton CARP-Tom Carrothers

- Tom has been working with Heather Thompson to try and restart the Elder Abuse Prevention for Halton (HEAP) It hasn’t been operational for several years and with Elder Abuse on the increase, it is needed.
- The Hamilton/Niagara/Haldimand/Brant LHIN is offering free exercise classes for seniors – Sit to be Fit. Darlene will check to see if the Mississauga/Halton LHIN is also offering this program. (It was noted this was offered at Oakville Retirement Homes prior to Covid with little uptake from the Oakville Community).

7.	<p>New Business Arising</p> <p>a) 911 Card: What happens when you call 911? New system for safe identification of critical and life-threatening situations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julie placed cards throughout centre for members. • Discussed issues regarding EMS response time and care provided to patients. • Concerned about the number of questions asked when calling 911 and 911 etiquette when calling for an emergency. • Jen McPetrie to reach out to Halton EMS to provide education. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frauds and Scams update for SWAG presents event – Confirmed Swag Presents in 2023: February 9 Anti-Fraud Awareness 1:30 p.m., March 2: Consumer Protection Awareness at 1:30 p.m., April 13: Identity Theft and Financial Fraud Awareness at 1:30 p.m. – free virtual events. • Darlene mentioned that questions are encouraged by the all the Presenters • Julie to reach out to Laura Pennal re: Communicate with funeral homes in Oakville to educate families to be aware of fraud, check with family before making any financial decisions following the loss of a loved one.
8.	<p>a) Falls Prevention Committee – Pat Moore & Ruth Sheridan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Package with general information for vision impaired patients and families of what to bring when coming to the hospital. Information to be made available on Halton Healthcare website and to be shared with SWAG. <p>b) 2023 planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darlene will contact Andrew Balahura, Director, Housing Services, Social & Community Services, Halton Region, re: discussing affordable housing options in Halton with the SWAG Committee. • Darlene/Julie to reach out to CAMH re: mental health services and speak to Nabeel Rahman, Community Development Specialist, Recreation and Culture. • Darlene to reach out for updated information re: P& R Master Plan and what is happening in relation to the needs of the community. • Request for a speaker on Bill 23
9.	<p>Information Sharing</p>
10.	<p>Date of next meeting – Wednesday, February 22 at 1:30 PM via Zoom.</p>
11.	<p>Adjournment – Darlene thanked everyone for attending The meeting was adjourned 3:00 p.m.</p>

The Town of Oakville

Department of Recreation & Culture

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

Minutes – February 22, 2023, via ZOOM

In Attendance: Julie Pennal, Dee Webber, Beth Robertson, Bev Cathro, Margaret Kirwin, Pierre Wong, Pat Moore, Ted Lambert, Darlene Cox, Nabeel Rahman, Jen McPetrie, Kelly Meeussen,

Regrets: Councillor Cathy Duddeck, Ruth Sheridan, Michelle Nichols

Guest: Sarah Francom – Deputy Chief – Program Development Quality Improvement at Halton Region Paramedic Services

1. **Call to Order by Darlene Cox – 1:45 p.m.**

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

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

Margaret, seconded by Pat. Carried.

Change: #8 Falls Prevention Committee: Remove Pat's name.

4. **Update from Jen McPetrie – no update provided at this time.**

5. **Guest Speaker:** Sarah Francom – Deputy Chief – Program Development Quality Improvement at Halton Region Paramedic Services

- When you call 911 the dispatch system has changed as per Ministry of Health.
- MPDS – Global system, highly successful and evidence based and proven to be a successful dispatch system.
- Prioritize calls, response times change: i.e. Old system: Fell and bumped knee and breathing heavy called ambulance and dispatch would send all resources.
- Now dispatch asks more questions to provide more detail, to help determine that the issue is not more serious than the heart attack that was called in earlier.
- Sarah mentioned to ask 911 how long it will take. Dispatch will call back to check in and provide a possible estimated time of arrival.
- Higher priority calls have improved. Getting to these calls faster than with old system i.e., Heart attack, fall down the stairs etc. With regards to calls dropped, do not have concrete data at this time.
- Sarah indicated that average wait time for less priority calls is 30-45 mins.
- Darlene: Do a larger presentation for many people to attend. Jennifer indicated that between Sarah and the Public Education Coordinator can facilitate a workshop. Julie suggested that Sarah could do a SWAG presents topic and attend our open houses this year. Sarah indicated that the Fire Department has more resources. Paramedics have less resources. Information cards are available with 911 information for the public.

Update from Jen McPetrie:

- a. Jennifer McPetrie: Discussed the Master Plan Update (this is done every 10 years with Parks, Recreation and Libraries) and the direction of where the town is going. Consultants Monteith Brown were hired back in Fall. Doing Facility Tours and Community Connections offered online and in person to share ideas. Will make this known to the group when the time comes. It is important to be part of it. Spring programs go live March 1st. Many seniors at our facilities for family day with great attendance. Busiest since Covid.

Standing Agenda Items

a. Older Adult Isolation Table Update – LITE Training: Nabeel Rahman

-Heather Thompson has decided to step down at Community Development Halton to pursue other things.

-Nabeel had an interesting conversation with the Canadian Red Cross, Director of Institute of Social Prescribing to discuss the landscape of what this looks like in Halton.

Julie: indicated that we are currently doing Social Prescribing for over 20 clients. There is opportunity for this group to connect to Julie or Jolaine. The OACAO was granted a substantial amount of money in Ontario for next 3 years. We are in start of year 2. Approximately \$2,500 in funds were provided. Jolaine has done an amazing job with the program to date.

Nabeel indicated that there is a gap in understanding as the Red Cross is so focused on the model not the delivery.

Facilitator for mental health for SWAG meeting. Nabeel to provide a name from the CMHA.

b. Councillor update: Cathy Duddeck

- a. Budget deliberations are currently underway and a key proposal in discussion is to provide free transit for Seniors and those under 18 years of age.
- b. Council heard the application for 50 Speers Road. Plans are for demolition and rebuilding an apartment rental building with 27 floors/6 stories. Concerns are raised in terms of accommodating the existing tenants. The applicant is planning to provide financial compensation for those in the building. Concerns are being raised about their being able to afford returning to this area after the work is complete. Both Councillor Chisholm and I met with Halton Regional staff to prepare a householder to distribute to the tenants informing them of the regional housing programs available to them in their search for new housing.
- c. The application is going to Council for a decision and the public will have an opportunity to comment on the planning report.
- d. The application for the development at the top of Kerr St. and Speers Road (the Food Basics site) was appealed to the OLT due to a lack of decision. Major concerns relating to the delay of the Kerr underpass and the impacts on the traffic congestion due to the 25+ towers being proposed. Other concern is the lack of an affordable grocery store to serve the area.
- e. The Region is developing a 4-story building at Kerr St. (former recreational building for seniors) that will house the PACE program at the bottom of the building while providing 52 affordable housing for seniors above the facility.
- f. The Region is also building 14 semi-detached dwelling units (7 buildings) containing assisted rental housing units for seniors and assisted independent living units with community supports. The location is on

Rebecca Street on the former St. Hilda's Anglican Church property. There will be 3 individual homes facing out onto Rebecca with the unit's situation behind these properties.

c. Oakville Meals on Wheels – Michelle Nichols

- a. Heard that they were denied for the Category One application to the 2023 Halton Region Community Investment Fund (HRCIF).
- b. Launched the snack pack program. This is a pack of 4-5 items to help supplement those that need extra support. This program was made possible through a grant from Mazon Canada.
- c. March is March for Meals month. Will be launching our Purdy's Chocolate Fundraiser.
- d. Working with Mayor Burton to have our flag raised at Town Hall along with a proclamation for the month. Keep an eye on your inboxes for an invite.
- e. Hosting community champion the week of March 20-25. Many supporters joining to help deliver meals, including Mayor Burton, Town Councillors, MPP's and Julie Pennal.
- f. Launching our first social media campaign called "How do you do Lunch?"

d. Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore

- Received a letter from Heather Thompson that she was leaving as Director of Age Friendly Initiatives. CDH will no longer be initiating age friendly programs. March 7 is the last meeting with Heather, and they will find out what is coming for senior connectors. Heather's passion and initiative will be missed. Julie indicated that we could host something for Heather at the Colborne Centre similar to what was done at Christmas time.

e. enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan

- a. Ruth is recovering at home and doing well. No update provided.

f. OAAC – Darlene Cox

- Online and in-person exercise classes offered by LifeMark for more isolated seniors. Call and register, only take 10-11 people. Julie to email the locations for the in-person and online classes. Program great for Senior Connectors.
- Feedback on Anti-Fraud awareness: 98 people registered. Largest to date. Forwarded link to 200 people. 48 registered for Consumer Protection. It is possible that people don't understand what the title represents. Darlene to ask Tom to send out reminder. Friendship Luncheon had a speaker from Scotia Bank. There are current bank frauds (Call and say they are from Scotia Bank and your account is under investigation for possible fraud). Julie indicated that the senior who lost money from a bit coin scam, her daughter was able to get money back from the gift cards. The money that was placed in the bit coin bank machine is lost. There are currently 17 Bit Coin machines in Oakville. This was mentioned to Councillor Duddeck last meeting to bring up to Council.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amica Event with Alison on February 28 at 10 a.m. She is looking for input. Put yourself in the space and what you would like to experience to be comfortable living there. Look at the floor plans. • Julie indicated on March 21 at the Colborne Centre is an in-person event with Amica and the Councillors from 1-3 p.m. regarding the same topic as the Zoom meeting. Julie suggested questions should be asked about the memory care floor and the costs associated with an internal move. Advocate for all in pricing as opposed to a la carte pricing. • Future Cannabis with Andy Donaldson. Darlene to follow up with Andy to provide a virtual presentation. Reached out to Active Aging Cannabis to see if they will do a presentation.
6.	<p>New Business Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Privatization of hospitals: Town Hall presenting on this topic. Very concerned about this concept. Contact Darlene for the correct link as the current one is not working. • Margaret: This week is Halton Garden Week. Free online presentation through Haltonfood.ca. Oakville Green also offering online presentation: supporting backyard birds. • Ted Lambert: Clarification for tax clinics. The clinics are there to serve low income eligible for low-income supplements. Must be a basic income tax only. (Accounting firms offered through a clinic where staff volunteer their services) Pierre indicated that the churches who offer the service are open to all levels of income. Michelle Knowles coordinator of Oak Park Neighbourhood offering the service.
7.	<p>Information Sharing</p>
8.	<p>Date of next meeting – Wednesday, March 22nd at 1:30 PM via Zoom.</p>
9.	<p>Adjournment – Darlene thanked everyone for attending. The meeting was adjourned 3:30 p.m.</p>

The Town of Oakville

Department of Recreation & Culture

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

Minutes – March 22, 2023 via ZOOM

In Attendance: Julie Pennal, Beth Robertson, Margaret Kirwin, Pierre Wong, Pat Moore, Ted Lambert, Nabeel Rahman, Heather Thompson, Michelle Nichols, Kelly Meeussen,

Regrets: Councillor Cathy Duddeck, Ruth Sheridan, Jennifer McPetrie, Bev Cathro, Darlene Cox

Guest: Heather Thompson – Director of Age-Friendly Initiatives at Community Development Halton and a member of the Older Adult Isolation Action Table.

1.	Call to Order by Julie Pennal – 1:45 p.m.
2.	Attendance / Regrets – Regrets as noted.
3.	Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda Margaret, seconded by Pat. Carried.
4.	Update from Jen McPetrie <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The new Oakville.ca website launch was on Sunday. It will have a new refreshed look and easier to navigate. Senior Services page /easy to use.
5.	Guest Speaker: Heather Thompson -Director of Age - Friendly Initiatives at Community Development Halton and a member of the Older Adult Isolation Table. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Last day – March 31st. After 10 years of service.• Funding is a challenge with the not-for-profit sector and the role will not be replaced.• Age Friendly Initiatives in Halton: engaging the community in advocacy for change, we are building a diverse, equitable and inclusive age friendly Halton that contributes to optimal aging, improving life for all. Encourages and promotes active aging by optimizing opportunities for health, participation, and security to enhance the quality of life as people age.• Pleased to hear that Oakville will have free transit 24/7 as of May 1st.• The census shows that older adults (55+) in Burlington is 35% and in Oakville is 29%. We need to be the voice for older adults.• Research shows that isolation is a global public health issue, statistics show that over four million people feel lonely.• CDH is the backbone of this initiative with focus on social supports for older adults. The goal by 2025 is to increase connectedness, identify individuals at risk, provide awareness and empowerment to access resources and strategies available.• Senior Connector Program: brings resources to seniors and families, education and training, face to face contact and connection with available services. Standing Agenda Items <ol style="list-style-type: none">Older Adult Isolation Table Update – LITE Training: Nabeel Rahman<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research documents and articles around older adult issues in the indigenous and immigrant communities. Shared with minutes.• Using this information for inclusion training in MayCouncillor update: Cathy Duddeck

- The Town of Oakville budget was approved - in the budget the free transit for seniors and teens 13 – 18 are free. They do require a Presto card to be eligible. This program comes into effect on May 1, 2023
- The Region of Halton is introducing a pilot project with household waste and recycling. The program would enable the homeowner's garbage to be retrieved with a lift truck (versus manual labor as it currently is). Special wheeled bins are provided according to the size of the household (small, medium, large). This is taking place in the 4 municipalities and only in select areas as it is a pilot only.
- Town Council provided their "Pledge" to the province regarding housing and the demands for increased density in the community to meet the needs of increased population. The province maintains they will cover the loss of revenue/expenses that will be born by the town – there is concern as to how that will work.
- This past season there has been considerable snow plough damage along the municipal road edge. This happened as a result of warmer temperatures prior to the snowfall (the ground was not as frozen as previous years). If you have damage in front of your home, you can call Service Oakville to request assistance. Public Works will have someone attend the area in the first few weeks of April.
- Comments from meeting participants indicated that response time from Service Oakville was very prompt and efficient.

c. Oakville Meals on Wheels – Michelle Nichols

- a. Launched March for Meals campaign raising awareness for Meals on Wheels, flag raised at Town Hall, March for Meals month proclaimed by Mayor, community celebrities supporting through delivery of meals.
- b. On Saturday night at Woodbine/Mohawk Casino to raise awareness.

d. Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore

- Monday Quilting group have been making quilts for Indwell (Hamilton, Mississauga, Streetsville, London locations). Have a video being shown on Thursday, March 30 at Meadowvale Community Church to talk about homelessness and supportive community housing.
- Julie to forward document with information.
- Employment and Social Development Canada – Survey due April 14. To be sent to members with minutes. Want to hear about ways to support those wishing to age in their home.
- Police are launching No Hate in Halton. Information to be included in minutes.

e. enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan

- a. Joe filling in for Ruth while in recovery. Six participants on Monday. CNIB has replaced Ryan Van Preet as Supervisor of Supports. As a result, there will be a new dial in number to access for support.
- b. Ruth is doing well, and all good wishes are helping her to heal.

	<p>f. OAAC – Darlene Cox</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Report as OAAC has not yet started for 2023
6.	<p>New Business Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SWAG Event: March 2nd – Consumer Protection. Recording emailed out. Some positive feedback. Information was helpful especially the information about a Consumer Beware List. https://www.ontario.ca/page/search-consumer-beware-list Not all problematic Businesses are included but worth checking before making a purchase. • Reminder of the third and final part of series, Identity Theft & Fraud Awareness, Thursday, April 13 at 1:30 p.m., please use the link to register. • AMICA in person community presentation. Thirty or forty people attended at Colborne Centre. • NORC presentation (Naturally Occurring Retirement Community): Ted said they did a lot of work with a small number of resources and people. Not sure why they had to do it and not sure of the outcome or success. Focus was on operating procedures and not action oriented. • Cannabis: Darlene is working on this currently. • Paramedic Referral Form: Nancy Beddoe sent form to Julie. Purpose: if you know someone in your life who tends to call 911 regularly due to fear and/or loneliness. This form can be completed and assists in alerting the paramedic team that they may call and add them as part of their rounds to check that they don't have isolation issues or hygiene issues.
7.	<p>Information Sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new information shared
8.	<p>Date of next meeting – Wednesday, April 26 at 1:30 PM via Zoom.</p>
9.	<p>Adjournment – Julie thanked everyone for attending. The meeting was adjourned 2:25 p.m.</p>

The Town of Oakville

Department of Recreation & Culture

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

Minutes – April 26, 2023 via ZOOM

In Attendance: Darlene Cox, Julie Pennal, Beth Robertson, Margaret Kirwin, Dee Webber, Pierre Wong, Nabeel Rahman, Bev Cathro, Heather Thompson, Michelle Nichols, Kelly Meeussen

Regrets: Councillor Cathy Duddeck, Ruth Sheridan, Pat Moore, Ted Lambert

Guest: Rebecca Taylor and Ivana Njelakovic – Deloitte

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| 1. | Call to Order by Julie Pennal – 1:30 p.m. |
| 2. | Attendance / Regrets – Regrets as noted. |
| 3. | Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda
Margaret, seconded by Bev. Carried. |
| 4. | Guest Speaker: Rebecca Taylor from Deloitte <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Town of Oakville Vision 2057 & Strategic Plan 2023-2026 Seniors Working Action Group – Focus Group discussion to provide a voice for seniors living in the community.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Vision and Mission, Town to focus on 4-5 main areas and several objectives under the areas of focus. Will determine what the strategic pillars should be and what they want to accomplish under these pillars.○ Completed 17 interviews with individuals who represented organizations from different Oakville groups, focus group with Oakville youth action committee, accessibility advisory committee, 7 open houses in community centres, 1 in each ward and resident surveys online and by telephone.○ SWAG committee members had the chance to share what they love about Oakville and what they do not want to see changed.○ Ivana Bjelakovic from Deloitte recorded comments, concerns and suggestions presented by SWAG committee members.○ Provincially mandated growth, forecasting population of Oakville by 2051 to be 400,000. Currently 234,000 living in Oakville.○ Stats presented: 45% are first generation immigrants, 43% black, indigenous, and people of colour, 22% persons with disabilities, 16% 65+, 52% are women.○ Committee was asked what the Town should focus on immediately (3 years) and what they should focus on in the long term (10-25 years).○ Discussed where they are in the phase of development to reach the final plan which will be shared with the community to allow input to be provided before final plan is implemented.○ Survey responses – 2400 online mixed between phone and online. |
| 5. | Update from Jen McPetrie <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Master Plan Open House sessions in coming weeks. Focus will be on Recreation, Parks, and Libraries infrastructure in the next 10 years. Survey is available online. Do one survey per person only. Do no re-do another survey, email Jen directly with a comment and she can share with the committee. |

6. **Standing Agenda Items**

- **Older Adult Isolation Table Update – LITE Training: Nabeel Rahman**
 - Nabeel has been asked to be the Co-Chair of the Older Adult Isolation Table
 - Looking forward to engaging SWAG in more initiatives moving forward.
- **Age Friendly Meeting:**
 - The Ontario Caregiver Organization (OCO) exists to improve the lives of Ontario caregivers, who provide physical and emotional support to a family member, partner, friend, or neighbour.
 - i. Who Are They?
 1. 87% care for one person, usually an older family member, often a parent.
 2. 49% of care recipients live with their caregiver, 37% live in other private homes, and 11% live in healthcare facilities.
 - ii. Caregiver Health and Well-being
 1. 25% say their caregiver tasks are getting more difficult since the easing of pandemic restrictions.
 2. 1 in 5 caregivers say their mental health is worse than it was during the pandemic.
 3. 63% feel they have hit their breaking point.
 - Many municipalities are currently conducting public consultation age friendly program awareness, strategic planning, and Healthy Aging Report
 - i. Kitchener, Region of Waterloo Aging Series, City of Brantford
 - Brantford
 - i. They are working on the Healthy Aging Passport, which offers an opportunity to try various free and new activities with community partners from June to September
 - ii. They received a grant to extend the previous program for a few months.
 - iii. They are looking into integrating programming into affordable housing sites in Brantford.
- **Councillor update: Cathy Duddeck**
 - Work has already commenced on the new seniors' assisted housing project and PACE program on Kerr St. (the old Kerr Senior's Centre).
 - Speers Road will be under construction this summer as we progress from Fourth Line eastward. The introduction of a 5th designated turning lane and bike lanes will be part of this construction (the turning lane is a crucial part of increasing safe turns for those turning off Speers Road and drivers not swerving out and around those making turns).
 - There has been no further word about the Hopedale Mall/ South O proposal – Smart Centres expressed interest in developing the old Target/Zellers portion of the property to house townhouses and introduce 9 storey seniors building (privately run by Revera).
 - This year Downtown businesses are forgoing the Midnight Madness event that they usually host in July. The shop owners have expressed mixed feelings about the cost and the impact to their businesses in hosting this

event (increasing crowds were problematic to preventing shoplifting of their merchandise and requiring they hire additional staff for that one night).

- The Lakeshore Road West reconstruction has been awarded to an Engineering firm CIMS who will work with staff in going out to the public for their input and comments as to what they want to see incorporated in the design. There is no design as Council and the public did not agree on introducing a turning lane running the full length from Mississauga St. to Dorval Drive. The possible removal of an estimated 400 trees was part of that proposal and Council requested that they return to the table and provide a plan that maintains the scenic corridor (protecting trees, minimizing expropriation of private lands, etc.)

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

- Nothing to report.

- **Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore**

- Halton Regional Police Service have a new Community Service Seniors Contact:
- Sergeant Will Clayton email: William.Clayton@haltonpolice.ca telephone: 905-825-4747 ext 4727
- OTMH have made changes to their masking policies as of April 21, 2023: they will relax mask requirements for staff, physicians and volunteers outside of clinical and public areas at our hospitals and off site locations.
- To continue to protect patients and the most vulnerable, masks will still be required in all patients facing and clinical spaces (e.g. Nursing station, inpatient and outpatient areas) as well as all common areas including lobbies, elevators, hallways and anywhere a patient may be present.
- OTMH remains mask-friendly in all settings and welcome anyone who wishes to continue wearing a mask to do so.

- **enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan**

- Joe continues to host all virtual and In Person meetings while Ruth recovers.
- On Monday, April 3, seven participants attended the group's 158th meeting held virtually.
- Topics: Airline travel: which airlines are better than others, how to prepare, what services and assistance are out there, recommended Audio books, recommended Podcasts: there is good content out there for example, with regards to self-help and learning foreign languages.
- On Tuesday, April 4, ten participants attended the group's 159th meeting held In Person
- On Monday, Apr. 17, six participants attended the group's 160th meeting held virtually.
- Discussions about the emotions, the ups and downs, that come with vision loss & some tricks around voice selection on the iPhone, and within the easy reader app.
- On Thursday, April 20th nine members attended a luncheon at El Spero restaurant in Bronte.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● OAAC – Darlene Cox ● No Report as OAAC has not yet started for 2023
6.	<p>New Business Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ April 13 – Identity Theft and Fraud with OSC. Julie indicated that there was a lot of good feedback. Those who attended felt that they got a lot out of the presentation. ○ Period Promise: Julie Mitchell indicated that the Town has allocated funds for period products in all facilities. Policy Review board who oversees the seniors centres asked about people who require incontinence products and indicated that they are needed and can be very expensive. Considering a pilot project at SJC and QEP who have designated washrooms for adult members and community partners. ○ The idea is to have the emergency kit available at the front desk. Include additional items such as dental floss, wet wipes, hand sanitizer to avoid embarrassment. ○ Place a sign in the washrooms indicating the items available. Come to the front desk and ask for the kit. ○ Meeting with Alison from Amica who indicated that she is happy to supply a few packs of incontinence products to support the kits. ○ SWAG committee to connect with community partners who can help with building of the kit with donated supplies. ○ Beth to connect with Health Department to ask for toothbrushes. ○ Committee suggested approaching corporate sponsorships or local businesses for donations for items for the kits. ○ Send a list of ideas for items to Julie and SWAG to put together the kits. ○ Julie spoke about the free bus ride experience – EV bus ride to TPOAC followed by lunch at SJC with the Mayor, Councillors, and staff. There was a lot of conversation about the buses. Joanne from Transit indicated that the EV buses will be used for Caravan and on-demand services. ○ Future cannabis presentation: this has been on the agenda for awhile. Canaway provided a presentation in 2018 and interested in doing another presentation for us. They are very knowledgeable and provide advice on medial and inform on recreational. ○ Darlene to follow up with Andy Donald from the Health Depot. ○ Julie indicated that Stephanie from Trafalgar Park has been receiving requests for POA information. Darlene to approach ACE to see if someone would provide a presentation on this for the committee. This topic was done pre-pandemic in 2018. Darlene to reach out to Heather and see if she has any contacts and asked committee to see if they know of anyone who could provide a presentation on this topic. ○ Halton health coalition: Private group of citizens created a province wide referendum, regarding the privatization of hospitals. For more information contact the Halton Health Coalition. ○ Jen indicated that the coalition has been permitted a space downtown to gather signatures on their petition. ○ Community Hub: Andrew Balahura and team will be here in June.
7.	<p>Information Sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No new information shared

8.	Date of next meeting – Wednesday, May at 1:30 PM via Zoom.
9.	Adjournment – Julie thanked everyone for attending. The meeting was adjourned 3:35 p.m.

The Town of Oakville

Department of Recreation & Culture

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

Minutes – May 24, 2023 via ZOOM

In Attendance: Darlene Cox, Julie Pennal, Councillor Cathy Duddeck, Pierre Wong, Bev Cathro, Jennifer McPetrie, Michelle Nichols, Pat Moore, Kelly Meeussen

Regrets: Beth Robertson, Ruth Sheridan, Ted Lambert, Margaret Kirwin, Dee Webber, Nabeel Rahman

Guest: Councillor Duddeck gave a detailed update on the special Council Meeting of May 23 re Midtown Development Proposal. For more information see Councillor update below.

1. **Call to Order by Julie Pennal – 1:30 p.m.**

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

3. **Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda**
Bev Cathro, seconded by Pierre Wong. Carried.

4. **Update from Jen McPetrie**

- *Thank you to SWAG for coming out to the meeting to discuss the master plan.*
- *Over 2000 surveys were received resulting in great feedback.*
- *Monteith Brown Consultants to review data, provide analysis.*
- *Monteith Brown is currently working with other municipalities. This provides a benchmark to compare our municipality to what others are doing.*
- *Report will be ready in the fall to be presented to Council Q1 2024.*
- *June is a month of many celebrations. Refer to Oakville.ca for more information on how you can participate in the various celebrations as a community.*

5. **Standing Agenda Items**

- **Halton Age Friendly: Nabeel Rahman**

- Nabeel is away until May 29th. There is nothing to report at this time.

- **Councillor update: Cathy Duddeck**

- The last Council meeting was addressing the issue of Midtown and was considered an “issues” report (meaning it provides an opportunity for everyone to voice their views and concerns and ask any questions that needed clarification).
- The Midtown development has changed the manner in which the properties are zoned in the Official Plan. Rather than stating a height restriction it specifies FSI (Floor Space Index) to assist in the development of the various properties. Currently there is an application for 58 storeys and is awaiting the outcome of the completion of Midtown development prior to

being approved. Any developments of this nature would require servicing of the sites and Halton Region is working with the Town of Oakville to coordinate the servicing needs and construction period timeline to facilitate any development around the GO station.

- Midtown goes from Lyons Lane in the west to Chartwell Road in the east. The main “spine” of the development is Cross Avenue, however there will also be development along Cornwall.
- The meeting was attended by many of the public (approximately 250) who voiced their concerns regarding the traffic, height, loss of community identity, parkland, and shadow impacts on the abutting residential properties (south of Cornwall).
- Staff had indicated that the report regarding a decision was scheduled for late June, however, a motion was passed at Council to create a committee to receive information and clarify details of what development in the area would entail. This committee is comprised of all members of council and would be open to the public to attend as well.
- Currently, all municipalities and regions are struggling to address the housing direction laid out by the province. The 13 year development plan for Mississauga was changed by the province who doubled the density planned.
- The development on Kerr Street (additional units for seniors) has broken ground and the former Senior’s Centre has been demolished.
-
- **Oakville Meals on Wheels – Michelle Nichols**
 - Received a special grant from the Federal Government, housed through the United Way allowing Oakville Meals on Wheels to hire a new staff member who will work with underserved clients who receive subsidies, experience food insecurities and isolation. Two summer students (under 25) will also be hired to do outreach and work events in the community.
 - Julie Pennal discussed the WOW program and how clients can be reached to inform them of the program and how they can get involved. Discuss the possibility of a presentation, provide a live demo to better explain the program to their clients.
 - Julie P to connect Michelle with events department at the Town Hall regarding local events including Canada Day.
- **Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore**
 - Pat has an extra ticket available for the Community Spirit Awards Gala.
 - Attended the meeting on May 23 at Town Hall. Visit Oakville.ca to see the YouTube video of the full meeting.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New chair taking over Heather Thompson’s position with Halton Age Friendly. Name has not been shared. ○ Shred Event at the Region located on 2485 North Service Road West takes place on Saturday, May 27 from 9 a.m. -3 p.m. Bring personal files for shredding and donate what you can. Proceeds to support Crime Stoppers Program. <p>● enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan</p> <p>#1 Because of technical difficulties there was no virtual meeting held on May 1</p> <p>#2 On May 2 enVISION Oakville held its 161st meeting In Person at TPCC under the leadership of Joe. There were 10 participants. They talked about the clinic at Toronto Western hospital. Three members are now using a Vision Mate, and one member is on the waiting list to have such a person as a visiting assistant.</p> <p>#3 On May 15 virtually under the leadership of Joe. There was 8 participants & a guest speaker Vera Orsini, Program Lead, Peer Social and Recreation Groups CNIB Foundation Programs.</p> <p>Topics: #1 The CNIB Mobile Hub is coming to Oakville in July with recreational and social activities, hands-on technology training, and CNIB SmartLife: Accessible products available to test and purchase by debit or credit. View the accessible product catalogue</p> <p>#2 Because Joe be vacationing in Germany, Vera will be leading the enVISION Oakville July 4 in person meeting at TPCC.</p> <p>● OAAC – Darlene Cox</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No Report as OAAC has not yet started for 2023
6.	<p>New Business Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Andrew Balahura will be coming to speak about housing for seniors and the new Wellness Hub. Darlene mentioned that it important that we work together and share information. ○ Julie P indicated that there are three potential speakers being considered for the OCAO conference in the fall with focus on housing options for seniors. (HelpAge Canada, Senior Women Living Together and Vipin Nikore from Homecare Hub.) ○ Julie P proposed a separate seminar focusing on housing options. ○ It was proposed to the committee that we move forward with another Cannabis presentation. Contact Ray Jasavala from Cannaway. Hybrid option being considered. ○ Wills and POA: Trafalgar Park has requested an in-person presentation on this subject. Hybrid option also being considered. Presenter for topic TBD.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Julie suggested that the presentations be scheduled in the fall (Sept, Oct, Nov). Information can be included in the fall/winter newsletter for better exposure. It was suggested that a trade show or seniors fair with speakers and information booths be considered on a weekend for senior, adults and families to attend. OACAO has funding available to support this type of initiative. Darlene suggested including the topic of reversed mortgages as this is a concern and interest to many seniors. It was decided that Julie and Darlene will discuss this further.
7.	<p>Information Sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new information shared
8.	<p>Date of next meeting – Wednesday, June 28 at 1:30 PM via Zoom.</p> <p>**Please note that there will be limited time to share information at the next meeting. Please send Kelly your reports ahead of time to ensure they are included in the minutes. Meeting will be recorded, and link shared for those who cannot attend.**</p> <p>It was proposed by Darlene that the July meeting be held in person in her backyard!</p>
9.	<p>Adjournment – Julie thanked everyone for attending. The meeting was adjourned 3:45 p.m.</p>

The Town of Oakville

Department of Recreation & Culture

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

Minutes – June 28, 2023 via ZOOM

In Attendance: Darlene Cox, Bev Cathro, Julie Pennal, Julie Mitchell, Pierre Wong, Ruth Sheridan, Pat Moore, Jen McPetrie, Jayne Hartley, Andrew Balahura, Daryl Kaytor, Sara Philips.

Regrets: Councillor Duddeck, Beth Robertson, Ted Lambert, Margaret Kirwin, Nabeel Rahman

Guest: Andrew Balahura and the HCHC team presented Halton Region Housing Services.

1. **Call to Order by Julie Pennal – 1:30 p.m.**

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

3. **Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda**
Pat Moore, seconded by Pierre Wong. Carried.

4. **Guest:** Andrew Balahura, Daryl Kaytor, Sarah Philips and Jayne Hartley from the HCHC team.

- Jayne
 - Discussed key housing services available in Halton.
 - How to apply for assisted housing.
 - Supports available if in a challenging situation.
 - Halton Accessibility Repair Program (urgent repairs to remain housed).
- Andrew Balahura
 - Approximately 4,300 applicants on the wait list.
 - Not all reside in Halton.
 - Partnership with landlords re: subsidized units.
 - Definite increase in waitlist since Covid.
 - Confirmed that waitlist is categorized chronologically and by priorities.
 - Asset level/income is also considered: \$50,000 for a single and \$75,000 for family.
- Daryl Kayton
 - Supports Halton Housing Help.
 - Focus on affordability/housing insecure.
 - Work on a 1-1 housing plan.
 - Work with 311 and email for correspondence.
 - Provide information and support services for seniors who may be looking for LTC, Retirement or supports for daily living.
 - Housing stability funding, financial support with first and last months rent requirements.
- Sarah
 - Supports Housing Action Team
 - Discussed Halton's portfolio approach for development (Third party initiatives, Regional site development, Regional Acquisition).

5.

- Reviewed current projects: 263 Kerr Street, 1258 Rebecca Street, 363 Margaret Drive. Allendale Drive in Milton.

Update from Jen McPetrie

- Well into our spring and summer programming
- Completed many events with Senior Services including five Volunteer Appreciations Events.
- Looking forward to the upcoming WOW and PAF event taking place on Tuesday, July 25 at the Colborne Centre.

Standing Agenda Items

- **Halton Age Friendly:** – no report
- **Councillor update: Cathy Duddeck –**
 - Planning: Council has created a committee to deliberate on the proposed Midtown development. It is anticipated to conclude within approximately 6 months. The areas of concern are:
 - Proposed heights/density for the area (2 applications that have been submitted are proposing 54 and 58 storeys – they have filed an appeal at the Ontario Lands Tribunal (formerly the OMB) as Council is not making a decision on those lands until the process for deliberations concludes, parkland concerns, traffic concerns, affordable housing and creating a complete community (shopping, schools, etc) within walking distance.

Housing: Halton Region is building an additional 2 storey complex on the vacant lands abutting the current Halton Housing complexes on Margaret Drive.

The proposed plan consists of 13 units in total consisting of: ● 5 x 3-bedroom ● 5 x 4-bedroom ● 3 x 5-bedroom.

Vacant House Tax: Halton Regional staff will be bringing back a draft of a bylaw to address vacant homes (we currently have quite a few owners from outside the country who are sitting on homes that remain empty).

- **Oakville Meals on Wheels – Michelle Nichols**
 - We have two summer students on our team from a successful grant with the Canada Summer Jobs program. Sarah and Jennifer will be working to help raise awareness of our program in the community and assisting with the daily operations of our program.
 - We are very excited to officially announce we have received a grant from Ontario Trillium Resilient Communities Fund!
 - We are working closely with the new Community Wellness Hub in Oakville. This is amazing group of social programs that have come together to help reach those who may not have support, resources or knowledge of our local programs.

- Our Annual General Meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday September 20, 2023.
- This past fiscal year we were able to accomplish amazing results with our small and mighty volunteer team. Please see below for a few of our highlights.

- **Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore**

- No report

- **enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan**

May 29 enVISION Oakville held Meeting #163 Virtually.

Our questions for our supervisor, Vera.

A) Has there been a date conformed in July when the Mobile Hub will be coming to Oakville?

B) We need a presenter or a guest speaker for the topic: "types of vision loss".

#2 June 6 enVISION Oakville held Meeting #164 (In Person)

Joe's report to Vera:

- Noteworthy is that the group decided that vaccination and masking is not mandatory anymore. Masking is now an individual choice but not a requirement.
- I spoke to Marissa at the front desk, and she confirmed that we have the current room in July and in August. She also indicated that an extension looks promising, but we move back into the neighbouring room, which is the room that we started out in.

#3 June 12 enVISION Oakville held Meeting #165 (Virtually)

#4 June 26 enVISION Oakville held Meeting #166 (Virtually)

We spent our meeting time 10 - 11:30 discussing the problems and successes of our members except for the last 15 minutes when we had fun with riddles and jokes "**On the Lighter Side**" 😊"

	<p>OAAC – Darlene Cox</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No Report
6.	<p>New Business Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ July 6 Zoom meeting to discuss mission, vision, and date for Housing Symposium/Vendors. ○ Fall date to be included in the Fall/Winter newsletter. ○ Postpone Cannabis presentation to the winter. ○ Wills and POA presentation schedule for September 28 from 1-3 p.m. at TPOAC (room accommodates 120 people). ○ Cassie sent flowers to Ted. Julie suggested gift cards to M&M meats, Meals on Wheels and asked if anyone would like to contribute to please let Julie know. Darlene agreed to a \$50 donation from SWAG.
7.	<p>Information Sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new information shared.
8.	<p>Date of next meeting – Wednesday, August 23 via Zoom</p> <p>Please note the July meeting has been cancelled.</p>
9.	<p>Adjournment – Darlene thanked everyone for attending.</p> <p>The meeting was adjourned 3:00 p.m.</p>

The Town of Oakville

Department of Recreation & Culture

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

Minutes – September 27, 2023 via ZOOM

In Attendance: Darlene Cox, Bev Cathro, Julie Pennal, Pierre Wong, Ruth Sheridan, Jennifer McPetrie, Andra Steele, Margaret Kirwin, Michelle Nichols, Ted Lambert

Regrets: Councillor Duddeck, Beth Robertson, Chris Clapham, Pat Moore

Guest: Andra Steele – Manager of Customer Experience for the Oakville Public Library.

Minutes: Kelly Meeussen

1.	Call to Order by Darlene Cox – 1:30 p.m.
2.	Attendance / Regrets – Regrets as noted.
3.	Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda Ted Lambert, seconded by Michelle. Carried.
4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Guest Andra Steele – Manager of Customer Experience for the Oakville Public Library.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Reviewed resources available to older adults/seniors who are 50+ with different needs and requirements. All are free with a current library card.○ Collections: kits available for book clubs, music, local history and genealogy resources, digital programs, eBooks, Hoopla, cloud library access.○ Ancestry library edition/familysearch.org○ Creative bug – crafts, and recipes○ Mango languages○ LinkedIn learning○ Kanapy○ Flipster○ Press readers○ Programs: in person/virtual<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Book club, historical, cookbooks▪ Tech support – bring your own device.▪ Partnership with Alzheimer’s Society, Acclaim to provide presentations/workshops.▪ Finances -November 9 is a virtual presentation about financial literacy.▪ In person 3D printing certification to use 3D printer.○ Services: community information<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Halton Senior Services Directory available online▪ Virtual community board with local events, resources▪ Express locations(kiosks) located in busy areas. No staff however there is an ability to reserve and pick up at these locations. (QEP and 16 Mile, St. Luke’s Church, River Oaks)▪ Grab and go pre-packaged items such as DVD’s, books.

5.

- Pick for you – complete a form on the website and indicate what you like to read, receive a bag of 5 books.
- Accessible Collections:
 - Large print books, daisy disks and players (talking books)
 - Connection kits for aged 55+ who do not have access to technology.
 - Pre-loaded tablets, Wi-Fi hot spot, CELA books
 - Books can be delivered by mail.
 - Extended borrowing times (6 weeks instead of 3)
 - Reading aids, Zoom text, Memory activities, virtual reality.
- Visit www.opl.ca

Update from Jen McPetrie

- A reminder Culture Days is being launched this week across town. Sat. Oct 14 – Art Show at the Colborne Centre, QEP – World of Threads.

Standing Agenda Items

- **Halton Age Friendly:** – no report
- **Councillor update: Cathy Duddeck –**

Regional level:

The Halton Waste Disposal site is increasing the normal disposal fee to \$10.00 (previously 5.00) as there has not been an increase for several years and the fee is now on a cost recovery basis.

The pilot project for the larger waste/recycling bins continues and will be brought back to Council for consideration of an implementation across Halton. These bins are the roller type bins you see in commercial areas (they are emptied by a truck lift versus an individual hoisting into the rear of the truck)

Halton Regional Police are requesting the community's assistance in developing their future policing strategies. To complete the survey, go to Survey@HaltonPoliceBoard.ca. the survey is approximate 5 minutes to complete.

Town of Oakville

A special Council meeting has been called for October 12th to consider the Town of Oakville's response to the Housing Affordability Task Force. The province and the federal government continue to pressure municipalities to meet the required housing targets for 2031 and 2051. Oakville is expected to accommodate 33,000 new homes by 2031.

Work on the Midtown Planning Plan continues as Council addresses providing a plan that will provide additional housing in this growth area (addressing the maximum heights, density, etc. and allocating public spaces and parkland in the area).

The Burloak underpass will necessitate closures in the area (north and southbound) to accommodate the construction of the underpass and will be finished in 2026.

Police are currently investigating several church properties in Oakville that have been targeted with vandalism due to their support of the LBTQA – everyone is welcome here.

November 18th Oakville will be hosting the 75th Annual Oakville Santa Claus Parade!

Submitted by

Councillor Cathy Duddeck

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

- New PT staff members started Sept 1 thanks to a Trillium Grant.
- Meals on Wheels has grown adding another 118 clients.

- **Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore**

- Reminder of the Shred It event on September 30 located at the Halton Regional Police Building on the North Service Road.

- **enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan**

- September 15- Picnic in Bronte – Speaker on Nutrition
- September 18 – Speaker from CNIB

OAAC – Darlene Cox

- Darlene indicated that no one has offered to be the chair of the committee. Will send a write up requesting for a volunteer to be chair of committee.
- Tom Carothers is not allowed to join committee as he does not live in Halton.

6. **New Business Arising**

- Housing Symposium – 29 vendors, 7 speakers (7-10 min each)
- Poster attached to send out to contact lists to help promote the event.
- Julie will email vendors and speakers to confirm attendance and details for set up/parking.
- Refreshments will be served in the café.
- If anyone is interested in helping the Friday before or the day of, please let Julie know. (1.5 hours day before, 1 hour before start time day of)
- Wills and Power of Attorney In-person presentation reminder.
- Tabled future cannabis presentation to November.
- Guest for next meeting – Darlene to confirm (Amy Roberts?)

7.	Information Sharing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ted thanked the library for offering program space at IROAC.
8.	Date of next meeting – Wednesday, October 25, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. on Zoom
9.	Adjournment – Darlene thanked everyone for attending. The meeting was adjourned 2:40 p.m.

The Town of Oakville

Department of Recreation & Culture

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

Minutes – October 25, 2023 via ZOOM

In Attendance: Councillor Duddeck, Darlene Cox, Julie Pennal, Ruth Sheridan, Jennifer McPetrie, Pat Moore, Margaret Kirwin, Michelle Nichols, Ted Lambert, Ruth Sheridan, Pierre Wong

Regrets: Bev Cathro, Beth Robertson

Guest: No guest today

Minutes: Kelly Meeussen

1. **Call to Order:** by Darlene Cox – 1:35 p.m.

2. **Guest:** no guest attending the meeting this week

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

4. **Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda**
Pat Moore, seconded by Ted Lambert. Carried.

5. **Update from Jen McPetrie**

- Currently working through the budget process for 2024.
- Initiatives are listed online for review.
- Significant progress has been made on the 16-Mile Creek construction.
- 6. • Glen Abby rink will be offline during off season in 2024 to address continued mechanical failures.
- Reminder about the Community Activity Grant – if you want to host an event in your neighbourhood, you may be eligible for funding. Contact Jennifer if you have any questions.
- Sir John Colborne will stay open during the potential strike. All other community centres, not including libraries will be closed if the strike takes place. Senior's programming will continue to run at Sir John Colborne and other centres will be invited to host their events at Sir John.

Standing Agenda Items

- **Halton Age Friendly:** – no report provided.
- **Councillor update: Cathy Duddeck –**

Police have charged an individual who targeted 2 churches with vandalism/graffiti.

Midtown – Public Information meeting is tonight at Town Hall 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Possible Labour Strike If there is a strike, arenas, and community centres, including pools, will be closed to the public. All libraries, including those in town community centres, will remain open. Seasonal washrooms in town parks and our leash-free areas (dog parks) will be closed.

Budget 2024 process – we are currently looking at a 4.28% increase which is considerably lower than neighbouring municipalities.

Single Tier Government – there are discussions that are in the preliminary stages to explore the possibility of Oakville/Burlington/Milton/Halton Hills to separate from Halton Region and be a single municipality (versus the existing 2 tier municipalities)

Provincial changes – greenbelt has been reversed and now the urban boundary decision has also been reversed thereby preserving farmlands from expansion (previously Halton Region's Official Plan to intensify without expanding our urban boundaries which was overruled by the provincial government and sites such as Rattlesnake Point Golf Club could be residential development)

Regional portal for COVID booster and your pharmacy for High Dose Flu Vaccine for Seniors.

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

- Launching Holiday Campaign.
- Several volunteers hit with Covid and other flu/cold illness.
- Meeting with Community Development Halton in November to look at volunteer crisis in non-profit.
- Currently delivering 180 meals Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays

- **Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore**

- A new Volunteer Engagement Program Manager, Jude Solomen has been hired.
- New and updated materials/resources have been provided for their displays.
- Currently short of volunteers -require 8 more.
- Darlene will provide contact information for Andra Steele from OPL.

- **enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan**

Our support group has 23 active members.

Our next meeting #178 will be held virtually October 30.

Since my last report:

The meeting was awesome. Christine did a great job introducing herself and the work of the deaf-blind services. She talked about the nutrition class. There are 9 people interested in participating. The Nutritional Course - classes focus on eye health.

	<p>October 3 enVISION Oakville Meeting #176 (In Person) at Trafalgar Park Community Center. We had a very informal, check in. Instead of the usual updates we had nostalgic, humourous & extremely personal disclosures as updates.</p> <p>October 16 enVISION Oakville Meeting #177 (Virtual)</p> <p>Informational highlights:</p> <p>#1 The CNIB Mobile Hub comes to Trafalgar Park Community centre. Tuesday November 28. The schedule is.</p> <p>**Smartlife Store 11:30 – 1:30</p> <p>**Let’s talk Advocacy 11 – 12pm</p> <p>**Introduction to the Vision Mate Program 12:15pm – 1:15pm</p> <p>**Coffee and Chat 1:30pm – 2:20pm.</p> <p>#2 We are preparing questions to ask one of the top ophthalmologists in the country.</p> <p>Note: The National Advisory Committee on Immunization and the Ministry of Health are recommending the use of mRNA XBB.1.5 COVID-19 vaccines this fall for individuals 6 months and over.</p> <p>OAAC – Darlene Cox</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o no report provided
7.	<p>New Business Arising/Information Sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Darlene mentioned that 110 people attended the in-person Wills and Power of Attorney presentation in September. The presenter connected well with the audience. Ted mentioned that it would have been helpful for the speaker to complete the whole presentation before questions were asked. It was challenging to get through each slide as many people were asking personal questions that did not necessarily apply to the slide the presenter was speaking about. o Ted indicated that he was very impressed with an information brochure created by the Minister Attorney General pertaining to the topic of Power of Attorney. Julie and Darlene to look at a possible presentation in the spring of 2024. o Housing Symposium is coming together. A map of the site and list of speakers has been created. Committee has shared information and there has been a positive response to the signage around town. Julie asked Pat if she wouldn’t mind connecting with Trish from Indwell to send her PPT slides so Julie can add them to her memory stick for ease of access on the day of the event. o Cannabis Presentation: Julie noted that this topic has been on the agenda for some time. Darlene to contact Andy Donald at Health Depot and

	<p>Patricia Clark from Be-Wise Cannabis and Older Adults. (1-800-549-9799). Darlene will also connect with Silver Suite at the Fair on Saturday.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Julie proposed the idea of hosting a presentation about the “Death Café” this topic was presented at the OACAO conference this week and was well received. The focus of the group sessions is to provide education on how to manage and prepare for death and dying and grief that follows. ○ Darlene mentioned that Family Dentist Tree is providing free oral health exams, cleaning for low-income seniors. Date: Thursday, November 2. It was suggested that this information be shared at 271 Kerr. Cassie from Iroquois Ridge shared information via email to her committee. Pierre indicated that St. Vincent de Paul offers free dental work 1-2x per year by dentists who volunteer their time. ○ Darlene would like to invite Stephanie O’Keefe as a new member to SWAG. Stephanie has been involved in many initiatives such as cancer groups, mental health, and safety and wellbeing of seniors.
8.	Date of next meeting – Wednesday, November 22, at 1:30 p.m. on Zoom

The Town of Oakville

Department of Recreation & Culture

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

Minutes – November 22, 2023 via ZOOM

In Attendance: Darlene Cox, Julie Pennal, Ruth Sheridan, Jennifer McPetrie, Pat Moore, Margaret Kirwin, Michelle Nichols, Ted Lambert, Ruth Sheridan, Pierre Wong, Shahzi Yasmin Bokhari

Regrets: Beth Robertson, Councillor Duddeck

Guest: Shahzi Yasmin Bokhari – Connection in Action

Minutes: Kelly Meeussen

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

2. **Guest: Shahzi Yasmin Bokhari**

About Connection in Action

Connection in Action supports adults aged 55+ who live in Halton and want to increase their social connections to help prevent or reduce social isolation and loneliness. We offer two services:

1. Our Connection Specialist supports older adults one-on-one by sharing information about existing programs and services across Halton and will also help get them connected with the organizations and groups providing those programs and services.
2. Our LITE Education (Loneliness, Isolation to Empowerment) is a 3-hour education for all community members and service providers. Participants learn about risk factors and health impacts of isolation and loneliness, elder abuse, ageism, and age-friendly communities. Participants will gain the tools and skills to strengthen their support for older adults in our communities.

Learn more about Connection in Action on our website: www.ConnectionInAction.ca

About the Older Adult Isolation Action Table (OAI AT)

The OAI AT oversees the work of Connection in Action. This group has over 20 cross-sectors members including Acclaim Health, Links2Care, all 4 municipalities, Oakville Public Library, Oakville Meals on Wheels, Ontario Health Central, Public Health, and many more.

There are two Co-Chairs of the OAI AT:

1. Patricia Blakeley, Acclaim Health
2. Samantha Howard, Town of Halton Hills / Halton Hills Active Living Centre

The OAI AT meets quarterly as a large group. Members of the OAI AT also participate in one of our Working Groups. Our Working Groups meet monthly or as needed. All our meetings take place over Zoom. Currently, we have two active Working Groups, which are:

1. Referral and Connection

- This group supports the role of the Connection Specialist and helps to improve system navigation

2. Community Knowledge and Mobilization

- This group supports the role of the Community Engagement Lead and helps to plan our outreach and engagement strategy.

See the Halton NORC Google map here:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1f6s4Y8Zn2rnGwn-eAizScvPiWQU57HU&ll=43.510027852998434%2C-79.92057872258772&z=10>

NORC stands for Naturally Occurring Retirement Community. Two requirements are necessary for a building to be considered a NORC:

- a building has at least 30% of its residents aged 65 and older
- **and** has at least 50 older adults living in the building.

NORC buildings include communities that **were** and **were not** intentionally designed for older adults. Note that long-term care and retirement homes are not considered NORCs.

Total number of NORC properties in Halton = 126

Burlington = 71

Oakville = 35

Milton = 11

Halton Hills = 9

Conducting a search using the NORC map

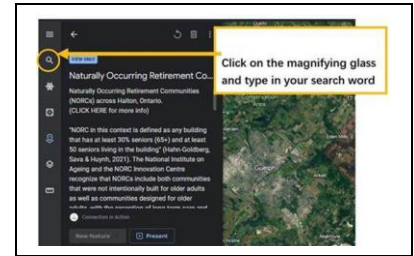
If you want to conduct a search using the NORC map, for example if you want to search for libraries closest to a NORC location, you can do so in **Google Earth**. Please note that Google Earth is not ideal and it may not be accessible for many users.

1. To conduct a search, first open this link:

<https://earth.google.com/web/@43.5104175,-79.8930985,201.25879077a,86846.39978511d,30y,0h,0t,0r/data=MigKJgokCiAxZjZzNEk4Wm4ycm5Hd24tZUFpelNjdIBpV1FVNTdIVSACOGMKATA>

2. Click on the magnifying glass located on the upper left-hand side (see image below).
3. Then, type in your search word and hit 'enter' on your keyboard. If the search results are not showing up on the area you desire, try moving the map around and click on the search button again.

- NORC Google map:
<https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1f6s4Y8Zn2rnGwn-eAizScvPiWQU57HU&ll=43.510027852998434%2C-79.92057872258772&z=10>



Request for SWAG representation on Halton’s Older Adult Isolation Action Table (OAI AT)

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

4. **Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda**
 Pat Moore, seconded by Ted Lambert. Carried.

5. **Update from Jen McPetrie**

- Strike ended with a total of 11 days closure.
 - A collective agreement has been made and is in place for the next 4 years.
 - 2024 budget is in final review and a press release sent out today.
- 6.
- 4.38% tax increase
 - Public feedback is still welcome
 - Santa Claus parade last week and well attended.
 - Midtown workshops/engagement sessions coming up. Jennifer to share dates.
 - Jennifer can share link to transportation master plan.
 - Museum has a number of Christmas programs.
 - Hockey Canada team practice at 16 mile Community Centre.

Standing Agenda Items

- **Halton Age Friendly:** – no report provided.
- **Councillor update: Cathy Duddeck –**

Police have charged an individual who targeted 2 churches with vandalism/graffiti.

Midtown – Public Information meeting is tonight at Town Hall 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Budget 2024 process – we are currently looking at a 4.28% increase which is considerably lower than neighbouring municipalities.

Single Tier Government – there are discussions that are in the preliminary stages to explore the possibility of Oakville/Burlington/Milton/Halton Hills to separate from Halton Region and be a single municipality (versus the existing 2 tier municipalities)

Provincial changes – greenbelt has been reversed and now the urban boundary decision has also been reversed thereby preserving farmlands from expansion (previously Halton Region’s Official Plan to intensify without expanding our urban boundaries which was

overruled by the provincial government and sites such as Rattlesnake Point Golf Club could be residential development)

Regional portal for COVID booster and your pharmacy for High Dose Flu Vaccine for Seniors.

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

- Successful Fall cookie fundraiser with a 34% increase in sales.
- Proud to be included in the Give Oakville catalogue.
- On November 20th we launched our Purdy's Chocolate holiday fundraiser please check out our website for more information.
- Celebrating Giving Tuesday on Nov 28 requesting community support to purchase a gift bag of chocolate to help fill our holiday gift bag for all our clients.
- OMoW presently have 147 active clients on the service and 35 subsidized clients.
- OMoW are honoured to be chosen as the charity of choice for a holiday house light show at 306 Leacock Ave. Stop by and check out the amazing lights!

The Ontario NonProfit Network released their 2023 State of the Sector: A Tipping Point report in mid-October. Here is a link to the report

<https://theonnc.ca/topics/advocacy/nonprofit-sector-surveys/>

ONN analysis and forecasting focused on demand for services, nonprofit sustainability, costs, and closures shows that by 2026:

- Every single nonprofit in Ontario will be experiencing an increase in demand for service.
- Only 17% of nonprofits will forecast financial sustainability for 12 months or more.
- Nonprofits will see a 131% increase in costs.
- There will be 63% of nonprofits knowing of similar organizations closing down and ceasing operations.

The loss of nonprofits and the benefits they provide will lead to less economically viable, less socially vibrant, and less connected communities. - ONN, 2023

Many of the Halton Nonprofits will come together on **Friday November 24, 2023** for an in-person discussion at St. Christopher's Anglican Church, 662 Guelph Line, Burlington to hear guest speaker Pamela Uppal-Sandu, Director of Policy, ONN who will share:

- Details on the provincial four-year trends on the state of the nonprofit sector in Ontario;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Halton-specific data from this years' ONN survey; and ○ ONNs policy recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Congratulate Pam Damoff for 20 years as an Oakville Councillor. ○ Dec. 13 at 7 p.m. McMaster webinar. ○ Jude Soleman to connect with 2 volunteers suggested by Darlene. ○ Visit World of Threads at QEPCC. ● enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The CNIB Mobile Hub will be held at Glenn Abbey Library, 1415 Third Line. The event will go from 11 AM to 2:30 PM. We will learn about the latest Smart Life gadgets and aids. There will be a presentation about the Vision Mate program * Note - This event replaces our virtual zoom meeting originally scheduled for Nov. 27 <p><u>December 1</u></p> <p>enVision Oakville Christmas lunch at Mo's Family Diner, 467 Speers Road. 13 members have signed up so far</p> <p><u>December 5</u></p> <p>In Person meeting #179 at Walton Memorial United Church, 2489 Lakeshore Rd. in Bronte held in the Bronte Hall room 10 AM to noon. Vera Orsini has arranged for guest speakers from the Halton Central Registry. This is a group that connects, high-risk adults, seniors, and their caregivers to the services they need. They will introduce themselves and tell us who they are, and what they do.</p> <p>OAAC – Darlene Cox</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ no report provided
7.	<p>New Business Arising/Information Sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SSU is getting requests for groups to offer services at the centre, such as home care, mobile eye care etc. Julie will be the initial contact to streamline the process. Offer option to advertise in our senior services newsletter, share posters and information.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ CRA presentation – Thursday, January 18 via Zoom○ POA with Andrea Parliament in person presentation at the Colborne Centre on Tuesday, March 5 at 1 p.m.○ Other topics of interest: Death Café, North Star Mediation, Advance Care Planning.
8.	Date of next meeting – Wednesday, January 24, at 1:30 p.m. on Zoom