

# Whitby 55+ Recreation Advisory Committee (2025)



## Minutes

Friday, April 11, 2025 – 9:00 a.m.

Location: Boardroom, 55+ Recreation Centre

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**Present:** Lise Watt, Joanne Smith, Jane Hilton, Lynda Kruit, Lena Ebrekdjian, Susan Lythgoe, Sharon Bagatto, Carol James, Deborah Nanton, Erica Mittag, Jessica Fox

**Regrets:** Mary Poirier, Roz Puddester, Mayor Roy

- 1) **Call to Order**
- 2) **Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting** - Jane moved to approve the Minutes.
- 3) **Approval of Agenda** – Carol and Deborah asked to be added to the Special Events Committee members list. Lynda moved to approve the Agenda as Amended.
- 4) **Presentations/Delegations – N/A**
- 5) General Business
  - a. **Supervisor's Report** (Supervisor)
    - i. Staffing Update – The Summer Student from last year will no longer be returning, Erica will be interviewing other candidates the week of April 14. Start date for the Summer Student is May 20.
    - ii. Mingles - Food Service Update – Volunteers have started serving hot beverages, muffins and tarts since April 1, it's been a smooth transition. Mingles is open 9am to 1pm. Kristina is currently collecting input from members on what they want available in Mingles. They will evaluate over the next few weeks and see what can be implemented. Oshawa Seniors have hired a new caterer, we are awaiting to see if there is an opportunity to use them as well for lunch service. The timeline is a couple months
    - iii. CLOCA – Program SNAP (Sustainability of Mature Neighbourhoods Action Plan) looking at accessible housing, greenspaces, efficiency, active transportation, community connection. They will be at Whitby 55+ on April 23 in the front Lobby with an information book 10:00 – 11:00am. Jane and Deborah volunteered to be a representative from the committee. Erica to send contact information for CLOCA
  - b. **Sub-Committee Reports** (Members)
    - i. **Program Committee:** (Kristina, Amanda, Lise, Joanne)
    - ii. **Special Events Committee:** (Kristina, Jessica, Lise, Joanne, Mary, Sharon, Lena, Lynda, Susan, Carol, Deborah)

June is Seniors Month BBQ – Jessica

Jessica gave an update on the BBQ – Friday June 20, 10am – 2pm

Food will be the same as last year, hamburgers, hot dogs, veggie burgers, chips, drinks and ice cream. Entertainment – cloggers are booked, not sure if we should have a DJ or entertainers at the front, or entertainers mingle among the crowds (magician, balloon artist). Therapeutic Touch treatments booked, no craft sales but quilters will participate. Rotary will be volunteering with cooking and serving again this year.

#### Review of Events:

- March Social – 50 people registered, which was just below capacity of 65, it was an evening event, everyone was engaged.
- Murder Mystery – Great event, well received, full attendance with a waitlist. Consider planning once a year – Staff will look at the annual schedule to determine timing – possibly fall (2026). Consider making it into a dinner Murder Mystery with a 5pm start time.
- Spring Into Style – Overall event went well, everyone who attended was engaged. Consider making it an annual event, connected with International Women's Day (March 8).
- Sponsors – Committee inquired how sponsorship works, Erica clarified that they sponsor an event with a dollar amount of \$250-300 per event. Recommended partnering with retirement home to advertise events and programs

#### Upcoming Events:

- Easter Social Tea – Thursday, April 17 (1:30 p.m.) – has been moved to Mingles café to accommodate the waitlist. Lots of teacups were donated for décor and party favours. Deborah has lots of teacups if we need more.
- Earth Day Clean Up at Heydenshore Walking Trail – Tuesday, April 22 (10:00 a.m.) – Location is at Heydenshore – Have 4 registered so far.
- Volunteer Appreciation Event – Thursday, May 1 (6:30 p.m.) – Committee was asking if there needs to be a meeting setup to go over the event, Kristina will send an update email on what's expected the day of the event. Set up / decorating will be 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Spring Social – Friday, May 23 (2:00 p.m.) – Lynda will assist with set-up.
- Seniors' Month – June
  - Art @ the Library (month of June)
  - Meet the Artists (June 13)
  - Tai Chi in the Park (June 17)
  - Extravaganza (June 20)
  - Yoga in the Park (June 24)
  - 3 new workshops added:
    - Frauds and Scams with Detective Martin Franssen – Thursday, June 26 10am
    - Fire Safety Seminar – Tuesday, June 3, 10am
    - Grief and Loss Workshop – Tuesday, June 10, 10am

- Reminder: Wednesday, May 28, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. with Lynda & Lise
- 6) Other Business (Committee/Staff) – Jane gave an update on the Library Grant – they offer 20 educational wellness workshops. They had 520 participants registered. Even though reminder calls are made, only 282 attended the events. Future considerations to offer 3D printing and technology programs (Chat GPT, Artificial Intelligence)
  - 7) Council Update (Mayor Roy) – regrets, no update this meeting.
  - 8) Community Information Sharing (Members) - Community Items/Events of interest to share with group.
  - 9) Action Item Review/Next Meeting: Friday, May 9, 9:00am at the 55+ Recreation Centre, Joanne to provide snack.
  - 10) Adjournment at 10:29 am