Township of Langley

Est. 1873

SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at 7:00pm
Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338-65 Avenue, Langley, BC

MINUTES

Present:
S. Hedao, Community Co-Chair
Councillor T. Baillie, Council Co-Chair
Councillor S. Ferguson, Council Co-Chair

S. Baker, S. Bennett, P. Chhina, L. Solomon, T. Taylor, S. Thompson, and M. Vizcaino

In Attendance:
P. Crumb, Langley Seniors Resource Centre

Staff:
A. Jensen, Planner II, Community and Policy Planning
P. Ward, Manager, Strategic and Social Planning
K. Stepto, Recording Secretary

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES OF THE COAST SALISH PEOPLES

Councillor Ferguson acknowledged the Traditional Territories of the Coast Salish Peoples.

A. APPROVAL AND RECEIPT OF AGENDA ITEMS

1. Seniors Advisory Committee – April 19, 2023

Moved by T. Taylor,
Seconded by S. Thompson,
That the Seniors Advisory Committee approve the agenda and receive the agenda items of the April 19, 2023 meeting.
CARRIED

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Seniors Advisory Committee – March 15, 2023

Moved by S. Baker,
Seconded by S. Bennett,
That the Seniors Advisory Committee adopt the Minutes of the March 15, 2023 meeting.
CARRIED

P. Ward introduced and welcomed new staff liaison to the Seniors Advisory Committee, Aubrey Jensen, who will be replacing P. Ward as the new Manager of Strategic and Social Planning.

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

D. REPORTS

1. Co-Chair Reports

Councillor Ferguson reported that Council has passed the budget and that he attended a Metro Vancouver Indigenous Committee meeting.

Councillor Baillie reported a new Fire Chief will be hired soon and that much work is being done with regards to public safety.

E. CORRESPONDENCE

F. WORK PROGRAM

1. Spaces to Connect project

P. Ward provided an update and the Terms of Reference on Phase 1 of the Spaces to Connect project. He noted that this item is related to "Project No. 3: Social gathering places for seniors" on the SAC 2023 Work Plan, and that this project is shaped by the work of the committee last year.

The following information was provided:

Background:

- Social connectedness is vital to thriving communities
- "Community-serving gathering places" play an important role in facilitating social connectedness
- The purpose of the Spaces to Connect – Phase 1 project is to better understand the availability and accessibility of "community-serving gathering places" in the Township, with a view of identifying gaps and opportunities.

Policy Context:

- This project aligns with other Township of Langley strategies and policies such as the Social Sustainability Strategy (Action 2B) and the Age- and Dementia-friendly Action Plan (Action 5D).

Project Scope:

- The project will look at community gathering places such as community halls, meeting rooms, multi-purpose rooms, and seniors and youth centres

F. WORK PROGRAM

Scope of Work:

- The scope of work will include mapping, data collection and analysis, and promising practices research.

Case Study #1: New Westminster - Century House and Youth Centre

- Combined facility for seniors and youth
- Addressed needs simultaneously
- Seniors use during the day – youth after school hours
- Intergenerational programming opportunities

Case Study #2: Pemberton – The REC

- A place for social gathering
- Seniors and youth use at different times

Discussion ensued and the following comments/questions were provided:

- Could the empty Aldergrove Rotary Field House in Aldergrove Park be used as a gathering place?
- Has there been any intergenerational programs at the Century House or The REC? Yes – Century House provides intergenerational programming.
- Seniors Centre would welcome intergenerational programs – Some programs are happening with Blacklock School and HD Stafford Middle School.
- Initiate dialogue with different organizations who may be interested in providing these programs.
- R.E. Mountain has a program where seniors sit in on a class and this has improved student behaviour in the class
- Could SAC meet with RCPAC to see where there is overlap and to discuss issues?
- A lot of work needs to be done in the community to show that youth are not a threat to seniors.

MOTION
Moved by T. Taylor,
Seconded by L. Solomon,
That the Seniors Advisory Committee receive the presentation from staff regarding Spaces to Connect Project.
CARRIED

Action: Presentation and project Terms of Reference to be attached to minutes. (See Attachment A)

G. COUNCIL REFERRALS

H. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. Committee Member Updates

S. Baker reported that the SASSY Awards for outstanding youth will be given out on May 4 at the Chief Sepass Theatre.

Councillor Ferguson suggested that M. Larson be invited to give a presentation to the SAC as a follow up to the Dementia-friendly Task Force.

T. Taylor reported that he attended the BC Housing Forum.

S. Thompson reported that he attended "Coffee with a Cop" in Brookswood and suggested that the RCMP be invited to come to SAC to give a presentation on safety for seniors.

P. Crump reported that the Langley Seniors Resource Society is having planning sessions to look at future projects for seniors such as transportation and housing. He further noted that Langley Meals on Wheels has been distributing 4,500-5,000 meals per month and that people can get a meal at the Firehouse Café in Aldergrove for a reasonable price.

L. Solomon commented that there is a strong commitment amongst the non-profit organizations in Langley to work together to address issues related to seniors. She further reported that the Langley Seniors Resource Society has received two grants and made the committee aware of the following upcoming community events:

- Wellness Fair – May 12 and 13 at the Cascades Casino
- Seniors Week
- Langley Walk – May 7
- Men's Shed – a group for men to get together to socialize and work on projects such as fixing bikes for kids, repairing park benches etc.

Councillor Baillie reported that he visited the Langley Meals on Wheels and commented on how Food Banks are seeing such a high demand for use due to immigration and the cost of food. He further commented that teaching first aid to seniors is crucial due to their increased risk of falls and fires in the home.

The co-chairs thanked P. Ward for his time with the Seniors Advisory Committee and the Township of Langley as the Strategic and Social Planner. They noted the time, energy, and effort he has put it to the committee and commented that he will be missed.

I. NEXT MEETING

Date: Wednesday, May 17, 2023
Location: Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338-65 Avenue, Langley, BC
Time: 7:00pm

J. TERMINATE

Moved by M. Vizcaino,
Seconded by S. Thompson,
That the meeting terminate at 8:45pm.
CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Community Representative Co-Chair	Council Representative Co-Chair

Attachment A

Spaces to Connect – Phase 1

Project Terms of Reference

Introduction

Social connectedness is vital to thriving communities. The benefits of strong social connections in community include increased neighbourhood safety, improved health, and enhanced resilience.

"Community-serving gathering places" play an important role in facilitating social connectedness and are an integral part of complete communities. These places provide physical space for informal social interaction and community-based programming. The purpose of the *Spaces to Connect – Phase 1* project is to better understand the availability and accessibility of "community-serving gathering places" in the Township, with a view of identifying gaps and opportunities.

Policy Context

Social Sustainability Strategy:

Action 2B: Address community space needs through initiatives such as:

- preparing and publishing an inventory of low-cost space available for community use, and working with local organizations, including FVRL, School District 35, local businesses, and strata corporations to explore opportunities to make more space available for community use
- exploring opportunities to support community hubs that offer a range of community programs, services, and gathering places
- exploring smaller neighbourhood-based centres with amenities like exercise equipment, games areas, and meeting space

Age- and Dementia-friendly Action Plan:

Action 5D: Map and inventory community gathering places with a view of identifying gaps and opportunities.

Project Scope

The *Spaces to Connect* project will focus on "community-serving gathering places" – public and non-profit spaces that are primarily intended for social interaction and social programs (e.g., community meeting spaces, multi-purpose rooms, and spaces with seating and/or games). As shown in the figure, "community-serving gathering places" are part of a broader network of "community gathering places" that also include private spaces like coffee shops, restaurants, and banquet halls. "Community gathering places" then form part of a broader social infrastructure that includes spaces for learning, child care, and health, among others.



While recognizing that outdoor plazas, parks, and even street corners provide opportunities for social connection, *Spaces to Connect – Phase 1* will focus on spaces that can comfortably used through all seasons in all but the most extreme weather conditions. The following types of spaces are anticipated to be within the scope of the project:

- Multi-purpose rooms, meeting rooms, and other social gathering areas in community / recreation centres
- Meeting rooms and other social gathering areas within libraries
- Community halls and neighbourhood hubs (e.g., legions)
- Community kitchens
- Seniors and youth centres
- Community-serving spaces within places of worship and public schools
- Sheltered areas in parks

For clarity, virtual / digital spaces are out of scope.

Scope of Work

Phase 1 of the *Spaces to Connect* project is primarily a desktop exercise focused on research and analysis. There may be a need for some consultation with stakeholder groups to support the research.

The three main work components are as follows:

1. Mapping, Data Collection, and Analysis

- Map and inventory existing (and planned) community-gathering places (include contact information for a potential future list of no / low-cost space available for community use)
- Gather information on accessibility/availability of the space (e.g., capacity, current usage rates and, if applicable, admission / rental fees)
- Assess the accessibility of the space from geographic and social equity perspectives (e.g., space per capita, demographic and socio-economic considerations, and multimodal accessibility)

2. Promising Practices Research

- Case studies for co-location (e.g., community-serving gathering places and housing) and shared use, including intergenerational spaces (e.g., combined youth and seniors centres)
- Case studies of smaller neighbourhood-based centres with amenities like exercise equipment, games areas, and meeting space
- Opportunities for local governments to support community-serving gathering places (e.g., municipal scan), which may include convening, planning, financial supports, and advocacy
- Opportunities for embedding equity considerations into future work and priority setting

3. Observations, Implications, and Recommendations for Future Work

- May include, but is not limited to:
    - Ways to increase access to public sector space (e.g., community schools model)
    - Opportunities to support non-profits with office space (e.g., shared use spaces)
    - Opportunities to address specific community-serving space gaps (e.g., culturally-safe Indigenous spaces)
    - Ways to assess spaces that may be at-risk (e.g., disrepair, redevelopment and/or funding challenges)

Attachment A

Spaces to Connect Project

SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
APRIL 19, 2023

Attachment A

Background

- Social connectedness is vital to thriving communities
- “Community-serving gathering places” play an important role in facilitating social connectedness
- The purpose of the *Spaces to Connect – Phase 1* project is to better understand the availability and accessibility of “community-serving gathering places” in the Township, with a view of identifying gaps and opportunities

Attachment A

Policy Context

- *Social Sustainability Strategy:*

Action 2B: Address community space needs through initiatives such as:

- preparing and publishing an inventory of low-cost space available for community use, and working with local organizations, including FVRL, School District 35, local businesses, and strata corporations to explore opportunities to make more space available for community use
- exploring opportunities to support community hubs that offer a range of community programs, services, and gathering places
- exploring smaller neighbourhood-based centres with amenities like exercise equipment, games areas, and meeting space

Attachment A

Policy Context

- *Age- and Dementia-friendly Action Plan:*

Action 5D: Map and inventory community gathering places with a view of identifying gaps and opportunities.

Attachment A

Project Scope

- Multi-purpose rooms, meeting rooms, and other social gathering areas in community /recreation centres
- Meeting rooms and other social gathering areas within libraries
- Community halls and neighbourhood hubs (e.g., legions)
- Community kitchens
- Seniors and youth centres
- Community-serving spaces within places of worship and public schools
- Sheltered areas in parks



Attachment A

Scope of Work

- Mapping, Data Collection and Analysis
- Map and inventory existing (and planned) community-gathering places (include contact information for a potential future list of no / low-cost space available for community use)
- Gather information on accessibility/availability of the space (e.g., capacity, current usage rates and, if applicable, admission / rental fees)
- Assess the accessibility of the space from geographic and social equity perspectives (e.g., space per capita, demographic and socio-economic considerations, and multimodal accessibility)

Attachment A

Scope of Work

- Promising Practices Research
- Case studies for co-location (e.g., community-serving gathering places and housing) and shared use, including **intergenerational spaces (e.g., combined youth and seniors centres)**
- Case studies of smaller neighbourhood-based centres with amenities like exercise equipment, games areas, and meeting space
- Opportunities for local governments to support community-serving gathering places (e.g., municipal scan), which may include convening, planning, financial supports, and advocacy
- Opportunities for embedding equity considerations into future work and priority setting

Attachment A

Case Study #1: New Westminster

- Century House and Youth Centre:
- Computer lab
- Lounge with electronics and video games
- Multi-purpose activity space
- Exercise room equipped with cardio and weight lifting machines
- Kitchen



Attachment A

Case Study #2: Pemberton

- The REC:
- "Living room" with TV
- Table tennis, billiards and darts
- Kitchen

