



City of Port Colborne

Port Colborne Senior Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, January 20, 2026
Time: 10:00 am
Location: Committee Room 3-City Hall
66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne, Ontario, L3K 3C8

Members Present: M. Cooper
D. Santarella
N. Salvage
T. McDowell

Member(s) Absent: D. Rudyk
J. Mete
M. Parkes

Staff Present: M. Aquilina, Councillor
S. Powell- Baswick, Director of Museum & Culture
O. Loeffen, Business Community & Events Ambassador
G. Zwiep, Manager of Recreation & Tourism
A. Hawkins, Customer Service & Revenue Manager

Others Present: Tracey McQueen and Jennifer Reynolds from McQueen,
Galloway and Associates.

1. Call to Order

M. Cooper, interim chair, called the meeting to order at 10:13am.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved By Nancy Salvage

Seconded By Dorothy Santarella

That the Seniors Advisory Committee agenda, dated January 20th, 2025, be approved.

Carried

3. Disclosures of Interest

No disclosures of interest.

4. Presentation: Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan 2025-2026

Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan 2025-2026 was discussed, and presenters Tracey McQueen and Jennifer Reynolds used the opportunity to make notes on the committee's input to incorporate into the plan. Discussion included items relating to senior programming at events, amenities at parks, accessibility and enhancements of trails and parks, transportation and utilization of parks near senior housing.

G. Zwiép reported that staff are assisting in the coordination of the recommendations, reviewing resources and piloting new outreach. Discussion was held about budget for the Senior Advisory Committee's initiatives, and how to sustain some of the initiatives that have been popular.

5. Approval of Minutes

Moved By Tammy McDowell
Seconded By Nancy Salvage

That the Seniors Advisory Committee minutes, dated November 18, 2025, be approved.

Carried

6. Nominations: Chair and Vice Chair

Nominations were led by interim Chair M. Cooper

2026 Senior Advisory Committee Executive: Tammy McDowell was nominated Chair, and Mike Cooper was nominated Vice Chair.

Moved By Nancy Salvage
Seconded By Dorothy Santarella

That Tammy McDowell will take the position of Chair and Mike Cooper will take the position of Vice Chair.

Carried

7. Staff Updates

7.1 Seniors Community Grant 2026-2027

S. Powell- Baswick reported that S. McDowell has submitted a Senior Community Grant - Veteran Stream to support recognition of the 100th Anniversary of the Royal Canadian Legion. If successful, the grant would include support staff to assist in the knitted poppy display, a pop-up exhibit, heritage talks on the impact of Port Colborne veterans and support for inclusion for our veterans.

7.2 Recreation and Tourism

G. Zwiep reported that staff have heard of the positive impact of the senior's programs made through the last grant with Outreach Coordinator, Josie Faccini. Therefore, there will be opportunities to continue some of those initiatives in the near future, such as the tai chi program.

8. Order of Business

8.1 2026 Committee Workplan

S. Powell- Baswick reported that some notes were taken during the meeting to draft a work plan based on discussion. A. Hawkins recommended that Kennedy Stock, Events and Recreation Assistant/Volunteer Coordinator could be invited to meetings regarding senior volunteers. The workplan will be discussed at the next meeting and completed.

Councilor Aquilina reported that Gary Long, Director of Development and Government Relations, will be meeting with the Minister of Seniors and Accessibility in January and shared the committee's feedback on the needs of seniors in Port Colborne. The Stop Gap program is still ongoing.

8.2 Brochures and Rack Cards

Moved By Dorothy Santarella
Seconded By Nancy Salvage

That the committee will order 500 rack cards for \$179.99 and 500 tri-fold brochures for \$299.99.

Carried

9. New Business

9.1 Christmas get-together

Committee members thanked the outgoing interim chair M. Cooper for organizing the Christmas get-together and for his support for the committee in 2025 by stepping into the interim chair role.

10. Adjournment

The chair adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:15am.

Chair

Staff Liaison