



Celebration of Seniors' Month 2013

Age Friendly Thunder Bay Committee Meeting notes: Tuesday June 11 2013

Attending:

Eleanor Ashe, Laurie Biggar, Diana Coulombe, Rebecca Johnson, Wendy Kirkpatrick, Marie Klassen, Mary Jane Kurm, Mary McGeown, Randy Moore, Shelley Nicholas, Shirley Ozbolt, Catherine Peterson, Barbara Philp, David Pierce, Brenda Reimer, Ray Riley, George Saarinen, Pauline Sameshina, Tanya Shute, Charlene Snow, Lee Stones, Ruth Wilford

Guests:

Greg Alexander, Donna Smith (Smith-Bain Consulting)

1. Welcome and Introductions

Rebecca Johnson welcomed everyone to this special Seniors' Month Celebration of Age-Friendly Thunder Bay. Appreciation was extended to Wendy Kirkpatrick and to the staff of Grandview Lodge for hosting today's meeting and lunch. Rebecca noted that the City of Thunder Bay, as a result of a letter from the AFTB Committee, had proclaimed June as a Seniors' Month. Rebecca provided a summary of the "Regional Elder Abuse Conference" that was held recently in Thunder Bay. Dr. Samir Sinah presented on the Ontario's Senior Strategy. Copies of the strategy may be downloaded from the Ontario Senior's Secretariat web page:

<http://www.ontario.ca/health-and-wellness/Ontario's-action-plan-seniors>

2. Approval of the Agenda (5 min)

Agenda approved without amendments.

3. Minutes from February 12 2013 Meeting

Accepted

4. Collaborative Steering Committee (Ontario Trillium Foundation project)

Rebecca Johnson presented a power point show summarizing the achievements of Age-Friendly Thunder Bay over the last year (see attached). Highlighted in the presentation was the upcoming launch of a new Age-Friendly Thunder Bay web site. In addition, two abstracts submitted to the World Health Organization's 2nd Annual International Conference on Age-friendly Cities have been accepted. Rebecca Johnson, Randy Moore, Ruth Wilford and Pauline Sameshima will present on behalf of Age-Friendly Thunder Bay. The conference will be held in Quebec City September 9-11 2013.

5. Presentation of Senior Charter to Organizations Endorsing the Charter

AFTB Committee representatives, of the nine organizations that have endorsed the Charter, were presented with framed copies of the Senior Charter.

6. Distribution of the "Business Guide Package"

Dave Pierce gave an overview of the task group process to develop the AFTB Business Guide. Copies of the AFTB Business Guide Package were distributed to committee members. Over the next week copies of the Business Guide Package will be distributed to twenty "selected" businesses. Copies are also available upon request to AFTB and will be posted to the web site.

7. AFTB High School Poster Contest Winners

Barb Philp reported that the judge - a local visual artist - and members of the AFTB steering committee met this week to assess the entries from the poster contest. It was decided that due to the limited number (8) of entries (one school, one grade 9 class), we could not truly assess in terms of prize placement. We will be awarding ALL entries with a \$25 gift certificate in order to recognize their time and effort. A letter will be drafted to each student outlining the comments from the judge and explaining what lead us to this determination. A letter will also be sent to Ms. Brimage thanking her for her time/effort.

We knew that we had a quick turnaround time, and of course, we had the feedback that the work stoppage in the public board in the fall made it difficult to fit in this new request. We also feel that the scope of the contest - too many categories, etc. - may have deterred participants. So, we think we should re-tool and simplify the contest with the intent to launch it in the fall. We also saw from the entries that we need to clarify further the concepts of Age-Friendly - words like "old folks", Elderly, etc., and the image of a walker/wheelchair were prevalent through the 8 entries illustrating for us that students see "seniors" only as frail and in need of assistance. Consideration will be given to further developing an education component to accompany the contest guidelines.

8. Other Business

City of Thunder Bay Age-friendly Audit

Greg Alexander introduced Donna Smith of Smith-Bain Consulting. Smith-Bain Consulting will conduct an audit of the City of Thunder Bay services, programmes and facilities using the WHO checklist. Donna distributed an overview of the plan for conducting the audit (see attached).

Round Table

Several representatives reported on their organization's recent activities that are related to being age-friendly.



9. Next Meeting: **Tuesday October 8 (hosted by the Thunder Bay 55 Plus Centre)**

10. **2013** Meeting Schedule:

Tuesday December 10 (hosted by the City of Thunder Bay; McNaughton Room, City Hall)

Meeting Schedule for 2014 will be an agenda item for the October meeting.