

## **Seniors' Task Force (STF) Meeting Summary Notes**

January 17, 2022, 10:00pm – 12:00pm

WebEx – Virtual

### **Members Present:**

N. Martin

N. Gallo

D. Delaney (Scribe)

L. Pietrzyk

A. Rodrigues

Councillor A. Groves, Ward 5 (Council Liaison)

Councillor J. Innis, Wards 3&4 (Council Liaison)

### **Regrets:**

B. Crease

C. Cicuto

M. Morrison

G. Aguiar, Director of Health Services, Caledon Community Services (Community Liaison)

### **Staff present:**

K. Sawyers, Coordinator, Adult 55+, Customer Service and Communications (Facilitator)

C. McLean, Director, Customer Service and Communications

### **Guests:**

J. Tanner, National Manager for Canada HomeShare

C. Olson, Peel Pilot Site Coordinator for Canada HomeShare

D. Mazeau, Home Share Advisory Committee

## **Welcome and Check-In**

**Guest Presentation** – Canada HomeShare by NICE - Peel HomeShare Pilot – J. Tanner and C. Olson

Members heard a presentation about the Peel HomeShare Pilot project and details regarding the benefits of the program for Caledon residents.

Action Item – K. Sawyers will share an updated version of the presentation with STF members.

Action Item – STF members are encouraged to share the program with those who may be interested in the program outlining resources online and/or contacting the individuals facilitating the program.

## **General Updates:**

- **Covid-19 Updates** – Many town programmes have shifted to virtual programmes. Vaccinations are available at the Caledon East vaccination centre. Hills of the Headwaters hospital provides walk-in testing and vaccinations in Bolton.

- **November STF Action Items** – Overview and updates
  - Councillor Groves will forward a report which was presented to Regional Council on mental well-being.
  - A letter went to council supporting the Affordable Housing Project

## **Age-Friendly Action Plan Updates**

- **Housing**
  - Councillor Groves stated that the Region of Peel recognizes the need for housing in the region and in Caledon specifically. The Region plans to add 2,240 units by 2028 depending on funding from the province.
  - The Town will be advocating for affordable housing at the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA) conference January 23-24, 2022.
  - There are many housing conversations to come because of the Official Plan Review which is planned to be finalized in June.

Action Item - K. Sawyers will resend housing chart noting that it is not a public document.

- **Mobility**
  - Caledon Community Services Transportation has a reduced capacity due to Covid. Costs are therefore up due to more trips needed. More volunteer drivers are needed.
  - The transportation master plan is upcoming and STF members will have an opportunity to advocate for seniors.

Action Item - K. Sawyers requested STF members to encourage residents interested in being a volunteer driver to reach out to Caledon Community Services for more information.

- **Communication**
  - We continue to strive for more subscribers to the AFC eNewsletter.
    - The outreach facilitated through a paid Facebook ad did not result in new subscribers.
    - Staff is investigating the possibility of hosting a contest whereby each new subscriber would be eligible for a prize. More information to follow.
    - Staff is investigating if AFC information can be provided through existing channels such as the Caledon Seniors Centre bi-monthly newsletter.

- The Town is transitioning to having the main number to call as 311. Callers requiring information about municipal services will be directed to a town representative. The town will be sending out information to everyone soon.
- The library supports Age-Friendly initiatives which help us to meet Age-Friendly goals.
  - The Caledon library with support from AFC have received funding for computer training for 10 people. There is a possibility this number will be expanded in the future.
- Members were provided with information and updates regarding the online events calendar and encouraged use and promotion to expand awareness of programming offered for older adults.

Action Item - Members are encouraged to share the AFC eNewsletter availability to residents.

- **Community Support and Health Services**

- Ageing-Well in Caledon/Dufferin (AWICD) are exploring how they can support the Ontario Health Team goals through actionable collective items.
- Key focus areas for 2022 are food security issues and challenges around social isolation, loneliness, and a lack of intellectual stimulation amongst residents.

- **Respect and Inclusion**

- RE. Intergenerational programming - Bridging the Gap is an intergenerational programme to which the Caledon Public Library owns the rights. K. Sawyers will work with the library to support the Bridging the Gap in place of starting a new program through Grand Pals. Bridging the Gap is a memoir writing programme which involves a student interviewing an older person and presenting their story at school.
- The Town has approved a new Memorial programme whereby a tree, bench or plaque in select areas of Caledon can be dedicated on behalf of residents and/or contributor to the community.

- **Participation**

- Virtual participation in Caledon programs has been slow. Programmes will be re-evaluated with the hopes of increasing participation.
- Long-term plans to re-evaluate what existing programs are available and facilitation of a gap analysis.

- **Safety and Accessibility**

- Money for a snow removal program has been approved in the Town budget. K. Sawyers will be working on implementation of the programme and provide members with an update once the program is ready to launch.
- The Snow Angels Canada third party project will continue to be promoted through various streams to support snow removal efforts.
- **Community Engagement**
  - There is a pan-Canadian Age-Friendly network which includes 3 members from each province and territory: a provincial government representative, a municipal representative, and a community based lead organization representative. The Ontario Age-Friendly Communities Outreach Program is the community based organization from Ontario. K. Sawyers has been invited to be the municipal representative for Ontario.
  - K. Sawyers is working on plans for Seniors Month, June 2022. Initial discussions have outlined plans for a drive-in movie night, outreach through swag bags (700 tote bags are available) and activities throughout the month.

**Action Item: STF to engage with the community. Anyone interested in contributing to the development of Seniors Month is encouraged to reach out to K. Sawyers.**

#### **Other Items**

- STF protocols will be revised for the next term. K. Sawyers will be meeting with members individually and at a special STF meeting later this year to discuss member experience throughout the last term. Succession planning for the 2022-2026 term of council will be discussed.
  - A reminder was provided that all STF members are required to re-apply to be considered for the new term by sending in their applications when open later in 2022.
- K. Sawyers is working on the Annual Report for Age-Friendly Caledon with the supplementary letter from the STF members. The revised letter will be circulated in the next few days. The memorandum will go to council on Feb. 15, 2022.

#### **Next Meeting Date**

- March 21, 2022, 10 am.