MINUTES

SUBJECT: Age-Friendly Communities Advisory Table

MEETING DATE: November 21st, 2017\nTIME: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Simcoe County Council Chambers\n(1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, ON L9X 1N6)

CHAIR: Asa Klint Piggott, Supervisor Project Management & Decision Support

ATTENDANCE:
Jane Sinclair, General Manager, Health and Emergency Services\nGreg Bishop, General Manager, Social & Community Services, County of Simcoe\nRon Coutts, Seniors’ Representative\nMargaret Adolphe, Seniors Representative (via teleconference)\nChristina Strong, Public Education Trainer, Independent Living Services Simcoe\nSusan Plewes, Community Representative\nArfona Zwiers, Director of Social Housing, County of Simcoe\nScott Warnock, Councillor, County of Simcoe (via teleconference)\nGayle Hall, Chief Librarian, County of Simcoe\nSarah Orr-Shaw, Public Health Nurse, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit\nMelissa Mei, Planning, Integration, Evaluation & Community Engagement, NSM LHIN\nKarie Warnar, Project Director for Health Links Barrie\nMary Small Brett, Councillor, County of Simcoe\nJim Gough, Seniors’ Representative\nLaura-Lynn Bourassa, Alzheimer’s Society\nHelmut Paddag, Seniors Advisory Committee, Tiny Township\nDavid Parks, Director Planning, Development & Tourism

Regrets:
Tina Christman, NSM LHIN\nKelly Swift-Jones, Museum, County of Simcoe\Rosslyn Junke, United Way Greater Simcoe County\Sandi Robinson, Real Estate Manager, Procurement, Fleet & Property, County of Simcoe\Tom Johnston, Branch Manager, Seniors for Seniors (Simcoe-Muskoka)\Lucia Ricardo, Canadian National Institute for the Blind\Karen Taillefer, Vice President, Patient Services, NSM CCAC\Kristen Corbiere, Helping Hands Orillia\Sandra Easson-Bruno, Director North Simcoe Muskoka Specialized Geriatric Services Program\Heather Hollingshead, Regional Services Coordinator, Spinal Cord Injury Ontario\Merideth Morrison, Director Performance, Quality & Development, County of Simcoe\Christy Tosh, AFC Project Coordinator, County of Simcoe\Linda Flemington, Chair, CARP, Georgian Bay\Amanda Flynn, Deputy Clerk, Statutory and Cultural Services, County of Simcoe\Denise Hayes, General Manager, Southern Georgian Bay Chamber of Commerce\Elizabeth Ozga, Divisional Controller, Finance, County of Simcoe\Connie Sheridan, Administrator, Georgian Manor\Terri Soukup, Director of Client Services, Helping Hands Orillia
1.0 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Asa Klint Piggott welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mary Warnock, representing the Tay Township Senior Advisory Committee was introduced and welcomed to the committee. Sarah Orr-Shaw introduced Madiha Magsi, Public Health Nurse who was attending the meeting as a guest. Sharon Youell, Administrative Assistant replacing Michelle Denne was also introduced to the members.

2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Christina Strong and Sarah Orr-Shaw approved the Minutes from the September 19th, 2017 meeting as presented.

4.0 WHAT’S HAPPENING (local community initiatives) - ROUNDTABLE

A roundtable discussion took place regarding local community initiatives. A summary of the discussions are below:

4.1 Seniors Supportive Housing: The County opened 171 net new units. One building is dedicated to seniors. Located at the corner of High and Second Streets. Plans are moving forward with the Wasaga Beach build, which will include affordable housing for seniors.

4.2 Healthy Barrie: Karie Warner, Health Links Barrie updated the members on a new initiative titled ‘Healthy Barrie’. This is a collaborative project spearheaded by Mayor Lehman, Dr. Charles Gardner, Medical Officer of Health, and others. Multi-year Grant funds were received from the Trillium Foundation. The project will focus on seniors, barriers to activity etc. Community engagement and more information will be advertised soon.

4.3 AFC Grant: Gayle Hall, Librarian County of Simcoe is awaiting information on a previous grant submission.
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<td><strong>4.4 New Seniors Committee:</strong> Mary Small Brett, Councillor, County of Simcoe advised that Adjala-Tosorontio is moving forward to form a Seniors Committee. She reiterated the need to obtain more age-friendly assistance.</td>
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<td><strong>4.5 Regional Resource:</strong> Susan Plewes, Community Representative and Waypointe Centre for Mental Health Care Board of Directors member advised the group that the Specialized Geriatric Services will be used as a regional resource. Research and Academics is a strategic priority, and as such, the Centre has hired a grant writer from the University of Toronto. The Centre also has a very strong Ethics Committee and advised that Waypointe will assist as a resource in that area. Susan reiterated the need to have the entire continuum from child to senior, working together on priorities to help model the future.</td>
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<td><strong>4.6 Community Paramedicine:</strong> Jim Gough, Seniors’ Representative had a very positive interaction with the Paramedic Services recently and extend recognition to those involved in his care. He is very appreciative that the program continues to grow.</td>
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<td><strong>4.7 Tay Township Seniors Committee:</strong> Mary Warnock, Tay Township Senior Advisory Committee advised that the committee will be working on several key initiatives including transportation issues with having many isolated seniors in the geographical area of Tay Township; bringing Youth and Seniors together on projects; as well as housing issues.</td>
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<td><strong>4.8 Tiny Township Seniors Committee:</strong> Helmut Paddag, Seniors Advisory Committee, Tiny Township updated the members that the Township has hired a Facilitator and has begun organizing workshops. A resource guide will be created. Helmut reiterated that having a limited infrastructure makes it difficult to organize events for seniors.</td>
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<td><strong>4.9 LHIN Updates:</strong> Melissa Mei, NSM LHIN updated the group on several projects and initiatives that the LHIN is currently working on including: a) Seniors Action Plan and Investments; b) Increases in Adult Day programming; and c) reinforcing the Regional Program for Specialized Geriatrics programs. Melissa also spoke to the challenges related to the PSW shortages across the NSM LHIN. A study was conducted which outlined a continued shortage until at least 2030. Through a brainstorming session and action planning, many opportunities have surfaced. The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is aware of the situation and will be organizing Municipal stakeholders to review the situation.</td>
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<td><strong>4.10 Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Updates:</strong> Sarah Orr-Shaw, Public Health Nurse, advised that November is Fall Prevention Month. A newsletter</td>
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was distributed. The County will post the newsletter in the Age-Friendly website section. Sarah advised that there has been great success in having youth work with seniors on an IPad teaching initiative. Volunteers are needed to continue this initiative in Collingwood, Midland and Barrie.

4.11 Independent Living Services Simcoe Updates: Christina Strong, Public Education Trainer, Independent Living Services Simcoe has had recent staff training on Ethics. She echoed the need for PSW workers in the region. The Collingwood Condo Corp. has been working with the Independent Living Service Simcoe to ensure accessibility information and details are obtained for their units. Christina reminded that the AODA reporting deadline is Dec 1, 2017.

4.12 Alzheimer’s Society Updates: Laura-Lynn Bourassa, reported that the Minds in Motion program is up and running. She is hopeful that in early 2018 there will be sessions across the County. The Alzheimer’s Society received funding to provide respite care in Collingwood, Barrie and Orillia, in partnership with the VON. They have also had Dementia-Friendly discussions with the City of Barrie.

4.13 Community Safety: Margaret Adolphe, Seniors Representative (via teleconference), highlighted a successful initiative where Seniors were provided lights, free of charge. This allowed them to feel safe walking around the town in the evenings. They have received very positive feedback.

4.14 New Seniors Housing Grant: Scott Warnock, Councillor, County of Simcoe announced that the County Council at the Nov 14, 2017 meeting approved the allocation of $500,000 in funding for a new Age-Friendly Seniors Housing Grant program recommended as part of the County’s Positive Aging Strategy.

5.0 TRANSPORTATION & TRANSIT PRESENTATION

David Parks, Director Planning, Development & Tourism provided the appended presentation.

Following a County of Simcoe Transit Feasibility and Implementation Study, several goals and objectives were created. The increase in population growth as well as aging demographics was reviewed. Mr. Parks reviewed the benefits for County-wide transit which includes: promoting independent living; providing affordable
transportation options; supporting greater travel opportunities; supporting County
growth, transport, environmental polies; and expanding economic opportunities.
Details regarding the proposed Short-term Network Concept was reviewed along
with the implementation phases and rollout. David advised that the new buses have
been commissioned to allow services to begin in 2018 and work will be ongoing
with communities to ensure ride-ability and fulsome usage is obtained.

Discussions took place with regards to the following questions (Q) and answers (A) discussed:

- **Q.** How many spots are provided within the accessible vehicles and how are
  rides arranged?  **A.** Each bus will have 2-3 spots for wheelchairs as well as
  other spots for those with more mobility. Rides are arranged through a
  reservation system.

- **Q.** Issues have arisen with securing scooters in the vehicles. Is work being
  done with manufacturers to address this?  **A.** The Canadian Urban Transit
  Association is working with manufacturers to ensure they comply with
  vehicles in the future. They have been advocating for this and will continue
to do so.

- **Q.** Will there be an advertising campaign when the transportation roll-out
  occurs?  **A.** Yes a full roll-out will occur in the future, as well a full report will
  be provided to County Council.

- **Q.** How is the cost of the new service budgeted?  **A.** There will be a
  combination of County of Simcoe Budget allocated dollars as well as
  through fares collected.

  **Comment:** It was noted that it is important to get the new transportation
  information direct to not only the Community Partners but also to the front-
  line workers so they can ensure their clients have the up-to-date
  information.

- **Q.** Will coordination and discussions occur with the Northern and York
  regions to assist in expanding the program in the future?  **A.** Yes, the
  program is new and once up and running, it will continue to grow and
  expand.

  **Comment:** Susan Plewes extended a thank you on behalf of seniors in the
  County of Simcoe, as access to transportation has been one of the biggest
  issues in the past and this program will greatly impact all seniors.

- **A.** Has there been any partnering discussions with Uber?  **A.** The County’s
  role is to connect the communities. As opportunities grow in surrounding
  areas, more information will be discussed as they arise.

It was noted that the “Simcoe County Positive Aging Strategy: Older Adults
Strengthening our Communities” document will be presented to County Council on
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<td>November 28, 2017. The document will also be circulated with the minutes, to all members of the committee.</td>
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6.0 SENIORS COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATIONS

6.1 AFC County of Simcoe - Grant Application:
Asa Klint Piggott updated the members of the Committee regarding a community grant application. She reviewed the different streams of funding available, of which the current application falls into stream 3. There are 8 keys priorities that must be met. They were reviewed as well as the proposals.

The Committee provided unanimous support to proceed with the grant application.

6.2 AFC Alzheimer’s Society – Grant Application:
Laura-Lynn Bourassa, Alzheimer’s Society advised that they will also be submitting an application, provided an overview of submission, and requested support from the committee.

The Committee provided unanimous support to support the Alzheimer’s Society submission.

6.3 AFC Tay Township – Grant Application:
Mary Warnock advised that their committee will be submitting a grant application in order to obtain a Consultant, as well as for work to be done with transportation for their rural residents.

The Committee provided unanimous support to Tay Township application.

6.4 AFC Committee Grant Endorsement: A draft letter has been created for all stakeholders use, and it will be forwarded to all members for future use.

AFC Committee Letter of Support to be issued.

Draft letter to be circulated.

7.0 DRAFT POSITIVE AGING STRATEGY: OLDER ADULTS

STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITIES
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<td>The draft strategy document was reviewed. This document will be presented to County Council on November 28, 2017 for their endorsement. The workplan was reviewed including the priorities, which will guide the initiatives and timelines (short, medium and long-term) for the future. The plan will be shared with all the communities to assist them in planning. It was noted that the item under Priority 3.0 (3.2 Cyber Seniors) requires the Lead to change to Simcoe Muskoka Integrated Fall Strategy. All other feedback is welcomed prior to posting on the Age-Friendly website. It was noted following a question on the consolidated homeless situation that the County of Simcoe is working with many service providers, including Housing First Initiative as well as Simcoe Community Services, in order to assist with that vulnerable sector. United Way produces “Vital Signs” report which can be used as a resource.</td>
<td>Workplan will be shared with all the communities Change required to Priority 3.0</td>
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<td>8.0 NEW BUSINESS</td>
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<td>There was no new business discussed.</td>
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<td>9.0 NEXT MEETING</td>
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<td>The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 16th, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>9.0 ADJOURNMENT at 11:45 p.m.</td>
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