

**Seniors' Task Force Meeting Summary Notes**  
**November 19, 2019, 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.**  
**Palgrave/Mayfield Room, Town Hall, Caledon East**

**Members Present:**

N. Gallo  
K. Graydon  
B. Crease  
M. Morrison  
D. Delaney  
A. Rodrigues  
N. Martin  
L. Pietrzyk  
C. Cicuto

G. Aguiar, Community Liaison, Caledon Community Services  
Councillor A. Groves, Ward 5  
Councillor J. Innis Wards 3&4

**Special Guest:**

Mayor Thompson

**Regrets:**

S. Harris

**Staff present:**

K. Sawyers, Coordinator, Adult 55+, Community Services  
H. Savage, Manager, Recreation, Community Services  
C. Curtis, Specialist, Legislative, Corporate Services

**Welcome and Overview of Agenda**

- Members were welcomed.
- Special guest Mayor Thompson was welcomed.
- Councillor J. Innis was introduced as a new Council Liaison.

**Question and Answer with Mayor Thompson**

- Mayor Thompson provided some background about the Town's decision to move the Seniors' Advisory Committee to a Task Force.
  - o In 2015, the province brought in new rules for municipal committees which increased administrative requirements. Part of the reasoning behind moving to a task force was to make the decision-making process and ability to take action easier for the members involved.
- Mayor Thompson outlined that he looks forward to presentations at Council and recommendations from the Seniors' Task Force.
- Mayor Thompson identified seniors' housing as a priority and encourages the Task Force in their advocacy efforts in this regard. There are challenges in that the Region of Peel is the political body responsible for specialized seniors' housing. The Town can, however, mandate that any new housing developments in Caledon have a percentage of homes designated for senior living. This action will facilitate the ability of seniors to sell their larger homes and move into smaller homes. This direction from Council helps the developers build more senior-friendly housing as opposed to larger homes.
  - o Seniors' Task Force members expressed a particular interest in Schlegel Village type housing.

- Councillor Innis indicated that the review of the Green Belt is scheduled for next year. It may be possible for changes to be made so that designated seniors' housing can be built on the Green Belt.
- Councillor Groves will forward to the Seniors' Task Force an update from the Region of Peel's Strategic Housing and Homelessness Committee and the Director of Housing Services, regarding what the Region is doing to address more affordable housing for seniors.
  - o **ACTION:** C. Groves will provide an update on the Region's Strategic Housing and Homelessness Committee.
- Councillor Groves also suggested that housing development applications come forward to the Seniors' Task Force in the same manner as building plans get vetted through the Accessibility Advisory Committee for comment.
  - o **ACTION:** K. Sawyers will follow-up with Councillor Groves on this suggestion.
- The Seniors' Task Force is encouraged to be involved with the Official Plan Review. This review is the first major overhaul of the Town plan in 40 years.
- Seniors' Task Force members identified that they are committed to moving forward with an Age-Friendly Plan for the Town. The Task Force is currently working with a strategic plan that is 5 years old and needs updating. This plan was developed in such a way that it is consistent with World Health Organization (WHO) age-friendly designation requirements. The wish of the task force is that the Town of Caledon pursue the WHO age friendly designation. This model is a best practice that has been adopted by many cities throughout the world. Achieving age-friendly goals improves the quality of life for seniors and all members of the community. The desired outcomes are specific to the needs and wishes of each community.
- It was suggested that the Seniors' Task Force might benefit from having one of the volunteer task force members act as a chairperson.
  - o **ACTION:** Mayor Thompson, H. Savage and K. Sawyers will investigate the possibilities for this to occur.
- The Seniors' Task Force has a comprehensive and extensive agenda. The task force members expressed that, in order to achieve their goals a full-time staff person is required.
  - o **ACTION:** Mayor Thompson, Councillor Innis and Councillor Groves suggested that the task force send an email to them indicating their desire to work towards an age-friendly designation as well as the need for a full-time staff person.
- Councillors, Mayor Thompson and H. Savage provided an update about the donated parcel of land discussed at the last meeting. The Town is waiting to hear back from the donor regarding the terms the Town has proposed. The donor is unwilling to make negotiations public which is a requirement of the Town.

## Updates

- A bench has been installed at Plummer's Cemetery in Bolton acknowledging the contributions of the 2014 – 2018 Seniors' Task Force.
- Possible Future Speakers:
  - o Cogniciti refers to itself as a 'brain health company'. It is a subsidiary of Baycrest. They talk to older adults about their brain health with the aim of improving the quality of life of those living with dementia and supporting research in the area. They would like to send a representative to a Seniors' Task Force meeting to tell the group about their Brain Health Assessment Tool. This tool alerts the participant about any possible memory problems which they might want to address with a medical professional.

