

# Whitby 55+ Recreation Advisory Committee (2025)



## Meeting Minutes

Friday, February 13 – 9:00 a.m.

Location: Whitby 55+ Recreation Centre, Boardroom

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**Present:** Lise Watt, Carol James, Mary Poirier, Lena Ebrekdjian, Kim Evans, Ashlyn Myers, Jane Hilton, Sharon Bagatto, Deborah Nanton, Mayor Elizabeth Roy

**Regrets:** Susan Lythgoe, Lynda Krutz, Joanne Smith, Erica Mittag

- 1) **Call to Order**
- 2) **Elections: Chair**, Co-Chair: Lise nominated Joanne, Deborah seconded. Lena nominated Mary, Mary declined. No other nominations. Vote postponed until next meeting when Joanne Smith will be present to accept or decline the nomination.. Deborah nominated Lise for Chair, Carol seconded. No other nominations for Chair. Motion carried.
- 3) **Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting** – Mary moved to approve.
- 4) **Approval of Agenda as amended** – Kim moved to amend adding new sports complex walking track to Agenda. Deborah moved to approve Agenda as amended
- 5) **Presentations/Delegations** - none
- 6) **Council Update** – Mayor Roy
- 7) **General Business**
  - a) **Manager's Report**
    - Updated Recreation Cancellation Policy – Being implemented for spring. Discussed changes to the policy, notably charges for withdrawing from a class. Goal is to prevent users from abusing changes implemented to prevent accounts being created with false Whitby addresses. Verification of addresses will start being done by staff and is already underway for Pickleball users. Goal is to ensure Whitby residents get first opportunity to register for programs.
    - Staffing update – Ashlyn Myers has returned as Grant Coordinator. Noah Spiteri, placement student from Durham College will be working at 55+ Centre on Tuesdays until the end of semester.
    - Welcome letter for new members – The current welcome letter used in New Member Packages is being expanded to include greetings from this Committee, and to direct people to the Community Resource section of the 55+ website. Roz will send out a draft to the Committee

to consider.

- Events procedure (non-members) – deferred to March
- Walking track at new Sports Complex – Kim reviewed current pricing structure at Whitby recreation for those who are 55+. The pricing for the walking track at the new Sports Complex will be approximately \$13.40 per month or \$53 per year. The Committee felt that this was reasonable. **Motion made by Jane that the 55+ Advisory Committee supports the fee structure for the new walking track, seconded by Lise, motion carried.**

b) **Sub-Committee Reports**

- **Program Committee:**
- **Special Events Committee:**
  - Upcoming Events:
    - 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ceremony - February 27 – Mural artist Megan Kehoe will be attending. Staff were unable to reach Elsie Myette's family. Mayor Roy will pursue this for us. There will be a ribbon cutting, the Town Crier will attend. This committee to arrive around 1:30 to help greet
    - St. Patrick's Day Social – March 13
    - Line Dance Disco Party – March 24 – the Committee is willing to help if Sheri needs it.
    - Easter Social Tea – April 2 – this is Ashlyn's event. She will ask for volunteers if needed.
    - Volunteer Appreciation/MSVA – April 23 – Past Present Future, Kristina will attend this Committee's meeting on March 13 to discuss the event.
    - Clue – Great feedback received for this event. People had fun and enjoyed it.
    - New member orientation in March needs two volunteers. Roz will send out a reminder to the group to request as this meeting is running out of time.
  - 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Update – looking for ideas for the months of September, October and November. Volunteer signup sent around to staff the memorabilia table the week of February 23.

8) **Other Business (Committee/Staff)**

- a) Darryl Rice – will get in touch with us after he retires at end of March about possibly doing seminars.
- b) Committee Lunch – unable to do in March – St. Pats
- c) Mayor Roy described a Family Feud night she attended recently and it was a lot of fun. A group organizes the whole thing. Possibly a good fit for a 55+ event.

9) **Community Information Sharing (Members)** - Community Items/Events of interest to share with group. UOIT Age Friendly – Jane attended the AI seminar at UOIT and reported that it was really great. Carol and Deborah went to Wellings of Whitby and gave out lots of info about 55+. Utilize pull up banner for Town of Whitby when attending similar events to identify the group, and have 55+ printed program guides and/or a laptop.

10) **Action Item Review/Next Meeting:**

- a) Friday, March 13, 9:00am at Whitby 55+ Recreation Centre.
- 11) Adjournment at 10:42 am to take part in the Photo for Age Friendly designation by Province of Ontario at 10:45 am.