

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"> ○ no report provided
7.	<p>New Business Arising/Information Sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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. ○ 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. ○ 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. ○ 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