



City of Port Moody

Minutes

Seniors Focus Committee

Minutes of the meeting of the Seniors Focus Committee held on Thursday, March 3, 2022 via Zoom.

Present

Councillor Diana Dilworth – Chair
Councillor Amy Lubik – Vice-Chair (arrived at 7:05pm)
Yolanda Broderick
Leanne Lange
Grace McKeown
Constance Meisner

Absent

John Crowther (Regrets)
Malcolm Harkness (Regrets)
Wilhelmina Martin (Regrets)

In Attendance

Arzan Balsara – Sustainability and Energy Coordinator
Angela Blackall – Recreation Coordinator
Esin Gozukara – Committee Coordinator
Jeff Little – Manager of Operations
Liam McLellan – Social Planner
Malia Pawson – Recreation Leader
Laura Sampliner – Senior Sustainability and Energy Coordinator

1. Call to Order

Call to Order

1.1 The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

2. Adoption of Minutes

Minutes

2.1 SFC22/006

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the minutes of the Seniors Focus Committee meeting held on Thursday, February 3, 2022 be adopted.

3. Unfinished Business

4. New Business

Pedestrian-Priority Snow Clearance

4.1 Jeff Little, Manager of Operations

The Vice-Chair entered the meeting at this point.

The Manager of Operations gave a presentation on Pedestrian-Priority Snow Clearance and noted the following:

- even though sidewalks were proactively maintained throughout the winter season, the City did not have a comprehensive system for snow clearance of sidewalks until 2017;
- there are 130 bus stops and 20 kilometres of sidewalk to clear following a snowstorm, and staff is not always able to clear Priority 2 sidewalks due to these demands;
- there are up to three staff members responsible for snow clearing and in order to maintain City Operations, it is not possible to take staff from other teams;
- the City maintains sidewalks that do not front private property, and sidewalks fronting private property are the responsibility of the property owners;
- considering the importance of sidewalk snow clearance, some adjustments were made to the relevant bylaw to require a greater standard of maintenance;
- during regular business hours, the customer service line answers 300 to 400 phone calls, and residents' feedback regarding where we need to direct our focus is valuable; and
- the Committee's input regarding sidewalk snow clearance is always welcome.

The Manager of Operations noted the following in response to questions from the Committee:

- in cases where it is challenging for the snowplough to enter certain streets due to accumulated snow, it may be redirected to other areas;
- communicating certain measures, like not shovelling the snow onto the road or not parking on the street during snowstorms, is part of the public education efforts of the operations department;
- four different products, with varying intensities, are used on sidewalks and roads for brining and salting, and staff is developing transportation infrastructure replacement programs to work on the areas that need to be touched up after brining and salting; and
- a discussion can be scheduled with Fraser Health to identify areas residents that require home support, and staff may prioritize those areas for snow clearing.

Snow Stars Program

4.2 Presentation: Malia Pawson, Recreation Leader
The Recreation Leader gave a presentation on the Snow Stars Program, and noted the following:

- the Snow Stars Program has gained popularity during the current winter season, and the Communications Department promotes the Program through various City social media channels;
- the Program intends to reward residents already volunteering with shovelling snow for their neighbours and community; and
- collecting nominators' information and compiling stories of the nominees are helpful for the success of the Program.

The Chair noted that sharing nominees' stories via the newspaper would be a good way to inform the senior residents of the Program.

The Manager of Operations left the meeting at this point and did not return.

Extreme Weather Response Plan

4.3 Presentation: Arzan Balsara, Sustainability and Energy Coordinator

The Sustainability and Energy Coordinator gave a presentation on Extreme Weather Response Plan, and noted the following:

- increased frequency and intensity of weather events are related to climate change;
- the City is developing the Extreme Weather Response Plan with a consultant to analyze the risks and vulnerabilities of Port Moody;
- data gathering and analysis phase (Phase 1) is currently ongoing, through usage of GIS maps, the consultant is identifying problem areas and undertaking a vulnerability score assignment;
- Phase 2 will include contacting stakeholders for their input; Phase 3 will include short-, medium-, and long term actions being formulated and shared with staff and stakeholders; and Phase 4 will include a draft plan being presented for Council's consideration;
- critical infrastructure and civic facilities like schools and recreation centres, will be analyzed for vulnerability; and
- for predicting future climate patterns, this Plan will not be relying on historical data to be better prepared for the future events.

The Sustainability and Energy Coordinator and the Senior Sustainability and Energy Coordinator noted the following in response to questions from the Committee:

- civic facilities, Pacific Coast Terminals, schools within School District 43, and other organizations in the city will be contacted to discuss their adaptive capacity;
- the Climate Ready Homes and Buildings Plan is being developed, outlining clear recommendations for new developments;
- the Sustainability Report Card was recently updated with climate resilience requirements, and the Zoning Bylaw was updated to address flood construction levels;
- earthquakes are being analyzed and assessed through the BC Building Code, Disaster Response Plan, and bylaws, and this Plan will not identify actions for earthquakes;
- the Plan will address civic buildings and their purpose and adaptability for extreme weather events;
- communicating what residents can do to minimize the effects of heat and the measures that the City is taking is a part of the extreme weather public education strategy;
- revitalization tax exemptions, rebates, and concierge type programs are available to residents to help prepare for extreme weather events;
- identifying high risk areas and customizing solutions suitable for Port Moody is a priority;
- the Climate Ready Homes and Buildings Plan is designed to support climate events in the future, and the Extreme Weather Response Plan addresses emergency issues; and
- to better prepare for extreme heat events in Summer 2022, short-term actions identified in the Plan will be presented for Council's approval before the entire Plan is approved.

The Chair noted that construction and building standards are changing due to climate action, some of these standards are set by provincial and federal governments, and municipalities often enforce those pre-set standards. The Chair also noted that in buildings that are older than 20 years old, heat pumps are not allowed.

The Vice-Chair noted that older residents tend to live in older buildings and some retrofitting options may be explored for these buildings.

The Recreation Coordinator noted that during extreme heat events of Summer 2021, water tables were placed in the large

multi-purpose room in the Recreation Complex in accordance with COVID-19 measures, and staff was present to help. The Senior Sustainability and Energy Coordinator and the Recreation Leader left the meeting at this point and did not return.

**Age-Friendly
Community
Designation Update**

4.4 Liam McLellan, Social Planner

The Social Planner noted that the City has been awarded the Age-Friendly Community Designation, and the Communications Department will provide direction with promoting this designation and the usage of the seal. The Social Planner also noted that an application to renew the City's commitment to this designation will be submitted every year.

5. Information

Staff Updates

5.1 The Recreation Coordinator noted that the Port Moody Seniors Guide for Recreation will be available at the Recreation Complex, Kyle Centre and the Library, and the Committee's feedback regarding the Guide is welcome.

6. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:38pm.



Councillor Diana Dilworth,
Chair



Esin Gozukara,
Committee Coordinator