



City of Port Colborne

Port Colborne Senior Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, June 17, 2025
Time: 10:00 am
Location: Committee Room 3-City Hall
66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne, Ontario, L3K 3C8

Members Present: S. Brown
M. Cooper
D. Santarella
Deanna Rudyk
Nancy Salvage
Tammy McDowell

Member(s) Absent: Robert Carter

Staff Present: M. Chamberlain, Community Engagement Officer
G.-R. Bisson, Senior Community Engagement Advisor

1. Call to Order

The chair called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved By Nancy Salvage
Seconded By Dorothy Santarella

That the Seniors Advisory Committee agenda, dated June 17, 2025, be approved.

Carried

3. Disclosures of Interest

No disclosures of interest.

4. Approval of Minutes

Moved By Deanna Rudyk
Seconded By Dorothy Santarella

That the Seniors Advisory Committee minutes, dated May 20, 2025, be approved.

Carried

5. Order of Business

5.1 Seniors Expo Recap

Committee members reflected on the recent Senior's Expo and considered possible improvements that could be made if the event were to take place again in the future.

- M. Cooper stated that visitors to the event seemed to react positively but that more preparations could have been made to increase the attendance.
- M. Cooper brought forward that in future, local entities should be prioritized and made aware in advance.
 - N. Salvage recommended having a list put together that could be easy to reference in the future.
 - T. McDowell commented she had previously sent a list of vendors T. McDowell had accumulated from similar events. The group asked for the list to be re-sent and for it to be reviewed at a future meeting.
- The members agreed that having a pre-event meeting would have been beneficial to discuss roles and responsibilities of each member, timing, vendors and event set-up.
 - M. Cooper commented that the committee relied too heavily on staff for this event, to which the rest of the group agreed. A consensus was reached to emphasize the members' duties in future events.
- It was agreed that in the case of another expo, the committee's table should be placed by the entrance to welcome guests to the event.
- G.-R. Bisson Provided that 467 Port Colborne residents travel to Welland to use the services of Centre De Sante Communautaire

Du Niagara and suggested they may be a good partner to involve in future events as well. Additionally, G.-R. Bisson suggested Niagara Health Geriatric Assessment Program as another partnership.

- M. Cooper furthered G.-R. Bisson's point by suggesting efforts be made by the committee to provide advertising and materials in both French and English.
- M. Cooper provided insight that a lot of questions were received regarding dental care programs. M. Cooper is going to try and find more information about what local dentists can provide in town.
- D. Rudyk asked if the members would consider doing another expo in the future.
 - M. Cooper suggested that the committee focus on local outreach and expand its presence at other City facilities, such as the Vale Centre during busy seasons.
 - The possibility of having a presence at Canal Days was discussed.
 - The committee also considered the possibility of a larger venue to increase vendors and flow of guests.

5.2 Farmers Market Update

A schedule from S. McDowell for the remaining two Fridays will be sent out to members.

M. Cooper commented that there has been great reception from the public.

5.3 Seniors Month

N. Salvage, D. Rudyk, T. McDowell and S. McDowell attended the official flag raising ceremony for Senior's Month.

M. Chamberlain informed the present members that the awarding of Senior of the Year would be taking place on June 17, 2025, at 7:00pm during the Port Colborne Heritage, Culture, and Museum Board's meeting at the Roselawn Centre. The award is being presented to recipient Yvonne Schneider.

6. New Business

6.1 Speaker Series

M. Cooper suggested that Lynda Reinhart from the Learning Cafe project be invited to the next committee meeting to discuss partnering on promotions for the Learning Cafe speaker series.

- Members agreed that it is a great program and that it would be good to have copies of flyers to promote at outreach tables.

T. McDowell shared a connection with a representative from the Red Cross about their transportation services. While they don't currently service Port Colborne, T. McDowell suggested inviting them to a future meeting to learn about how to get volunteers to contribute to a local driving service.

- Members agreed that having this service would be beneficial to those unable to get transportation to medical appointments and encourages T. McDowell to invite Red Cross.

7. Adjournment

The chair adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Chair

Staff Liaison