

The Town of Oakville

Department of Recreation & Culture

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

Minutes – April 24, 2024 via ZOOM

In Attendance: Darlene Cox, Ruth Sheridan, Pat Moore, Ted Lambert, Stephanie O’Keefe, Bev Cathro, Margaret Kirwin, Tom Carrothers.

Regrets: Julie Pennal, Councillor Duddeck, Michelle Nichols, Pierre Wong, Jennifer McPetrie

Guest: Andrea Parliament, Lawyer

Minutes: Kelly Meeussen

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

2. **Guest Speaker:** Andrea Parliament, Lawyer

- New focus: Dignity in aging that respects and values human life.
- Foster independence, bodily integrity, and uniqueness of life as a senior.
- Understand contributions, unique experiences and provide a platform to contribute in a meaningful way, establish meaningful conversations with community and family.
- Understand the vocabulary of “What does self value mean”.
- Transition to retirement: How do others see you?
- Develop tools for conversation and a more dignified way of living.
- Interaction on an intellectual level, isolate key issues, host support sessions, discuss concepts, personal reflection, acquire skills, opportunities to teach each other.
- Idea: Groups of 12 people (including those who have professional careers). Lunch and learn style, brown bag, refreshments, provide outlet for conversation and learning.
- Idea: Focus on widowers -find their value after the death of a spouse.
- SJC and SWAG to support – to be defined.
- Andrea to continue to work on concept and provide a more structured outline at the next meeting.

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

4. **Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda**
Bev Cathro, seconded by Ted Lambert. Carried.

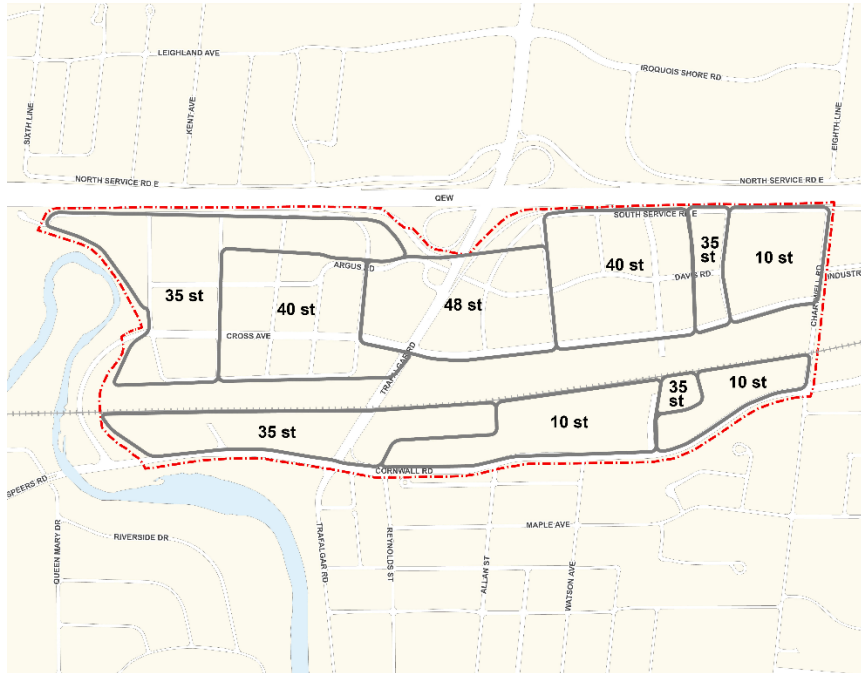
5. **Update from Jen McPetrie** - no report this week.

Standing Agenda Items

Councillor update: Cathy Duddeck –

Monday evening the Council deliberated on the Official Plan amendment (known as an OPA) for the Midtown area surrounding the GO Station and Cornwall Road.

While the draft plan contained building heights from 10 storeys to 48 storeys.



There were concerns regarding the amount of “actual” developable land. The plan indicated that the area in its’ entirety was over 100 hectares. However, there is only 43 hectares of land that is actually able to be developed.

The report was lacking in this regard and given the concerns regarding the “actual” population numbers, the amount of land to develop, the heights and density being proposed for the area. A petition was created by the Ward 3 Councillors Janet Haslett-Theall and Dave Gittings. The petition called for an alternate plan to be developed for early June that addresses the questions/concerns raised regarding the above and numerous other concerns (schools, parkland, etc). The petition was supported by Councillor’s, Elgar, Duddeck, Chisholm, McNeice, O’Meara, Knoll, Grant, Nanda, and Mayor Burton. We had over 31 delegations present and as a result of the last minute petition, several indicated they would modify their remarks and some even deferred their presentations until June 3.

Housing Accelerator Fund

May 6th is the Council meeting when this matter will be decided. Again, the major points of the plan that the Federal Government is insisting for inclusion is that we permit 4 units to be built on a single property anywhere in the town. There is also another request that a special zone within 800 metres of Sheridan College permit 4 storey homes and additional zoning changes for that area.

There has been a considerable amount of pressure from the federal government

insisting that they will withhold the transfer of some infrastructure funds to the provinces who do not adopt these zoning changes (funds were previously committed to in previous announcements). They may withhold transfers if we do not make the changes they request. The provincial government is on record saying they will let individual communities decide if they want to participate and they will not force municipalities to adopt the changes.

The Data Hub is up and running and you can use the search function on the town's web page to access the Planning, Housing Pledge, Strategic Plan and Demographics data in real time that the town retains.

Nominations for this year's Community Spirit Awards closes this Friday.

Oakville Transit pleased to announce the launch of the Oakville Transit On-Demand mobile app, providing an even more convenient way for Home to Hub, care-A-van and Ride On-Demand customers to schedule a trip.

Meals on Wheels – Michelle Nichols

- No report this week

Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore

- Media release – Trudeau support in Halton region for assisted living, low-income housing.
- Tick season is early due to warm winter. – See article in CARP.
- Shred It Event with Halton Regional Police – May 4, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- New scam– SIM swap fraud- when a scammer transfers your phone number to another device without your authorization – education and awareness.

enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan.

April 2: enVISION Oakville meeting #187 (in person) We had 14 in attendance and discussed critical dates: April 10 and 11th (Oakville Transit community engagement talks) April 17 (zoom meeting with ophthalmologist) May 6 (CNIB, Mobile Hub comes to Oakville) It was a great meeting, and all went really well until at 11:27 a fire alarm put an abrupt end to an otherwise perfect meeting.

April 16: enVISION Oakville (Virtual)meeting #188.

We had 8 in attendance. We talked about the Oakville Transit bus system, which is going to see changes over the next 3 to 5 years and street crossings. It is important to advocate for our needs.

We are wondering to what level the CNIB mobility program interfaces or influences the upcoming changes to train or bus systems. In other words, if we want to see something changed, do we ourselves talk to the Town directly or should we approach somebody within CNIB to do it for us? We also exchanged some audio book recommendations.

April 17: enVISION Oakville: Virtual presentation (8- 8:45 pm) by Dr. Gary Yau, ophthalmologist at the Sunnybrook Hospital Toronto who answered our questions with 9 in attendance.

April 20: "Viewpoint Vancouver" Live Stream education presentation by the Foundation Fighting Blindness zoom 5 -8 PM

April 22: CNIB Virtual Meeting: Volunteer Appreciation 6pm – 7pm.

May 6: CNIB Mobile Hub

May 7 enVISION Oakville Meeting #189 (In Person)

OAAC – Darlene Cox

- Heather Thompson presented on Elder Abuse. It was an excellent presentation. Two police officers were in attendance.

Halton Age-Friendly – Julie Pennal

- No report this week

WOW/Links2Wellbeing – Kelly Meeussen

- **WOW:** Support was requested to help promote the WOW program. It was discussed that Kelly will create a flyer for the committee to share.
- New calendars for July, August and September will be coming out in mind June. Copies will be sent along with the flyer to committee members.
- **Links2Wellbeing:** We are so pleased to announce that Phase 2 of the Links2Wellbeing: Social Prescribing for Older Adults project has officially been approved for four more years of funding support from an Anonymous Donor. We will continue to work in partnership with the Alliance for Healthier Communities. Phase 2 is a 4-year extension of the project running seamlessly from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2028. We will continue working with and supporting our current OACAO L2W partners and will strive to grow and develop the SALC network. Our dedicated team remains steadfast in our mission to embed Social Prescribing into both the healthcare system and the community-based seniors' services/SALC sector to create sustainability for our project.

7.	<p>New Business Arising/Information Sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Tom mentioned the Wellness Show taking place at the Burlington Seniors Centre on June 16, featuring various presentations.○ Midtown letter to the Mayor/Council complete and sent. Question: is another letter required to Federal government.○ Reminder about the Seniors Information Fair on April 30 at QEP. <p>Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.</p>
8.	<p>Date of next meeting – Friday, May 24 at 9:30 a.m. at QEP in conjunction with Policy Review Board Midtown update.</p>