

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Council of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo held in the Council Chamber at the Municipal Offices in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Thursday, May 13, 2021, commencing at 1:00 PM.**

**1. Call to Order**

**Present:**

Luana Bussieres, Public-at-Large - Urban  
Henry Hunter,  
Carolyn Evancio, Seniors Resource Committee  
Keith McGrath, Councillor  
Linda Mywaart, Public-at-Large - Rural  
Carol Theberge, Wood Buffalo Health Advisory Council

**Absent:**

Joan Furber, Golden Years Society

**Administration:**

Deanne Bergey, Director, Community and Protective Services  
Toni Elliott, Senior Manager, Community Services  
Sonia Soutter, Manager, Senior Legislative Officer  
Jade Brown, Chief Legislative Officer  
Destiny Hilliard,

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

**MOTION**

THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

**ENTRANCE**

Keith McGrath, Councillor, joined the Meeting at 1:10 p.m.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Carolyn Evancio, Seniors Resource Committee
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Linda Mywaart, Public-at-Large - Rural
<b>FOR:</b>	Bussieres, Hunter, Evancio, McGrath, Mywaart, Theberge
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Furber

**3. Minutes of Previous Meetings**

**3.1. Advisory Committee on Aging - Meeting - Apr 8, 2021 12:00 AM**

**MOTION**

THAT the minutes of the Advisory Committee on Aging Meeting held on April 8, 2021 be approved as presented.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Luana Bussieres, Public-at-Large - Urban
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Carol Theberge, Wood Buffalo Health Advisory Council
<b>FOR:</b>	Bussieres, Hunter, Evancio, McGrath, Mywaart, Theberge
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Furber

**4. New and Unfinished Business**

**4.1. Administrative Update re: Age- Friendly Work Plan**

Deanne Bergey, Director, Community and Protective Services, noted that the Age Friendly Work Plan will be presented to Council at their May 25, 2021 meeting. It was indicated that the bylaw amendment will be presented for first reading, with second and third readings being presented at the June 8, 2021 Council meeting. It was noted that further changes were made to the Amendment being proposed for Committees Bylaw 17/024 :

- a) Section 26, deleting the current wording and replacing it with the following:

The Chief Administrative Officer shall ensure that adequate administrative support is provided to the Committee for their scheduled meetings.

- b) Section 27, adding the following words:

“Adequate administrative support” is to be determined solely by the Chief Administrative Officer. Committees shall not direct or otherwise delegate Committee functions to Municipal staff. Municipal staff shall consider suggestions and recommendations from Committees with respect to implementation strategies, in keeping with the Committee's Mandate and within Council approved budgets.

- a) Appendix A - Advisory Committee on Aging. Appendix A is amended by deleting the content of the current "Membership" section and replacing it with the following:

Membership:

Up to 9 Members, with one from each of the following six organizations:

1	-	Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo Council
1	-	Wood Buffalo Housing and Development Corporation
1	-	Alberta Health Services
1	-	Golden Years Society Board
1	-	Wood Buffalo Senior Resource Committee

1 - St. Aidan's House Society

And up to 3 Members as "Seniors-at-Large". Membership in this category will be comprised of 1 rural community representative, 1 urban service area representative and 1 Indigenous representative. Members in this category should consider themselves as "senior". If there are insufficient applicants in this category, Council may appoint one or more alternate seniors-at-large from any of the three representative groups.

Following review of the proposed amendment, it was suggested that the following wording be added to the end of the wording proposed for section 27.

"Within approved budgets and departmental day-to-day operations. This is intended to clarify the relationship between Committees and Administration and does not otherwise diminish the mandate of Committees or their responsibility to bring forward recommendations to Council."

It was further suggested that the wording "Municipal staff shall consider suggestions and recommendations" be revised to "Municipal staff shall consider suggestions and ideas".

It was agreed that once the wording has been inserted in to the document the updated document will be provided to the Committee via email.

#### **4.2. Accessibility Audit Update**

Deanne Bergey, Director, Community and Protective Services, noted that Administration is coordinating a working group to ensure age friendly initiatives do not get overlooked in the upcoming accessibility audit, planned to be released in early 2022. Henry Hunter, Chair, and Linda Mywaart, Vice Chair, agreed to participate on the working group.

Committee member, Luana Bussieres, noted the Wood Buffalo Community Foundation has a "Healthy Community" grant open for registrations to municipalities until the end of May, 2021. The committee supported the suggestion that the Social Planner, Martin Byaruhanga, apply on behalf of the Committee with hopes of having the age friendly accessibility initiatives go through the grant rather than the audit as it will likely be quicker and more efficient.

#### Exit

Councillor, Keith McGrath, disconnected from the meeting at 1:42 p.m.

#### **4.3. Seniors' Week - June 13-17, 2021**

Carolyn Evancio, Committee Member, noted that Seniors Week will take place between June 7-13, 2021. A schedule of events taking place during Seniors Week, such as bingo, trivia and signage outside the Golden Years Society, will be sent out to the

Committee. Prizes will be attached to these events as an incentive for residents to participate.

#### **4.4. Action Log**

Deanne Bergey, Director, noted the Vulnerable Persons Registry held a media campaign to spread awareness for the group in which the number of members increased from 52 to 66. There will be another campaign later in the year to continue awareness.

All other action items are ongoing.

#### **4.5. Information Updates**

Henry Hunter, Chair, noted the Wood Buffalo Housing offices are closed for three weeks as a result of increased COVID-19 cases in the region.

Linda Mywaart, Vice Chair, commended Wood Buffalo Housing on their efforts to get the rent supplement program reinstated.

Carol Theberge, Committee member, noted that the move to Willow Square is still scheduled to proceed on June 21, 2021 as it has previously been delayed a month due to a COVID-19 outbreak amongst the contractors

Carolyn Evancio, Committee member expressed thanks for the efforts of the Seniors Resource Committee to support seniors during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Luana Bussieres, Committee member, noted efforts of the hospital in light of the recent restrictions put in place as seniors are reluctant to attend the hospital, it was also noted there will be an upcoming interprovincial meeting with different provincial and federal Health Ministers to look at age friendly initiatives across Canada and what each province is experiencing.

Action Item:

Department Administrator, Melissa Williams, to provide monthly updates to the Committee from meetings held with the provincial government.

#### **Adjournment**

The Meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

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Mayor

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Chief Legislative Officer



**Minutes of a Meeting of the Advisory Committee on Aging held via Electronic Communications in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Thursday, April 8, 2021, commencing at 1:00 PM.**

**Present:**

Henry Hunter, Wood Buffalo Housing Development  
 Luana Bussieres, Public-at-Large - Urban  
 Carolyn Evancio, Seniors Resource Committee  
 Carol Theberge, Wood Buffalo Health Advisory Council  
 Keith McGrath, Councillor

**Absent:**

Linda Mywaart, Public-at-Large - Rural  
 Joan Furber, Golden Years Society

**Administration:**

Deanne Bergey, Director, Community and Protective Services  
 Toni Elliott, Senior Manager, Community and Protective Services  
 Caitlin Downie, Manager, Neighbourhood & Community Development  
 Sonia Soutter, Manager, Senior Legislative Officer  
 Melissa Williams, Department Administrator, Culture and Social Development  
 Destiny Hilliard, Clerk, Legislative Services

**1. Call to Order**

Chair, Henry Hunter, called the Meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

**MOTION**

THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.

Entrance

Committee member, Luana Bussieres, joined the meeting at 1:17 p.m.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Carolyn Evancio, Seniors Resource Committee
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Carol Theberge, Wood Buffalo Health Advisory Council
<b>FOR:</b>	Bussieres, Hunter, Evancio, McGrath, Theberge
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Mywaart, Furber

### 3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

#### 3.1. Advisory Committee on Aging Meeting - March 11, 2021

THAT the minutes of the Advisory Committee on Aging Meeting held on March 11, 2021 be approved as presented.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Carolyn Evancio, Seniors Resource Committee
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Keith McGrath, Councillor
<b>FOR:</b>	Bussieres, Hunter, Evancio, McGrath, Theberge
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Mywaart, Furber

### 4. New and Unfinished Business

#### 4.1. Age Friendly Working Group re: Age- Friendly Work Plan Update

Carolyn Evancio, Committee Member, and Martin Byaruhanga, Social Planner, Community and Protective Services, provided an update on the three-year Age Friendly Work Plan, noting the trends, needs, and gaps identified through the Needs Assessment Summary.

Melissa Williams, Department Administrator, provided an overview of the proposed amendment to the Committee's Bylaw 17/024 as a result of recommendations put forward in the Work Plan.

#### **MOTION**

THAT the Advisory Committee on Aging supports the Amendment to Committee's Bylaw 17/024 be brought forward to Council to increase the membership of the Advisory Committee on Aging to nine (9) members, to expand the Committee's membership to include representation from the following:

- 1 - Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo Council
- 1 - Wood Buffalo Housing and Development Corporation
- 1 - Alberta Health Services
- 1 - Golden Years Society Board
- 1 - Wood Buffalo Senior Resource Committee

- 1 - St. Aidan's House Society
- 3 - Senior-at-Large - 1 each from the rural and urban services areas and 1 from the Indigenous community. If there are insufficient applicants, Council may appoint a member from senior-at-large.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Luana Bussieres, Public-at-Large - Urban
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Carol Theberge, Wood Buffalo Health Advisory Council
<b>FOR:</b>	Bussieres, Hunter, Evancio, McGrath, Theberge
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Mywaart, Furber

#### 4.2. Action Log

Committee members reviewed the Action Log, it was noted for Log item 21-034 Melissa Williams, Department Administrator, will follow up with Darline Reid of Alberta Health Services on the naming policy.

All other action items are ongoing.

#### 4.3. Information Updates

Carolyn Evancio, Committee Member, noted that the Seniors Resource Committee is continuing to meet virtually and will move ahead with activities based on COVID-19 restrictions.

Luana Bussieres, Committee Member, noted that Alberta Health Services conducted a review of the emotional, mental, and psychological effect on seniors not being able to have access to a support person when seeking medical attention at the hospital. It was advised that the decision has been reversed and depending on the level of care needed every patient attending a hospital is allowed access to at least one support person.

Carol Theberge, Committee Member, noted that due to a positive COVID-19 case, Long Term Care seniors moving into Willow Square will be delayed by a week or two.

Henry Hunter, Chair, noted that the Government of Alberta re-launched the Rent Supplement Program, which closed in 2019. Wood Buffalo Housing is now in the process of determining who they can help in the community with the rent subsidy.

#### Adjournment

The Meeting was adjourned at 1:43 p.m.

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Chair