

GREATER ARNPRIOR SENIORS COUNCIL – RECORDS OF DISCUSSION

Wednesday, March 17, 2021 - 9:00 AM

VIA ZOOM

Present

Darrrel O’Shaughnessy, Chair	Kaila Zamojski, Town of Arnprior, Deputy Clerk
Sandra Elliott, Secretary	Eric Hanna, ARH
Pamela LeMay, Arnprior	Graeme Ivory, Town of Arnprior Recreation
Eleanor Hotchkiss, Arnprior	Tracey Foster, Island View
Glenn Arthur, ARH/SALC	Lynn Russett, Island View
Geoff Patterson, McNab-Braeside Recreation	

Absent

Marjorie Joly, Hospice Renfrew	Brittany Harris, Arnprior Villa
Pierce Campbell, ADHS, Youth Rep	Robin Paquette, Arnprior CAO
Dennis Harrington, Seniors At Home	Karen DeLuca, Arnprior Library
Mandy Stinson, Seniors at Home	Cathy McCaig, Arnprior Ministerial
Rick Gwalchmai, Arnprior Recreation	Audrey Edwards, Dementia Society
Karen Simpson, AFHT	Paul Helm, Arnprior

1. Call to Order

The February meeting of the GASC was called to order at 9:00 am.

2. Roll Call

All members of the Greater Arnprior Seniors Council were present except as noted above.

3. Adoption of Agenda

The Agenda was adopted as presented with no additions.

4. Approval of Records of Discussion from meeting of February 17, 2021

The Records of Discussion were approved with the slight change to Item 5.7 as follows: “In the absence of Dennis Harrington, Darrel reported thefollowing.....”

5. Program Updates

5.1 SALC – Glenn Arthur

- There are 20 participants registered for the St. Patrick’s Day event today at the Legion. A maximum of 43 attendees plus the musicians are allowed following COVID protocols in place. Drop ins are expected.
- SALC have been approached to advertise for a couple of energetic youth who may be interested in working with other youth as Program

Coordinators. If you know of any youth who may be interested, information can be obtained by contacting SALC.

- A local artist, Anne Armitage, is offering a 5 week Pencil Painting Course at JAG in Braeside on Mondays. Cost is \$125. Register by email at registration@mcnabbraeside.com or call 613-623-5756
- Training on the new computer program at SALC and the Men's Shed has been completed and will be launched April 1. Members will be given key cards to book membership, programs, etc. This new program will streamline memberships and record keeping. Non members and visitors can still sign in without key cards.

5.2 Men's Shed – Darrel O'Shaughnessy

- A full production line is in place building the 96 Memory Boxes for residents of the Grove Nursing Home, assembling the various components and ensuring quality control. The Adopt a Memory Box campaign has been most effective with 25 adopted to date at \$175 each, 4 sponsors at \$500 each, as well as some very generous donations from the local community. Contact Darrel if interested in contributing.
- Ten night table kits have been delivered to the Renfrew County Children's Aid Society.
- An order has been received for a stand-up computer desk and for 4 cedar raised gardens.
- Orders have also been received for 4 Muskoka chairs and a table, 20 flower box kits for Arnprior's Recreation Department Youth Program and 10 Horseshoe pits for McNab-Braeside.
 - Some members are still working from home building Planter Stands, stepping stools, yard signs and wooden toys, for sale on their website.

5.3 Arnprior Regional Health – Eric Hanna

Ontario Health Team

- This group is preparing an application to submit to the Ministry by April 30. They are currently working under the name Four Rivers Ontario Health Team. They feel they need to develop a name to best reflect the geography of the region and its services and are asking for input from the communities involved. (Note: The geography of the Four Rivers OHT contains parts of West Ottawa, Lanark, Arnprior, Kemptville, Richmond, Carleton Place, Leeds & Grenville and Renfrew County.)
- They hope to hear back from the Ministry by September.
- There are 3 other communities in Ontario moving ahead with their applications.

- The first focus of this team will be on Addictions and Mental Health.

The Grove Redevelopment

- Construction was shut down for 2 weeks as a few workers tested positive for COVID. This was not due to lack of work site protocols but many workers car pool or socialize from outside our region. This delay will compromise the schedule for opening.
- Refax Consulting has been engaged to work through the potential reconfiguration of the current Grove and the Seniors Village concept. Local community entities will be involved and hopefully the GASC as well. Darrel stressed the importance of a Needs Assessment and that McNab-Braeside also be included.
- Eric is also optimistic that provincial funding for additional LTC beds might be forthcoming.

5.4 Island View Activities - Tracey Foster

- Residents are being vaccinated today which is a breath of fresh air.
- The Cooking with Carrie Zoom show was successful and well attended. It is expected that these might continue.
- The Island View hosted a Diabetes Session on March 10. They would welcome any ideas for future topics that might be of interest to seniors.

5.5 The Villa Activities

- Residents of the Villa are also being vaccinated today. The staff have all received their first dose as well.
- The Villa has started a gardening project for seniors in the community and are delivering gardening kits to seniors to get started. Once seedlings are developed they will pick them up for their residents to plant in the garden beds to create a "Colours of Covid" Garden. Anyone interested or knows of someone who might be interested is more than welcome to contact Brittany Harris at the Villa. 613-623-0414

5.6 Hospice Renfrew Activities - Marjorie Joly

No updates available.

5.7 Seniors at Home – Dennis Harrington

No updates available.

5.8 Arnprior Family Health Team – Karen Simpson

No updates available.

5.9 Seniors Affordable Housing – Pam Lemay

- This Sub-committee met on March 9 via Zoom.
- Paul Helms gave an interesting presentation on a modular housing concept common in Europe, particularly in Scandinavian countries, and sponsored by Ikea. There are currently 17,000 of these houses in Europe and Ikea are moving into the US and are interested in working with local builders.
- Paul has done considerable research into this tiny home concept and the cost seems to be between \$28,000-\$70,000 fully equipped. Certainly worth keeping an eye out for.
- Darrel has reached out to the Board at Galilee with the view to possibly developing a partnership between Abbeyfield and Galilee.
- A wing or floor at Galilee could potentially be used for this co-housing concept.
- Galilee are interested in this business opportunity which would keep their staff employed and provide affordable housing for seniors. It is noted that a major retrofit would have to take place to provide bathrooms for each suite and elevator access. They are in discussion with their Board of Directors.
- McNab-Braeside are very interested in developing a senior tiny home project on property they own next to the Township offices and recreation complex on Russett Rd.
- It is recognized that a Needs Assessment needs to be done in the county and NOW!
- This is not public knowledge but there is general interest.
- This would be a partnership between Arnprior, McNAb-Braeside, ARH and the county.
- Eric Hanna will reach out to Ken at Refax for assistance as he is already committed to a Needs Assessment through ARH.
- Pam feels it is important to get the parties together and not duplicate the process. 3-4 assessments are not feasible.
- Eric will organize and get the players together ASAP.
- Kaila advised there is \$15,000 in the Town's 2021 budget for a Needs Assessment and will reach out to Robin and Megan for a timeline.
- Pam is also looking at the CEC Centre belonging to the United Church, other local church groups as well as other properties around town for possible developing senior residences on property that might be available for sale.
- It was noted that the First Baptist Church also has property on Division ST that they are interested in selling.

5.10 Arnprior Recreation/Nick Smith Centre – Graeme Ivory

- Graeme advised there are not a lot of changes impacted by our move to the yellow zone with the exception of pool fitness.
- The ice will be out end of March to June1 with the exception being the Glenn Arthur arena which will not have ice until October and will be used for vaccine rollout.
- The parking lot at the NSC will be used for drive-through vaccines. Last Thursday went well with over 400 vaccines being administered and 300+ registered for next week. The NSC are very happy to help out.
- One of the Provincial Grants applied for was successful with no update yet on the 2nd one. Graeme thanked the GASC for our support of these applications.
- There is currently a lot of grant money available during COVID and they have applied for a Trillium Grant to assist with ongoing programs at the NSC.
- Summer programming is currently in the works.
- Everyone is asked to share and provide input on the Waterfront Master Plan which will have a huge impact on the waterfront in the next 10-15 years. The Plan is open for input until end March.
- The pool will be closed maybe in September for annual maintenance.

5.11 Town of Arnprior – Kaila Zamojski

- Kaila thanked Glenn Arthur for advertising through SALC that the town is currently seeking membership on the Accessibility Advisory Committee and to fill Crossing Guard positions.
- The Town is still looking for nominees for Senior of the Year and Volunteer of the Year. No one has been nominated for Senior of the Year so far.
- The Town is busy redeveloping their website to make it more user friendly.
- All Town meetings are open to the public via Zoom. Check the Town website for links.
- This is a very big year for development throughout the Town.
- Graeme and Kaila are working on developing a dog park with the potential location being the centre ball diamond. This will be brought before Council in May or June.

5.12 McNab-Braeside

- Geoff advised they are engaging in activities for seasonal field rentals, etc. and are awaiting Health Department blessings before starting.
- As reported previously via SALC they are looking forward to art lessons at JAG being conducted by a new McNAb-Braeside resident. She is offering a lot of hours of instruction.
- An increase in the use of trails during this winter season was encouraging. Snowshoe rentals were popular.

5.13 Dementia Society

No report available

6 New Business

- 6.1** Darrel advised that last week he resigned as a Director on the Ontario Association on Council of Aging. He is finding it necessary to step back somewhat for more personal time. However, The GASC will always be a member of this Council. If anyone is interested in stepping into this role, please advise Darrel.

7 Other Business

No other business was identified.

8 Adjournment.

This meeting was adjourned at 10:10 am

***THE NEXT MEETING OF THE GASC WILL BE HELD AT 9 AM
ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21 VIA ZOOM.
LOGIN DETAILS WILL BE PROVIDED CLOSER TO THIS
DATE.***