

Minutes

Seniors Interests Advisory Committee

MEETING HELD ON 1 OCTOBER 2008

CITY OF JOONDALUP

MINUTES OF THE SENIORS INTERESTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN CONFERENCE ROOM 3, JOONDALUP CIVIC CENTRE, BOAS AVENUE, JOONDALUP ON WEDNESDAY, 1 OCTOBER 2008.

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members:

Cr Brian Corr	<i>Presiding Person</i>	South-East Ward	
Ms Joy Coleman		Community Member	<i>from 0935 hrs</i>
Ms Valerie Corey		Community Member	
Ms Patricia Geary		Community Member	
Ms Margaret March		Community Member	
Mr Patrick Wyburn		WA Retirement Complexes Association	
Mr Alex Cilia La Corte		National Seniors	

Officers:

Ms Julie Forrester	Coordinator, Community Services
Ms Pauline Sookloll	Community Development Officer
Mrs Jill Hewison	Administrative Secretary
Mrs Rose Garlick	Administrative Secretary

In Attendance:

Mr Peter Flanagan, University of the Third Age	
Dr Jane Figgis, Director, AAAJ and Re-vision	<i>to 1036 hrs</i>
Ms Jean Garret-Reid, Community Vision	<i>from 0935 hrs</i>

DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Presiding Person declared the meeting open at 0931 hrs.

APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr Fiona Diaz
Ms Anne Pike
Ms Lynda Waterman
Ms Maria Bunn

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE SENIORS INTERESTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 6 AUGUST 2008

MOVED Ms Margaret March SECONDED Mr Patrick Wyburn that the minutes of the meeting of the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee held on 6 August 2008 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (6/0)

In favour of the motion: Cr B Corr, Mr P Wyburn, Mr A Cilia La Corte, Ms V Corey, Ms M March & Ms P Geary

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

The Presiding Person provided an update on a resolution which was carried at the Council meeting on 30 September 2008. A resolution was carried which agreed to the preparation of a report listing the number and locations of retirement villages in the City of Joondalup to be available for the December 2008 meeting of the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil.

IDENTIFICATION OF MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY SIT BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Nil.

PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

Nil.

REPORTS**ITEM 1 PRESENTATION - NEW TRENDS IN SENIORS HOUSING RESEARCH – [55511]**

WARD: All

RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: Mr Clayton Higham
Planning and Community Development

Representatives of Re-vision and AAAJ Consulting Group, will attend the meeting to provide Committee members with a broad overview of the issues faced by seniors in relation to housing and Local Government's role in addressing these issues.

Re-vision offers a range of services that aim to promote personal and social solutions to retirement. Re-vision's philosophy is that traditional ideas about retirement need readjusting now that so many seniors are healthy and active for decades beyond the traditional retirement age.

Understanding the aspirations and needs of local residents aged 50+ is a central concern of Local Government. The Re-vision team has initiated work with a number of Local Governments to explore the best mechanisms for acquiring such understanding and at the same time building social capital.

As the title of the recent Council on the Ageing (COTA) (WA) Forum on Housing – *Affordable, Accessible, Appropriate Housing for Older Western Australians* – suggests, housing for seniors is a complex and multifaceted issue. Despite the very pressing issues of housing affordability and rental stress some consistent and positive ideas for working through the complexity emerged. They include:

- having a well developed and articulated set of principles as the foundation for local strategy and actions, a way of keeping all aspects aligned with the high level planning;
- meeting people's deep wish to 'age in place': what technology and universal design have to offer;
- the character of communities that enhance the vitality of seniors: the place of urban design and zoning and the importance of intergenerational engagement;
- time to collect 'rich and thick' data about the lives lived in each community both to understand existing patterns and to shape future community attitudes;
- opportunities opening up through changes in the policies and perceived roles of the Commonwealth and State Governments.

The presentation will outline these developments and discuss how these ideas and other pressing issues in seniors interests more broadly apply in the Joondalup context. One of key points from the COTA Forum and international research is that issues associated with housing and their solutions are specific and unique to each community in which they arise.

Dr Figgis gave a presentation on the various housing options for the elderly, in particular government housing, private rental, homeowner and retirement villages. A question was raised as to whether retirement villages was the answer, and if so was more research required as to what people hope to get from this type of residence. It was agreed that the issue of accessibility should be considered in the design of houses at the planning stage, enabling elderly people to remain in their houses for longer and this would result in them not being faced with the trauma of having to relocate.

Discussion ensued.

Mrs J Coleman and Ms J Garret-Reid entered the Room, the time being 0935hrs.

MOVED Mr Patrick Wyburn SECONDED Ms Valerie Corey that the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee:

- 1 NOTES the presentation on New Trends in Seniors Housing Research;**
- 2 REQUESTS that the City investigates the principles of universal building design as part of the District Planning Scheme review.**

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (7/0)

In favour of the motion: Cr Corr, Mr Wyburn, Mr Cilia La Corte, Ms V Corey, Ms M March, Ms J Coleman & Ms P Geary

The Presiding Person thanked Ms Figgis for her presentation.

Dr Figgis left the Room, the time being 1036 hrs.

The Community Development Officer left the Room, the time being 1036 hrs and returned at 1037 hrs

ITEM 2 PRESENTATION - UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE – [55511]

WARD: All

RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: Mr Clayton Higham
Planning and Community Development

The President of the University of the Third Age in Western Australia will provide Committee members with information about the University of the Third Age (U3A).

The U3A provides learning opportunities for people in their retirement years that live within the Perth metropolitan area. The aim is to offer its members opportunities to interact through learning and teaching and foster the intellectual, cultural and creative abilities of its members by giving opportunities to develop new interests and learn new subjects.

In addition to activities held centrally, U3A Inc has nine regional groups. Each has a committee which organises activities and provides members with a local meeting place. U3A Inc is researching the possibility of establishing the tenth regional group within the Joondalup area. There are links to the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee through its knowledge of seniors' interests within the community and the City of Joondalup objective of promoting lifelong learning opportunities.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 University of the Third Age Information Sheet

The President of the University of the Third Age in Western Australia gave an overview of the background of University of the Third Age (U3A) and provided a document as to what the organisation offers (Appendix 1 refers). It was relayed to the Committee that a new group had recently commenced in the Joondalup area. It was suggested that the City help to promote this service via the City's new Seniors Directory which is due to be released over the coming months.

Discussion ensued.

The Presiding Person thanked Mr Flanagan for his presentation.

MOVED Mr A Cilia La Corte SECONDED Ms P Geary that the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee NOTES the presentation on University of the Third Age.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (7/0)

In favour of the motion: Cr B Corr, Mr P Wyburn, Mr A Cilia La Corte, Ms V Corey, Ms M March, Ms J Coleman & Ms P Geary

ITEM 3 SENIORS PLAN REVIEW PROGRESS – [55511]

WARD: All

RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: Mr Clayton Higham
Planning and Community Development

PURPOSE

To provide the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee (SIAC) with information about the progress of the current Seniors Plan Review.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Seniors Plan, which was developed to guide the City in its work with seniors, is required to be reviewed every three years. The SIAC is integral to the review process and one of its objectives is to ensure that seniors' concerns are adequately represented in planning and strategic processes being developed by the City. The SIAC participated in discussions in 2007 and identified areas of priority for the City's seniors.

It is recommended that the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee:

- 1 *NOTES progress with the review of the current Seniors Plan;*
- 2 *CONTINUES to contribute to the review of the Seniors Plan 2004 – 2008.*

BACKGROUND

The City of Joondalup Seniors Plan Review is currently underway and key findings are forming through consultation trends which will be important in the development of the new Seniors Plan.

The *Age-Friendly Communities: A Western Australian Approach* framework has been used as a research tool for industry and community consultation which will form the basis for the new Seniors Plan 2009-2011. This framework, developed by the Department of Communities, is based on the process and key findings of the City of Melville Age-Friendly Melville Strategy: Directions for seniors and the World Health Organisation's Global Age-Friendly Cities initiative.

DETAILS

Research has been undertaken in the following areas: Outdoor Spaces and Buildings, Transportation, Housing, Respect and Inclusion, Social Participation, Communication and Information, Civic Participation and Employment and Community Support and Health Services.

Relevant City of Joondalup staff members, private organisations, not for profit and government agencies have been consulted in the development of the Plan including:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seniors Interests Advisory Committee - Office for Seniors Interests and Carers - Centrelink - Edith Cowan University - Public Transport Authority - Chronic Disease Management Team - WA Police - University of the Third Age - Commonwealth Carelink - Community Vision - Act Belong Commit - Citizen's Advice Bureau - Volunteering WA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Older People's Rights Service - WA Retirement Complexes Residents Association - Telecross (Red Cross program) - Council on the Ageing - Aged and Community Services WA - Community Newspapers - Sorrento Bowling Club - Lakeside Shopping City - Imperial Ballroom - Joondalup Health Campus - Vario Health Institute - Advocare - Concordia Lutheran Church
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The findings from the consultation process will be collated into a draft Plan which will be available for public comment. Public comment will be actively sought and considered in the final draft process. The final draft Seniors Plan 2009 - 2011 will be submitted to Council for approval by December 2008.

Key themes from the Seniors Review focus groups include:

Transport

A main concern for seniors is transport, especially for one-off medical appointments. Taxis are considered expensive and often unreliable. The main barrier for seniors to participate in community events is the lack of transport. To ensure their participation, accessible transport must be available.

For those with their own vehicle, parking is the main problem. More accessible bays are requested. Several participants believe the introduction of paid parking in the City will decrease the number of senior visitors.

Intergenerational Community Participation

Intergenerational activities have been suggested as a way to help break down barriers between age groups. Many seniors feel they are "separated as a different species" in community events, with the generational gap growing larger.

Social Isolation

Social isolation has been highlighted as a major concern keeping many seniors from participating in their community. Findings indicate that more emphasis needs to be put on the benefits of remaining involved in the community in terms of health, well-being and the prevention of depression.

Public Spaces and Facilities

Participants suggested that green spaces and public facilities available in the City are under utilised. They are considered to be inviting and attractive, but more planning is required to ensure spaces and facilities are utilised to capacity. Lack of or insufficient seating has been identified by participants.

Ideas giving different uses to the parks and public facilities included:

- the installation of outdoor gyms with accompanying programs to encourage usage;
- increased seating in public spaces, which is important to seniors for resting;
- increased numbers of barbeques and communal areas;
- provide appropriate access public facilities (i.e. provision of ramps).

Link to Strategic Plan:

The provision of services, events and activities for seniors by the City is linked to the Strategic Plan through the outcomes, objectives and strategies under the Strategic Plan Key Focus Area- Community Wellbeing; The City of Joondalup is committed to enhancing the wellbeing of all people in the community – socially, emotionally, culturally and physically.

Legislation – Statutory Provisions:

Not Applicable.

Risk Management considerations:

The City has an ageing population and by implementing the tasks of the Seniors Plan, it is implementing measures that will benefit residents now and in the future, as well as assisting in preventing relevant issues from escalating.

Financial/Budget Implications:

Budget Amount: \$ 2000

Associated costs of the review will include advertising and printing of posters and pamphlets to promote the review to community members. Funds have been allocated in the 2008/09 budget to assist with the implementation of the Seniors Plan.

Any future initiatives that may be undertaken by the City as a result of their inclusion in the Seniors Plan would need to seek funding approval through normal Council budget allocation processes.

Policy implications:

The existing policies that are deemed to have the most impact on seniors are:

- access and inclusion (access to community facilities and public space: overcoming barriers that could prevent participation in community activities);
- rates (reduced rates for seniors);
- fees and charges (reduced fees for seniors for some services);
- use of community facilities (accommodation provided free of charge to seniors groups under the “subsidised use” policy).

Regional Significance:

Not Applicable.

Sustainability implications:

Not Applicable.

of holistic positive active ageing, with a theme, activities and a name complementing this concept.

Interested members of the SIAC Committee are involved in the organising team on a voluntary basis.

The Art of Ageing in 2008 comprises of two half day senior events held four times a year in May, August, October and December:

- Tuesday 13 & Thursday 15 May
- Tuesday 12 & Friday 15 August
- Monday 13 & Wednesday 15 October
- Thursday 4 & Friday 5 December.

BACKGROUND

The August Art of Ageing events proved to be as popular as the May events with over 200 participants.

The first event which was held on 12 August 2008 was hosted by the Woodvale Senior High School with the students assisting in setting up the event, ushering participants to the auditorium and preparing and serving morning tea. The event commenced with a uniquely African cultural experience. *Azazu*, a drumming, singing and dancing group of newly arrived African students from Koondoola Primary School delighted the seniors. The children later joined in collaboration from African Drumming Workshop facilitator Russell Burrows from *African Rhythms*. Students from the Woodvale Senior High school Specialist Music Program impressed the audience with their unique and talented performances. The event concluded with a free sausage sizzle. A mini expo featured intergenerational programs and other relevant information from several service providers:

- City of Joondalup Community Information
- School Volunteer Program
- Tales of Times Past
- Older Peoples Rights Service
- Commonwealth Carelink Centre
- Independent Living Centre
- CLAN (Care Leavers Of Australia Network)

The second event on 15 August 2008 was held at the City's Reception Centre. The event commenced with a special performance by the popular singing performer James Dee, winner of the Al Martino Award, followed by morning tea and a screening of classic feature film Roman Holiday starring Gregory Peck and Audrey Hepburn. The event included a mini expo with giveaways from WA recreation and holiday providers and other services providers including:

- City of Joondalup Community Information
- Platinum 50 Plus
- Department of Environment and Conservation
 - Nearest to Nature
 - Health Parks Healthy People
- Botanic Golf
- The Maze
- Joondalup Resort
- Tourist Bureau
- Have a Go news
- Seniors Recreation Council

- Experience Perth
- Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre
- CLAN (Care Leavers Of Australia Network)
- Joondalup Volunteer Resource Centre
- Tales of Times Past
- Older Peoples Rights Service
- Seniors Card
- Australian Tourist Times Newspaper

DETAILS

Promotion is currently underway for the October Art of Ageing events.

Monday 13 October 9:30am – 12:30pm

October Art of Ageing events will be held at the Kingsley Park Clubrooms. The event will include an informative session on the topic of arthritis, and a performance by production group Agelink Theatre. *As Ships Pass By* celebrates life along the waters edge in Perth during the first 50 years of the last century. The event will feature a mini health expo in the foyer.

Wednesday 15 October 9:30am – 12:30pm

The event will include a session outlining City of Joondalup services for seniors and a variety show by local comedic theatre group Bullseye Productions.

A morning tea will be provided on both dates.

Planning is in progress for December Art of Ageing Events.

Issues and options considered:

Not Applicable.

Link to Strategic Plan:

The provision of services, events and activities for seniors by the City is linked to the Strategic Plan through the outcomes, objectives and strategies under the Strategic Plan Key Focus Area- Community Wellbeing; The City of Joondalup is committed to enhancing the wellbeing of all people in the community – socially, emotionally, culturally and physically.

Legislation – Statutory Provisions:

Not Applicable.

Risk Management considerations:

Not Applicable.

Financial/Budget Implications:

Account No:	434-A4314-3364-4310
Budget Item	Production Costs, Printing and Advertising
Budget Amount:	\$15,385
YTD Amount:	\$ 6,988

Policy implications:

Not Applicable.

Regional Significance:

Not Applicable.

Sustainability implications:

Not Applicable.

Consultation:

Not Applicable.

COMMENT

The new two half day format has proved to be a good format for seniors and has been well received by the community.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

The Community Development Officer provided an overview of the Report.

Discussion ensued. Concern was raised with regard to the number of residents who will be unable to attend the Art of Ageing Free Events being held in October 2008 (Appendix 2 refers) as bookings were already full and it was indicated that consideration will be given to holding any future events at a larger venue to accommodate more residents.

MOVED Mr Patrick Wyburn SECONDED Ms Valerie Corey that the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee NOTES the information provided in the Report.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (7/0)

In favour of the motion: Cr B Corr, Mr P Wyburn, Mr A Cilia La Corte, Ms V Corey, Ms M March, Ms J Coleman & Ms P Geary

MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil.

REQUESTS FOR REPORTS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Nil.

CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Presiding Person declared the Meeting closed at 1115 hrs; the following committee members being present at that time:

Cr Brian Corr
Ms Joy Coleman
Ms Valerie Corey
Ms Patricia Geary
Ms Margaret March
Mr Patrick Wyburn
Mr Alex Cilia La Corte