

GASC Meeting Minutes – November 18, 2020 @ 9:00 am

Present

Darrrel O'Shaughnessy, Chair	Kaila Zamojski, Town of Arnprior, Deputy Clerk
Pamela LeMay, Arnprior	Geoff Patterson, McNab-Braeside Recreation
Eleanor Hotchkiss, Arnprior	Tracey Foster, Island View
Glenn Arthur, ARH/SALC	Lynn Russett, Island View
Graeme Ivory, Town of Arnprior Recreation	Dennis Harrington, Seniors At Home
Mandy Stinson, Seniors At Home	

Not Present

Pierce Campbell, ADHS, Youth Rep	Robin Paquette, Arnprior CAO
Eric Hanna, ARH	Karen DeLuca, Arnprior Library
Brittany Harris, Arnprior Villa	Karen Simpson, AFHT
Audrey Edwards, Dementia Society	Cathy McCaig, Arnprior Ministerial
Rick Gwalchmai, Arnprior Recreation	Marjorie Joly, Hospice Renfrew
Sandra Elliott, Secretary	Ralph Chown, McNab-Braeside

1. Call to Order

The November 18, 2020 meeting of the GASC was called to order at 9:00 am.

2. Roll Call

All members of the GASC were present, except for those noted above.

3. Adoption of Agenda

The Agenda was adopted as presented with no additions. Darrel as Chair noted that some people on the Agenda are not in attendance and he will speak to what he can, otherwise these items will be deferred to a future meeting of GASC.

4. Approval of Records of Discussions from previous meeting

The records of discussion were approved as previously presented.

5. Program Updates

a. SALC

Glenn Arthur, of SALC provided a brief update on activities at SALC noting:

- Had to cancel the December bus trip to upper Canada village
- Pickle ball starting today at the Legion
- Set up at the Legion – Christmas Jam Session – 1-4 pm. max 50 people – registration required by December 6th, 2020

- Workshop going on today - topic being Aquariums
- A Christmas center piece and urn workshop set up in White Lake
- All of the regular programs still running at this time

b. Men's Shed

Darrel, Chair, provided an update on the Men's Shed program noting:

- We have never been busier than we are now.
- Still have about 34 members at the current time. This is great as we started with only 6 members not that long ago.
- Project with Children's Aid Society was very successful
- The youth group were in on Saturday with a very successful program that took place.
- Christmas craft sale was successful – 180 visitors and \$2000 in revenue
 - Took many orders for things like toys, tablet holders, planter boxes bird houses, etc. from the public at the Craft Sale
- Orders keep coming and coming from the community – so happy and all members of the Shed are so proud to serve. This program continues to keep people very active and healthy.

c. Arnprior Regional Health (ARH) – Not present at this meeting

Darrel as Chair provided a brief update on ARH items going on at this time noting:

- The New Nursing Home is 55% complete, and on track for people to be able to move in mid-late August, 2021.
 - New \$4.4 million funding will be paid out over 25 years and will not reduce the need for community support. This funding from the government will be used to support COVID related changes and updates to the Seniors Village.
 - Graeme asked is this part of the Grove Redevelopment and is this where SALC will move
 - Darrel noted the SALC will move into the Seniors Village.
 - Ontario Health Team – consider joining other areas such as Kemptville
 - Application looking at being submitted by the Arnprior Health Team.

d. Islandview

Tracey from Islandview provided a brief update on the programming and other things happening at Islandview noting:

- Annual Chili Fest will be taking place tomorrow from 11 am – close. Community members can pick up Chili and a bun tomorrow, with all proceeds going to support Seniors At Home.
 - 11 Town restaurants have signed up to participate.
 - There will be judges for what is the best Chili in Town.
 - A flyer will be distributed to GASC Committee Members by email for them to share today.
 - \$340 was raised for the Men’s Shed – Light the Path initiative – thank you for all who participated.
- e. The Villa – Not present at this meeting
- f. Hospice Renfrew – Not present at this meeting
- g. Seniors At Home
- Dennis and Mandy provided an overview of the programs and services being offered and taking place at Seniors At Home, noting:
- COVID has been a challenge here as it has been for everyone
 - Loss in revenue and also in client fees – reached out to the community - \$41,000 raised thus far
 - Made sure everyone stayed employed here
 - Had to take many volunteer drivers off the road that were elderly – but were able to have staff do this work and help out others in Renfrew County
 - Approached by Arnprior Lions Club to take over the “Lone Cupboard Lending Program”
 - canes, crutches, raised toilet seats, etc. are available to be lent out to members of the community.
 - Tuesdays and Thursdays – Niki R. is the staff member overseeing this
 - Seniors Centre “Without Walls” – doing well
 - County of Renfrew approached us with possible funding coming forward for COVID-19 support – received \$500,000 from the County, This funding will be used for
 - Senior Centre without Walls – how to better promote and coordinate all of the seniors programs
 - Transportation – looking at paid drivers and also persons with vehicles ‘
 - I-Pads – create an I-Pad program to be loaned out to members in the population – tech and staff support as well as internet sticks
 - PPE – to get enough PPE
 - Seniors At Home is working with the Renfrew County & District Health Unit, to assist with transporting COVID-19 test results to Pembroke and back, from Arnprior, to shorten the timeframe for

individuals to receive their results. This should shorten timelines from 5-7 days to 48 hours.

- h. Arnprior Family Health Team – Not present at this meeting
- i. Seniors Affordable Housing

Darrel as Chair provided information on the Seniors Affordable Housing initiative that is taking place. He noted the following:

- Abbyfield is on the lookout for long-term care homes to partner with them and I have brought this up to ARH.
- Seniors Affordable Housing Sub-Committee – work will begin early 2021
 - Town of Arnprior has purchased a book for the GASC
- Pam asked Darrel if the Seniors Village at the Grove is still going to have 10 units of Affordable Seniors Housing. Darrel noted this is still the plan. There is a meeting coming up to discuss, especially with the new funding that is in play.
- Pam Lemay noted that she was accepted to be a member of the Enabling Seniors Housing Group

- j. Arnprior Recreation

Graeme Ivory, Manager of Recreation for the Town of Arnprior provided a brief overview of the status of Recreation in Arnprior, noting:

- Fall programming is continuing at this time and program numbers are good.
- Seniors programming is well attended and everyone is doing what they need to do to keep safe.
- Santa Clause Parade – Drive Through – overview provided – Nov 29th 2-4 pm. at the Nick Smith Centre
- Annual Christmas Lights Contest overview was provided, noting we hope to get participation from residents and businesses.
- Working on 2 grant applications at this time – ICG and ICIP
 - increasing wayfinding and accessibility at NSC; and
 - upgrades in some of the parks – Legion and Caruso Park –
 - both grants provide 100% funding

- k. Town of Arnprior

Kaila Zamojski, Deputy Clerk for Town of Arnprior noted the following:

- Congratulations to Ralph Chown for being selected to receive the Town of Arnprior Volunteer of the Year Award
- Congratulations to Mike Marcil for being selected to receive the Town Award this year

- There are no new planning development matters or new business marketing items to discuss here at this time, as information was requested by Darrel the Chair prior to the meeting.
- Pam asked Kaila if the new building downtown by RBC Bank was apartments for rent or condos. Kaila noted she would get this information and send it to Pam by email.

I. Township of McNab/Braeside

Geoff Patterson, Manager of Recreation for the Township of McNab/Braeside provided a brief overview of the status of Recreation in Arnprior, noting:

- Walking program starting soon
- Return to some yoga programs soon
- Main focus right now for events is something partnered with McNab/Braeside Fire Fighters – “Light Up the Night” in White Lake and asking residents to decorate their homes – decorating many businesses and places in White Lake Community – this will be beginning on December 12

m. Dementia Society – Not present at this meeting

n. Succession Planning

Darrel, as Chair noted that he is going to keep bringing this topic up, to have a plan in place for someone else to become the chair of the GASC in the future.

6. New Business

- Eleanor was asked if there are any new updates with the Youth Program yet, and she noted she will be checking back with the schools in January.
- Men’s Shed has developed a new Facebook Page and wanted to know if anyone can help us keeping this Facebook up to date
 - reach out to high school to see if there are any volunteers
 - Kaila noted she will help, on her own time, if they need assistance – but a good opportunity for student volunteer hours
 - SALC also has a Facebook page, and would like volunteer assistance if available
 - Eleanor noted she would speak to the school about this
 - Darrel noted he would touch base in the New Year with Kaila if they were still in need of assistance and not able to reach a student volunteer.

7. Adjournment

The next meeting is January 20th, 2021 @ 9 am via zoom

Kaila from Town of Arnprior will host the meeting via Zoom

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year