

Minutes of a Meeting of the Youth Advisory Committee held remotely via Zoom on the above date at 6:33 p.m.

Present:

K. Ferguson – YAC Chair
C. Hajek
L. Kachkar
J. Rushton
M. Jackson
K. Love
R. Fitzner
T. Harvey
R. Olson
J. Saunders – SAC Chair
V. Ganske
S. Beach-McCutcheon
E. Hurley
B. Hahn
D. Vanderwel
Councillor Watkins

Absent:

L. Brooks
C. Fregene
K. Melancon
S. Lavrinenko
P. MacGregor

Staff:

J. Becker, Youth Asset Development Coordinator, Community Services

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

K. Ferguson welcomed everyone to the meeting and all committee members introduced themselves, as this was the first joint meeting of the Youth Advisory Committee and Seniors' Advisory Committee.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Chair declared the agenda adopted as presented.

TRANSIT DISCUSSION

Committee members voiced their concerns with regards to Transit within St. Albert. Discussion included the following:

- Changes in bus routes has resulted in some people walking as the bus schedules do not coincide with timing for their school / work etc. This will be a growing concern during the winter months
- It takes a very long time to get to the North end of St. Albert as there are no direct routes that run South to North
- Great recreational trails, poor connection of bike paths and sidewalks leading to desired locations throughout St. Albert
- Dial-A-Bus could be useful since you can book a week in advance, may be problematic if second bus is required for you to get to your final destination

Moved by K. Ferguson

That the Youth Advisory Committee and Seniors' Advisory Committee recommend to the Community Living Standing Committee the addition of a direct North to South bus route in St. Albert to ease travel from one end of St. Albert to the other.

CARRIED

LOW INCOME ISSUES WITH ACCESSING SERVICES

The Youth Advisory and Seniors Advisory Committees discussed the overall issues and impact low income has with accessing city services, commuting in and around St. Albert and the additional challenges COVID-19 have created.

Both committees agree that Home Sharing is a creative solution as this helps seniors age in place and the option for youth to pay less rent while attending school allows for great intergenerational social opportunities.

MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS

Members of both committees discussed concerns of mental health and challenges going through 2020. Stress, social connection and isolation are just some of the negative impacts that both youth and seniors have been facing.

COVID IMPACTS ON YOUTH, SENIORS AND AT-RISK GROUPS

All members of both the Youth Advisory and Seniors' Advisory acknowledged the many challenges and negative impacts COVID-19 has had and potentially will have to all age groups in the months ahead.

YOUTH AND SENIORS PERCEPTION OF THE PANDEMIC

This item was tabled, as time did not allow for this discussion.

YOUTH ASISTING SENIORS DURING THE PANDEMIC AND BEYOND

This item was tabled, as time did not allow for this discussion.

TRAIL USAGE AND SAFETY

This item was tabled, as time did not allow for this discussion.

POTENTIAL IT ASSISTANCE FROM YOUTH TO SENIORS

This item was tabled, as time did not allow for this discussion.

ROUND TABLE

Members of both the Youth Advisory and Seniors' Advisory Committees discussed topics of general interest, provided final comments, feedback and concluded overall benefits of scheduling an annual joint meeting.

Moved by J. Saunders

That the Youth Advisory Committee and Seniors' Advisory Committee recommend to the Community Living Standing Committee to amend the Terms of Reference for both committees stating an annual joint meeting of the Youth Advisory Committee and the Seniors' Advisory Committee be scheduled.

CARRIED

NEXT MEETING DATE

TBD

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Kyle Ferguson

Kyle Ferguson (Dec 5, 2020 14:57 MST)

CHAIR

Renee McDonald

Renee McDonald (Dec 4, 2020 14:32 MST)

DESIGNATED OFFICER