

# ST. JOHN'S

---

## Seniors Advisory Committee

September 15, 2020

9:30 a.m.

Virtual

Pages

|     |  |    |
|-----|--|----|
| 1.  | CALL TO ORDER  |    |
| 2.  | APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA                                 |    |
| 3.  | ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES                                |    |
| 3.1 | Adoption of Minutes - June 16, 2020                    | 1  |
| 4.  | DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS                              |    |
| 5.  | BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES                      |    |
| 5.1 | Adult & Seniors Recreation Opportunities for Fall 2020 | 5  |
| 6.  | NEW BUSINESS   |    |
| 6.1 | COVID-19 Seniors' Working Group Con't                  | 8  |
| 6.2 | New Design - H.G.R Mews Community Centre               | 12 |
| 6.3 | Seniors Day 2021                                       | 16 |
| 7.  | ADJOURNMENT  |    |

# ST. JOHN'S

## Seniors' Advisory Committee - Minutes

**June 16, 2020**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Virtual**

Present: Glenda Reid, Citizen Representative  
Lorraine Best, Seniors NL  
Deanne Stapleton, Council Representative  
Neil Hamilton, CARP  
Neil Moores, NLPSPA  
Ruby Constantine, Citizen Representative  
Sharron Callahan, Chair (CARP)  
Patsy Yetman, Citizen Representative

Regrets: Sam Wells, Citizen Representative  
Devonne Ryan, Public Representative (19-35)  
Judy Tobin, Manager of Housing

Staff: Karen Sherriffs, Manager of Community Development  
Robyn Dobbin, Adult & Seniors Co-ordinator  
Maureen Harvey, Legislative Assistant

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

### **Recommendation**

**Moved By** Neil Hamilton

**Seconded By** Patsy Yetman

That the agenda be adopted as presented.

For (7): Glenda Reid, Lorraine Best, Deanne Stapleton, Neil Hamilton, Neil Moores, Sharron Callahan, and Patsy Yetman

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (7 to 0)**

**3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

**3.1 Adoption of Minutes - May 15, 2020**

**Recommendation**

**Moved By** Neil Hamilton

**Seconded By** Patsy Yetman

That the minutes of May 15, 2020 be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**4. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

**5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**5.1 Engage St. John's - Engagement Session**

The Committee discussed the information note circulated advising members of upcoming City engagement sessions and the means by which people can register for input. Links for signing up and registration are included. The following sessions are scheduled and members were encouraged to sign up for notification of all City related matters.

The following sessions are scheduled:

1. Virtual Public Meeting Via Microsoft Teams- Sidewalk & Snow clearing.
  - a. June 17- 10:30 a.m. to noon, register here. or
  - b. June 17-7:00pm to 8:30pm, register here.
2. Virtual Open House- Re-Imagine Churchill Square- virtual open house via Zoom.
  - a. June 25-1pm- Click here (External link) to register.
  - b. June 25-7pm- Click here (External link) to register.

Discussion took place with the Committee suggesting these sessions should allow for a collective voice for these and other committees of Council for input. To have individual members attend does not facilitate meaningful Committee input.

Karen Sherriffs agreed to address this matter with the City Clerk and Engagement Team to identify a better mechanism and more fluid process for committees to provide collective input.

**5.2 Senior of the Year Award Review**

The Committee considered an information note dealing with the Senior of the Year Award review. It was noted that during the review process it was decided to also recognize and acknowledge the two other nominees, Janice Baird and James Collins for their outstanding volunteer contributions in our City.

This year's volunteers were recognized at the June 8th council meeting. Once COVID 19 restrictions allow, Margaret, Janice and James will be presented with plaques, the receipt of which from Kenny's Pond is pending.

Discussion took place on the means by which more nominations can be solicited, and this will be taken under advisement during the debriefing session of the Review Committee.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### **6.1 Creating Connections for Seniors - Summer 2020**

The Committee was informed that as summer outings and events for older adults and seniors will not be taking place this summer due to COVID 19 restrictions, the adult and seniors' staff have developed ways to stay connected with this population throughout the summer.

The Adult & Seniors team with guidance from management have developed several ways to stay connected with seniors to help in the reduction of social isolation and food security. All activities will follow the guidelines set forward by the Department of Health and the Chief Medical Officer. Below are some examples:

- Stay Connected-Care Packages- Staff will generate a list of activities and participants will have choice to what they'd like to receive. i.e Sudoku puzzles, one on one Face-time conversations with staff etc.
- Outdoor Inspirational Messages- Created in parking lots of senior's apartment complexes
- Connecting with Seniors through Nature - Gardening Kits and/or gift cards would be provided to seniors – This will be dependent on approval of a grant submitted to United Way
- Monthly Newsletters- mail out with current resources and information relating to Covid and other relevant information
- Food Security Support- Deliver hampers/grocery store gift cards to low-income seniors- This will be dependent on approval of a grant submitted to United Way

Discussion took place with agreement that staff reach out to the Office of the Seniors Advocate for direction on accessing funding through government and other agencies.

**6.2 Intergenerational Connections between Advisory Committees**

The information note discussed how the Recreation Department in the areas of Seniors and Youth have been discussing ways to connect both committees on topics of mutual interest.

The idea developed is “Then & Now” questions would be asked by Youth to Seniors in order to start the dialog. This would connect committee members and create the opportunity to work directly with each other on initiatives that would incorporate both Youth and Senior demographics.

Once COVID 19 restrictions allow, youth and seniors would get the opportunity to meet and collaborate on initiatives discussed.

This would also provide an opportunity to discuss what both areas feel are important in our City.

The Committee welcomed this initiative and suggested it may be a worthwhile exercise to expand this interconnection with other committees to identify potential points of intersection.

Sharron Callahan, Lorraine Best and Neil Hamilton agreed to work with staff on this project.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:45 pm.

---

CHAIRPERSON, SHARRON CALLAHAN

# INFORMATION NOTE

---

**Title:** Adult & Seniors Recreation Opportunities for Fall 2020

**Date Prepared:** September 9, 2020

**Report To:** His Worship the Mayor and Members of Council

**Councillor and Role:** Councillor StapletonChoose an item.

**Ward:** Ward 2

---

## Issue:

Many older adults during Covid-19 have become socially isolated and their overall wellness has been affected. Following guidance from the City's OHS Division, the Department of Health and the Chief Medical Officer of Health, the City's Recreation Division has developed a plan to resume programming for Adults & Seniors in the Fall 2020 season.

## Discussion – Background and Current Status:

During our regular fall season, many older adult programs are offered including, music, dance, art, leisure, events & outings. After review by City management and adult & senior program staff, it was determined that many of the regular programs will be offered.

Procedures have been developed to ensure the required adjustments and modifications have been made to meet the guidelines identified by the Department of Health and that the safety of participants are prioritized.

## Key Considerations/Implications:

1. Budget/Financial Implications:
  - a. Revenue and expenditures will be reflected in the Adult & Seniors budget area
2. Partners or Other Stakeholders:
  - a. N/A
3. Alignment with Strategic Directions/Adopted Plans:
  - A Connected City- A city where people feel connected, have a sense of belonging, and are actively engaged in community life
  - a. An Effective City-A city that performs effectively and delivers results
4. Legal or Policy Implications:
  - a. n/a

# ST. JOHN'S

5. Privacy Implications:
  - a. n/a
6. Engagement and Communications Considerations:
  - a. All relevant information has been delivered to the City's Communication Team for extra promotion.
7. Human Resource Implications:
  - a. n/a
8. Procurement Implications:
  - a. n/a
9. Information Technology Implications:
  - a. n/a
10. Other Implications:
  - a. n/a

**Conclusion/Next Steps:**

Information provided to the Seniors Advisory Committee concerning Adult and Seniors Fall Programming to increase promotion and awareness. The City is also doing extra promotion on programs that have lower registration numbers. Please forward the following link to any organizations that you feel would benefit from this information.

<http://stjohns.ca/media-release/adult-and-senior-recreation-programs>

### Report Approval Details

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Document Title:      | Adult and Seniors Recreation Opportunitites for Fall 2020.docx |
| Attachments:         |  |
| Final Approval Date: | Sep 10, 2020   |

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

**Karen Sherriffs - Sep 10, 2020 - 12:34 PM**

**Tanya Haywood - Sep 10, 2020 - 1:12 PM**



# INFORMATION NOTE

---

**Title:** Covid-19 Seniors' Working Group Update

**Date Prepared:** September 9, 2020

**Report To:** His Worship the Mayor and Members of Council

**Councillor and Role:** Councillor Deanne Stapleton

**Ward:** Ward 1

---

## **Issue: Vulnerable Population- Seniors Working Group**

### **Discussion – Background and Current Status:**

The province had established a Vulnerable Populations Task Group back in May consisting of several working groups looking at various issues from housing to food security to help during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Robyn Dobbin represented the Seniors Advisory Committee on this Seniors working group and continues to receive and forward relevant information to members of the Seniors Advisory Committee.

Meetings have concluded but feedback was given by members of the Seniors Working Group back in August through a Vulnerable Populations Task Group Questionnaire. Below are a few of the questions asked of members:

1. What do you see as the key accomplishment(s) of your working group during the COVID-19 Response?

Identification of systemic issues that have emerged or been highlighted because of COVID-19. Some issues can be managed effectively through emergency response (food security, dispensing fees). However, many of these issues will require broader policy and program development moving forward. This includes the digital divide that adds to social isolation, the financial security, and overall health of older adults.

2. What gaps still exist in the COVID-19 response to support vulnerable populations?

The focus on on-line communications, particularly through social media makes it more challenging for vulnerable populations to access accurate information from trusted sources. The digital divide and financial challenges faced by vulnerable populations are the significant gaps identified by the working group. Finally, the importance access to daily services and supports for seniors and vulnerable persons remains an issue.

# ST. JOHN'S

3. What initiatives/solutions are key to addressing these gaps?

- Research to identify the roots of issues (what is the role for ARC - NL, NLCHI, and NLCAHR)
- Incorporation of vulnerable persons into government communication strategies. Low-tech/no-tech approach needs to be used to reach some of these groups
- Knowledge mobilization

**Key Considerations/Implications:**

1. Budget/Financial Implications:

- N/A

2. Partners or Other Stakeholders:

- SeniorsNL
- NL 50+ Federation
- Connections for Seniors
- Seniors' Coalition
- United Way
- Members of the Provincial Advisory Council on Aging and Seniors
- NL Seniors' Advocate
- Seniors and Aging division staff from CSSD (Children, Seniors and Social Development)
- The Town of Conception Bay South

3. Alignment with Strategic Directions/Adopted Plans:

- A Connected City-A city where people feel connected, have a sense of belonging, and are actively engaged in community life
- An Effective City-A City that performs effectively and delivers results

4. Legal or Policy Implications:

- a. N/A

5. Privacy Implications:

- a. N/A

6. Engagement and Communications Considerations:
  - a. Continue to inform City of St. John's Communications team of information provided by the Government of NL that would pertain to the senior population.
7. Human Resource Implications:
  - a. N/A
8. Procurement Implications:
  - a. N/A
9. Information Technology Implications:
  - a. N/A
10. Other Implications:
  - a. N/A

**Conclusion/Next Steps:**

Continue to inform SAC members and City of St. John's Communications Division of most relevant information shared from Government of NL and other group contacts

### Report Approval Details

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Document Title:      | COVID-19 Seniors' Working Group Con't.docx |
| Attachments:         |  |
| Final Approval Date: | Sep 10, 2020                               |

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

**Karen Sherriffs - Sep 10, 2020 - 12:30 PM**

**Tanya Haywood - Sep 10, 2020 - 12:48 PM**

# INFORMATION NOTE

---

**Title:** New Design - H.G.R Mews Community Centre

**Date Prepared:** September 10, 2020

**Report To:** His Worship the Mayor and Members of Council

**Councillor and Role:** Councillor Deanne Stapleton

**Ward:** Ward 2

---

## **Issue: New Design- H.G.R Mews Community Centre- Design and Engagement sessions**

### **Discussion – Background and Current Status:**

The City has been planning for the replacement of the H. G. R. Mews Community Centre for the past two years. To date, site reviews have been completed and public engagement has taken place on both the location of the new facility and the needs of the community in relation to amenities and programming. On Monday, Aug 19, 2019, City council voted to locate the new facility in Mundy Pond Park adjacent to other recreation facilities in the area which will also include the new Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities Accessible playground.

Since fall 2019, staff have been working to advance the design of the new building, incorporating what was heard through the engagement processes in [2018](#) and [2019](#) and now have something to share with the community. Check out the visuals in the document library including an aerial view showing the placement of both the building and the playground in Mundy Pond Park, the floor plans, and the amenities overview document. Use the quick poll tools below to tell us what you think of the design and use the questions and comments tool to leave your thoughts.

Members of the Seniors Advisory Committee had provided significant input to the design of the other city facilities recently built and would like the opportunity to provide feedback to ensure the older adult population is represented. The advisory committee can also avail and promote the following opportunities to engage.

The City of St. John's invites the public to visit [engagestjohns.ca](http://engagestjohns.ca) to review the new concept design of the H.G.R Mews Community Centre replacement facility, to be constructed at Mundy Pond Park.

Public and stakeholder input from the first two rounds of public engagement for this project have influenced the overall design. Visit [engagestjohns.ca](http://engagestjohns.ca) to see a rendering of the front view



of the facility, a bird's eye view of the building and park amenities, as well as floor plans and layouts for the interior of the facility.

Virtual public meetings to review the concept design and floor plans will take place using Microsoft Teams, please [register here to participate](#):

- Tuesday, September 22 at 10 a.m.
- Thursday, September 24 at 6:30 p.m.

The city is also meeting with key stakeholders and users of the current facility such as sporting and aquatics organizations, the Boys and Girls Club, and the Inclusion Advisory Committee.

Next steps for the project include translating the concept design into detailed design and preparation of a tender package. Award of the tender is anticipated for early 2021 with work on site expected to start in Spring 2021. The new facility will open approximately two years from the start of construction.

Residents unable to participate online can contact Access St. John's at 311 or 754-CITY and ask to speak with someone from the project team, or email [engage@stjohns.ca](mailto:engage@stjohns.ca).

### **Key Considerations/Implications:**

1. Budget/Financial Implications:
  - N/A
2. Partners or Other Stakeholders:
  - N/A
3. Alignment with Strategic Directions/Adopted Plans:
  - A Connected City-A city where people feel connected, have a sense of belonging, and are actively engaged in community life
  - An Effective City-A City that performs effectively and delivers results
4. Legal or Policy Implications:
  - N/A
5. Privacy Implications:
  - N/A

6. Engagement and Communications Considerations:

- SAC members are requesting an opportunity to have Engage St. John's meet with the committee at a separate time then those listed for public.

7. Human Resource Implications:

- N/A

8. Procurement Implications:

- N/A

9. Information Technology Implications:

- N/A

10. Other Implications:

- N/A

**Conclusion/Next Steps:**

Discuss how the Seniors Advisory Committee would like to provide input and feedback on the New Mews Centre.

### Report Approval Details

|                      |                                      |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Document Title:      | New H.G.R Mews Community Centre.docx |
| Attachments:         |                                      |
| Final Approval Date: | Sep 10, 2020                         |

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

**Karen Sherriffs - Sep 10, 2020 - 12:27 PM**

**Tanya Haywood - Sep 10, 2020 - 12:44 PM**



# INFORMATION NOTE

---

**Title:** Seniors Day 2021

**Date Prepared:** September 10, 2020

**Report To:** His Worship the Mayor and the Members of Council

**Councillor and Role:** Councillor Deanne Stapleton

**Ward:** N/A

---

## **Issue: Determine date and other details for Seniors Day 2021**

### **Discussion – Background and Current Status:**

Seniors Day is an event that is coordinated by a sub-committee of the Seniors' Advisory Committee. Seniors Day is an opportunity for the City of St. John's to recognize seniors and provide them with information to improve their quality of life. This is an annual event that attracts members of the public (primarily seniors), community organizations, members of council and the media.

SAC members will discuss future steps moving forward to offer Seniors Day for 2021. Topics to discuss

1. Seniors Day Sub-committee members
2. Date
3. Location
4. Covid-19 guidelines and how they will affect such a large event

### **Key Considerations/Implications:**

1. Budget/Financial Implications
  - This event is budgeted under 7333 Budget Unit Community Development- Adult & Seniors
2. Partners or Other Stakeholders
  - In the past approximately 20 organizations have been involved with this event.
3. Alignment with Strategic Directions/Adopted Plans
  - A City That Moves-A city that builds a balanced transportation network to get people and goods where they want to go safely
  - A Connected City-A city where people feel connected, have a sense of belonging, and are actively engaged in community life
  - An Effective City-A City that performs effectively and delivers results

# ST. JOHN'S

4. Legal or Policy Implications

- n/a

5. Privacy Implementations:

- a. n/a

6. Engagement and Communications Considerations

- A detailed communication plan is provided to the City's Communication team for advertising of this event.

7. Human Resource Implications

- The event is planned and coordinated by the Seniors Advisory subcommittee, Recreation staff and other city departments depending on the focus of the event.

8. Procurement Implications

- n/a

9. Information Technology Implications

- n/a

10. Other Implications

**Conclusion/Next Steps:**

Determine key items such as date and sub-committee members for 2021

### Report Approval Details

|                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Document Title:      | Seniors Day 2021.docx |
| Attachments:         |                       |
| Final Approval Date: | Sep 10, 2020          |

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

**Karen Sherriffs - Sep 10, 2020 - 3:38 PM**

**Tanya Haywood - Sep 10, 2020 - 3:49 PM**