



# City of Port Moody

## Minutes

### Seniors Focus Committee

Minutes of the meeting of the Seniors Focus Committee held on Thursday, April 1, 2021 via Zoom.

#### **Present**

Councillor Diana Dilworth, Chair  
Yolanda Broderick  
Malcolm Harkness  
Wilhelmina Martin  
Grace McKeown

#### **Absent**

Councillor Amy Lubik, Vice-Chair  
Wayne Borthwick  
John Crowther  
Katharine Lemond

#### **In Attendance**

Philip Lo – Committee Coordinator  
Liam McLellan – Social Planner  
Robbie Nall – Parks Superintendent

#### **Also In Attendance**

Massi Bakhshian, Adult Cognitive Wellness Centre

#### 1. Call to Order

#### **Call to Order**

1.1 The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

#### 2. Adoption of Minutes

#### 3. Unfinished Business

#### 4. New Business

#### **Seniors Pollinator Garden Project**

4.1 Presentation: Parks Superintendent

File: 01-0360-20-53

The Parks Superintendent gave a presentation regarding the Seniors Pollinator Garden Project, noting the following:

- pollinators include bees, insects, birds, and small mammals that help carry pollen, and are critical for food production;
- pollinators are at risk due to habitat loss, pesticides, disease leading to colony collapse, climate change, and competition with non-native bee species;
- in 2019, staff highlighted the need to have a pollinator project in the City; such a project was approved by Council as capital project from 2020 to 2022;
- a showing of the film *The Pollinators* took place on February 29, 2020, with a Q&A session with local experts afterwards;
- the City's pollinator project aims to increase pollinator diversity and plantings throughout Port Moody;
- the first phase of the project focused on removing invasive species in Pioneer Park and planting around 400 pollinator-friendly plants;
- other projects include the Shoreline Trail pollinator garden and the Boathouse rain garden, which also treats stormwater;
- pollinator gardens include mainly native perennials, but should also embrace variety, and maximize the flowering period; plants that attract hummingbirds, bees, and butterflies are ideal;
- minimize mulching in pollinator gardens and avoid the use of pesticides;
- residents are encouraged to plant pollinator patches or use pollinator-friendly containers; refer to the City's list of preferred plants;
- the Chip Kerr Pollinator Garden Project 2021 is a free event that is scheduled to take place on two Fridays, April 23 and 30, 2021 from 10:00-12:00pm;
- volunteers can sign up with through the City's recreation website; and
- Council approved two new community gardens plots, at the Art Wilkinson Park and at the Recreation Centre near loco Road; they will be operated by external non-profit organizations.

The Committee noted the following in discussion:

- consider connecting with the Port Moody Legion Manor for assistance with the Chip Kerr Pollinator Garden;
- the City of Coquitlam has a program where a gardener visits and assesses private home gardens; Port Moody can consider having a similar program;
- consider providing incentives to install mason bee houses, and partner with the City's wood shop to provide scrap materials and instructions for putting together bee houses; and

- there is currently a lack of turnover at community gardens, which may not be fair to those on the waiting list; staff can discuss this issue with the operating organizations.

Robbie Nall left the meeting at this point and did not return.

## **Anmore Dementia Café**

### **4.2 Presentation: Massi Bakhshian, Adult Cognitive Wellness Centre**

Massi Bakhshian, from the Adult Cognitive Wellness Centre gave a presentation on the Anmore Dementia Café program, noting the following:

- the program was started in November 2019;
- the café is a safe and comfortable place for people living with symptoms of dementia and their caregivers;
- the locations need to be carefully chosen to ensure that it is a safe and comfortable space for participants;
- the program's goal is to encourage socialization;
- benefits of the program include improving self-esteem, providing socialization opportunities, and providing support to people with dementia by trained facilitators;
- there was a significant amount of advertising for the program;
- some potential participants expressed apprehension about having their conditions publicly known;
- the program is also offered in other cities including Coquitlam, Langley, and Pitt Meadows;
- before COVID-19, in-person programs were held once a month;
- virtual cafes have been held since COVID-19; currently two monthly sessions are held;
- BC Palliative Care partnered with the program to provide education on the Advance Care Planning For Dementia program; and
- the Adult Cognitive Wellness Centre offered one year of free online dementia cognitive activities during COVID-19.

The Committee noted the following in discussion:

- the program supports a diversity of ages as it benefits those who have early-onset dementia symptoms;
- the Port Moody Seniors Friendship Society (The Club) is a potentially suitable location to host the program; and
- the City could consider partnering with external groups to facilitate dementia-friendly programs.

**Wayfinding Initiative Update**

4.3 Staff provided an update on the Wayfinding Initiative, noting the following:

- a consultant firm has been selected for the Wayfinding strategy work;
- An inventory of existing assets such as landmarks, public art, and heritage will be used to formulate a strategy;
- a project schedule will be developed for this work; and
- the Committee will be consulted going forward.

The Committee noted the following in discussion:

- there was a cross-committee working group providing input on wayfinding, with accessibility being a topic of discussion
- the Committee will have the opportunity to provide further input;
- the funding will be for two pilot project signs near the SkyTrain stations
- Indigenous wayfinding and signage will be highlighted as part of the House Post project, and there may not be any overlap with the Wayfinding project.

5. Information

**Chair's Updates**

5.1 There were no updates.

**Staff Updates**

5.2 There were no updates.

6. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:27pm.



Councillor Diana Dilworth,  
Chair



Philip Lo,  
Committee Coordinator