

The Town of Oakville

Department of Recreation & Culture

Seniors' Working Action Group (SWAG) - We're Age Friendly

Minutes – Wednesday, January 22 2025 via ZOOM

In Attendance: Darlene Cox, Micheline Wheeler, Pierre Wong, Pat Moore, Tom Carruthers, Rachel Fraser, Julie Pennal, Michelle Nichols, Jolaine Montgomery,

Regrets: Councillor Duddeck, Margaret Kirwin, Ted Lambert, Bev Cathro

Guest: Councillor Chisholm – Midtown development, towing concerns and other.

Minutes: Kelly Meeussen

1. **Call to Order:** by Darlene Cox – 1:30 p.m.

2. **Guest Speaker:** Councillor Ray Chisholm – Open discussion about Midtown development and towing concerns within the Town of Oakville.

- Midtown development concerns:
 - As a senior advocate group, speak with your neighbours.
 - Standard letter available to sign to premier via We love Oakville site
 - Council will review plan on February 18 before submitting to Province.
 - TOC (Transit Oriented Community) driven by Infrastructure Ontario. Only one developer is involved. Proposal is 11 towers in 5 hectares. (40 stories to 59 stories condos)
 - Town is trying to shut this down but need resident support and political pressure. Oakville planning staff are not supporting plan.
 - Town would like to include affordable, mixed use housing and transit supportive community.
 - Town can propose what they would like, however the province will make the final decision.
 - Impact greatest on southern part of Oakville where traffic in the area will be unmanageable and will affect safety for members of the public who walk and don't drive such as those that are disabled or seniors. Especially individuals who are visually impaired. This will severely impact all of Oakville if allowed to proceed as proposed.
- Towing concerns:
- Under the new By-Law 2024-187 which takes effect Friday, February 28: The towing or impounding of a vehicle without the owner's consent may only be authorized by Municipal Enforcement Services or designate, or a police officer. This should stop predatory towing in Oakville particularly in the Bronte and Sheridan College areas.

For more detailed information on this and Midtown Development please view the Ward 2 Newsletter from Councillors Ray Chisholm and Cathy Duddeck.
<https://conta.cc/3Q74aFW>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Water bi-law <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Work in progress. Determine environmental impact. ○ Water run off is much higher due to climate change, building in green areas, and flooding. ○ The town needs to re-vamp the underground infrastructure in the south and retention ponds built in the north. ○ The town must be ready in the next thirty years. 7-8 % of taxes are dedicated to infrastructure. Require a flat rate per year. ○ Re-development on Kerr Street <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Consultants are currently working on a plan for re-development.
3.	Attendance / Regrets – Regrets as noted.
4.	Acceptance of previous Minutes / Agenda Pierre Wong, seconded by Micheline Wheeler. Carried.
5.	Update from the Town of Oakville: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No update provided.
6.	Standing Agenda Items
a.	Councillor Cathy Duddeck update: No report provided.
b.	Meals on Wheels – Michelle Nichols <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On March 4 at 10 a.m., flag raising to highlight “March for Meals” at Town Hall. ○ Event on Tuesday, February 11 at St. John’s United Church. Free luncheon for the community. Sponsored by Acclaim Health. ○ Third week of March “Community Champions Week” where local mayors, elected officials, local celebrities and other prominent community figures deliver meals.
c.	Senior Connector Update – Pat Moore <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Attending conversation via Zoom on February 3 from 10 to 11 a.m. to discuss what can be done collectively, related to critical housing issues as the Federal and Provincial elections approach. ○ Wide range of homelessness supports including, emergency shelters, support services, assistance in finding permanent housing. If you see someone sleeping outside or they need support call: 1-866-442-5866 or 311. Email outreach@halton.ca ○ Shovels are in the ground on Maria Street in Acton for the development of supportive housing. This is being funded by the Region and Federal Government. The space will provide 12-one-bedroom units for people experiencing homelessness or who need support for mental health or addictions.

d.

enVISION Oakville Update – Ruth Sheridan.

No report provided.

e.

OAAC- Darlene Cox

Ontario Health atHome

- Hellai Noori, Care Coordinator, Ontario Health atHome provided an overview of Ontario Health atHome which coordinates in-home and community-based care for people in Ontario. The organization assesses patient care needs and delivers in-home and community-based services to support health and well-being. It also provides access and referrals to other community services and manages Ontario's long-term care home placement process

f.

Halton Age-Friendly – Julie Pennal

- No report provided

g.

WOW/Links2Wellbeing – Kelly Meeussen

- **WOW:** Program has officially ended as of December 31, 2024. Participants were provided information for Aurora Seniors Centre and Good Companions WOW programs. Efforts in place to re-start the "Phone and Friend" program.
- **Links2Wellbeing:** Received 20 referrals since the program started in December 2021. Currently there are 8 active clients in programs and special events. They have made new friends, tried different programs and are no longer socially isolated. This is the goal of the program, and we are successful in helping improve the quality of life for people in our community. In August Jolaine did a mailout to 21 doctors in the Oakville community to help promote the program. Unfortunately, no referrals were received. The last two referrals came from a social worker at OTMH. A total of \$7500 was donated by an anonymous funder for memberships, registered programs, drop ins, and special events. There is \$2130 remaining.

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New Business Arising/Information Sharing

a.

- June is senior's month Housing Symposium: June 17 from Noon-2:30 p.m. The day will include 2-3 speakers (20-25 minutes) with

question-and-answer period. Possible speakers: Andrew Balahura, Jeanette Bock, Cathy Duddeck. Lunch sponsor to be determined.

- b. **Information Fair:** Tuesday April 29 from 9 a.m.-noon at QEPCCC. OAAC and CARP will be invited, same vendors as last year (50), taking place in the Rehearsal Hall, MP1 & 2 at QEPCCC. This will be in combination with Oakville Seniors Open House. "Try Its" will take place in MP rooms 3 and 4. Will provide a continental breakfast, door prizes, swag items, map for directions. Looking for volunteers to support areas such as the welcome table, OAC room serving refreshments, etc. Possible sponsorships coming from Amica and Chartwell. It was suggested that we have a lawyer present. Darlene suggested Giulia Reinhardt or designate from Halton Legal. Opportunity to feature Sixteen Mile Recreation Centre.
- c. **Monday, April 7 from 2-4 p.m. Frauds and Scams** – Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre Virtual Zoom Presentation – **NEW DATE , NEW TIME!!**
- d. **Guest at February SWAG meeting** – TUKTU, Senior Care Services
- e. **Guest at March SWAG meeting** – Tracy Clapham, Municipal Standards Investigator from Municipal Enforcement, Services Oakville.
- f. **Guest at April SWAG meeting.** - Ontario Caregiver Organization

8. Information Sharing:

- Tom mentioned that CARP meetings are being held at Chartwell on Appleby Line on the third Thursday of each month in the afternoon for those who do not like to drive at night.

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 26 at 1:30 p.m. in person or via Zoom at Sir John Colborne Centre boardroom.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

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