

AGE-FRIENDLY WINDSOR WORKING GROUP (AFWWG)

Meeting held May 14, 2025

A meeting of the Age Friendly Windsor Working Group is held this day commencing at 9:30 o'clock a.m. in Room 522b, there being present the following members:

Larry Duffield
Andrea Grimes
Cindy Matchett
Roxanne Tellier
Tom Wilson

Regrets received from:

Gerald Corriveau

Also present are the following resource personnel:

Kara Kristoff, Chair and Supervisor Community Programming
Christina Ritorto, Client Support & Staff Development Coordinator
Karen Kadour, Committee Coordinator

1. Call to Order

Kara Kristoff, Chair calls the meeting to order at 9:30 o'clock a.m. and the Working Group considers the Agenda being Schedule A attached hereto, matters which are dealt with as follows:

2. Declaration of Conflict

None disclosed.

3. Adoption of the Minutes

Moved by Cindy Matchett, seconded by Tom Wilson,
That the minutes of the meeting of the Age Friendly Windsor Working Group held January 31, 2025, **BE ADOPTED** as presented.
Carried.

4. Business Items

4.1(a) Transit Windsor

At the direction of the Working Group at its meeting held January 31, 2025, the questions posed by the Working Group in *italics* and the answers provided by Transit Windsor are as follows:

- ***Are percentages noted in population and age groups of those who use Transit Windsor derived from those who have bus passes vs. bus rides.***
 - It is a combination of all the fare categories so cash, tickets, and passes.
- ***If a Transit user swipes their bus pass, can Transit Windsor collect the data of who is riding and how often.***
 - Transit Windsor would be able to track a specific bus pass, but it would be generalized so if it's a senior pass for example, it would be pass 0001 which was used 5 times last month.
- ***Is there a bus that can bring people to Sand Point Beach during the summer months?***
 - As part of Transit Windsor, City Council approved the 2023 service plan; a new local route will be introduced, Route 345, that will provide new transit service to Sandpoint beach throughout the entire year. This is proposed to be implemented in 2026 in conjunction with the completion of the new east end terminal.
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- ***The Working Group asked how the 6% senior ridership is calculated.***
 - It is the amount of ridership that falls under the senior category divided by the total amount of ridership that Transit Windsor collected in all categories. In 2024, 587,823 rides fell under the senior category out of 9,671,728 representing 6%.

Larry Duffield expresses concern that the 6% senior ridership is low and asks if there are comparative ridership statistics for other like-size communities. Christina Ritorto responds that this information reflects the statistics for only those that hold a senior card. She adds there may be seniors that ride the bus, but this is not being captured as they do not possess a senior card.

Larry Duffield requests that a City Councillor be added to the membership of the Age-Friendly Working Group.

Clerk's Note: The composition of the membership of the Age-Friendly Working Group as approved by City Council is as follows:

The Age-Friendly Windsor Working Group will consist of 8 members, including six community members and two City administration (one from Recreation and one from Parks). **No City Councillor will sit on the Age-Friendly Windsor Working Group.**

Moved by Larry Duffield, seconded by Andrea Grimes,
That a member of City Council **BE INVITED** to attend a future meeting of the Age Friendly Windsor Working Group as a guest regarding city senior services.
Carried.

(b) June Events

Larry Duffield suggests hosting a flag raising, and to do a proclamation in celebration of "June is Senior's Month".

Clerk's Note: As of April 2024, Flag Raising, Proclamation and Illumination applications are not currently being accepted while the city undertakes a review of the processes and to make changes to the policy.

June is Recreation and Parks Months

The Chair refers to the Calendar of Events and programming that provides awareness to the importance of recreation and our parks. She asks for feedback on initiatives that would fall under parks and recreation. Roxanne Tellier suggests inviting seniors to be involved with children. The Chair responds that there are senior groups that come to the day camps and interact with the kids.

Andrea Grimes expresses concern with how events are marketed by the city and questions how communications are provided through the mainstream media. The Chair advises that she will contact Communications regarding their process and will report back at the next meeting.

(c) Community Engagement Event Planning

The Chair reports that Frank Fazio, CySAT Security Inc. is willing once again to participate in the community speaker series in the Fall 2025. Tom Wilson suggests recording the session.

The Chair recalls that a discussion was held at the January 31, 2025 meeting regarding holding a community speaker series with a representative from Transit Windsor. This would afford an opportunity to bring more awareness of how to apply for a transit

card, bus routes and any questions posed by the public relating to transit. She indicates they are awaiting confirmation from Transit Windsor.

Roxanne Tellier suggests partnering with Your TV (free service) to hold the community speaker series and adds she will investigate this and will report back. The Chair suggests using community spaces to get the word out about these topics.

Tom Wilson remarks that advertising should be done in May for events occurring in June.

(d) Website Discussion

Christina Ritorto advises that information can be added to the Age Friendly Windsor Working Group webpage. The Chair suggests establishing a subcommittee to put together this calendar; to be forwarded to the Chair who will update the calendar. The webpage will be separate from the Council/committee pages. This webpage is designed to create awareness about local events for seniors regarding resources that they can use in the community. The group will look into creating a survey from the AFWWG and a newsletter to share on the webpage. *Members of the subcommittee includes Roxane Tellier, Tom Wilson and Cindy Matchett.*

(e) Council Question Discussion

- What are the current challenges faced by seniors in our community?
- Specific areas of concern include public parks, public transit and utility costs.

Comments provided by the Working Group are as follows:

- Issues with Transit Windsor includes the cost of bus tickets, and the routes
- Public parks – There are concerns that if a person falls, that some emergency blue light poles are out of service.
- Lighting in parks
- Walking paths in parks
- People with mobility scooters – Paved trails to ensure ease in entering and leaving the park
- Public access to washrooms
- Handicap parking
- In terms of utility costs, what kind of input can this committee provide

5. Roundtable Updates

The Chair asks the members if there are any roundtable updates to share with the group. The following comments are provided:

World Health Organization (WHO) – The Chair advises they now have access to the password used by the previous Seniors Advisory Committee. They reached out to the WHO regarding next steps but have not received a response.

Larry Duffield is pleased that the Chair will be reaching out to the Ontario Age Friendly Community Network

Larry Duffield – CARP and the Federal Retirees organized an election town hall on April 23, 2025. The CARP Annual General Manager will be held on June 18, 2025.

On April 1, 2025, Larry Duffield was selected to be on the National Seniors Council.

Tom Wilson advises that Life After Fifty will host a Better Living Day Workshop to be held on June 19, 2025, which includes learning new skills and undertaking information sessions such as cyber security. Also, there will be a Health & Wellness Expo in September 2025.

Christina Ritorto states that on May 25, 2025, a Jazz Concert will be held at Mackenzie Hall at 2:00 p.m. An unveiling of the archway next to the building prior to the Jazz Concert at 1:30 p.m.

The Chair discusses June is Recreation and Parks Month calendar from the Recreation Department. Many free activities available, as well as paid drop-in activities. Calendar will be shared with the group.

6. Summary of Action Items

Transit Windsor – follow-up questions

Follow-up with the Communications Department

Add events to June is Recreation and Parks Month calendar

“Have your say about Community Safety and Wellbeing in Windsor-Essex” link to be sent to the Working Group

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on September 17, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 11:33 o'clock a.m.