

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Advisory Committee on Aging in room 4402 at the Municipal Offices in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Thursday, April 13, 2023, commencing at 1:00 PM.**

**Present:**

Henry Hunter, Chair, Wood Buffalo Housing Representative  
Janice Eisenhauer, Public - At - Large  
Carolyn Evancio, Seniors Resource Committee Representative  
Clement Mercredi, Indigenous Representative  
Darline Reid, Alberta Health Services Representative  
Ken Saunderson, Golden Years Society Representative  
Denise Wilkinson, Senior At Large - Urban

**Absent:**

Luana Bussieres, St. Aidan's House Society Representative  
Ken Ball, Councillor

**Administration:**

Heidi Major, Department Administrator, Community and Protective Services  
Toni Elliott, Senior Manager, Community Services  
Isela Contreras-Dogbe, Supervisor, Development Controls and Permitting  
Sonia Soutter, Manager, Senior Legislative Officer  
Destiny Hilliard, Clerk, Legislative Services

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Henry Hunter called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

**MOTION:**

THAT the Agenda be amended by adding agenda item 4.7 - Aging in Place;

THAT the Advisory Committee on Aging waive any requirements to serve notice relative to the addition; and

THAT the Agenda be adopted, as amended.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Ken Saunderson
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Denise Wilkinson
<b>FOR:</b>	Eisenhauer, Evancio, Hunter, Mercredi, Reid, Saunderson, Wilkinson
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Bussieres, Ball

### **3. Minutes of Previous Meetings**

#### **3.1. Advisory Committee on Aging Meeting - March 9, 2023**

##### **MOTION:**

THAT the Minutes of the Advisory Committee on Aging Meeting held on March 9, 2023 be accepted as presented.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Henry Hunter
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Ken Saunderson
<b>FOR:</b>	Eisenhauer, Evancio, Hunter, Mercredi, Reid, Saunderson, Wilkinson
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Bussieres, Ball

### **4. New and Unfinished Business**

#### **4.1. Administrative Updates**

##### **Snow-Angels**

Heidi Major, Department Administrator, provided an update on the Snow Angels program noting that there are currently 115 homes registered for the program and for the first time there are back up volunteers assigned to residences when volunteers are not available.

##### **Age-Friendly Work Plan**

Isela Contreras-Dogbe, Supervisor, Community and Protective Services, provided an update on the Age-Friendly Work Plan noting internal stakeholders who contributed to building an age-friendly community have been identified and a plan has been created to introduce the age-friendly work plan, so they can identify their department's short-term and long-term goals.

##### **Accessibility-Audit**

Isela Contreras-Dogbe, Supervisor, Community and Protective Services, provided an update on the Accessibility Audit noting the Accessibility Working Group meeting will be held on April 24th. It was further noted the Accessibility Working Group will work with

facilities and property owners to schedule audits and that accessibility training is ongoing.

#### **4.2. Senior's Resource Committee Updates**

Carolyn Evancio, Committee Member, provided an update on behalf of the Senior's Resource Committee noting the activities for Seniors Week in June have been scheduled.

Committee Members discussed concerns of seniors living in rural areas and the disadvantage they have in attending Seniors Week activities due to limited transportation. The Committee stressed the significance of senior's events being inclusive of all communities in the region.

#### **4.3. Workplan Committee Update**

Heidi Major, Department Administrator, provided an update on the Workplan Committee noting the working group met on March 27th in which the revised assessment tool was reviewed and approved. It was further noted that the application for age-friendly designation is being worked on and that accessibility training is ongoing.

#### **4.4. May 9th Age-Friendly Gathering**

Carolyn Evancio, Committee Member, provided a brief overview of the Healthy Aging Alberta group noting this group is a community-based, seniors serving sector initiative that focuses on developing a coordinated sector in Alberta by bringing together community-based organizations to focus on priorities for healthy aging in the community.

It was further noted that this group will be hosting an event at the Golden Years Society. Through discussions the Committee emphasized the importance of including senior's events in the rural communities and discussed how this event could be extended to the rural communities. Administration committed to reaching out to other organizations that already provide services to seniors in the rural areas to find out if there are any opportunities for events over the summer and in the future in the rural communities.

#### **4.5. Emerging Trends and Issues**

Committee Member Carolyn Evancio, noted that vaccinations are now given at local pharmacies rather than at public health locations, as a result, there is now a fee for administering vaccines.

#### **4.6. Information Updates**

No information updates were given.

#### **4.7 Aging in Place**

Committee Members discussed the feasibility of a facility that would house seniors who do not qualify for the living arrangements currently offered at Rotary House or Long-Term Care housing, to address the needs of the increasing senior population.

Henry Hunter, Chair, noted that a letter, advocating to the Provincial Government for this type of facility, with copies to the local Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) will be drafted and brought back to the Committee at the next meeting for review prior to a recommendation going forward to Council to request a letter of support in this regard.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

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Chair