



MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH GRENVILLE
HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

June 5, 2025, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Held in Meeting Room 1, 285 County Road 44

MEMBERS PRESENT Mayor Nancy Peckford
Nadia Diakun-Thibault
Councillor Kristin Strackerjan
Councillor Deb Wilson
Alain Cayer
Ardis Lerner

MEMBERS ABSENT Mitch Bloom
Manpreet Shahi
Kevin Willey

STAFF PRESENT Amy Martin, Director of Planning & Development
Senterre McKenna, Committee Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT Dawn Rodger, Executive Director Seniors' Community Services
Bill Forbes, President Seniors' Community Services
Councillor Doreen O'Sullivan

A. Call to Order

Co-Chair Nadia Diakun Thibault called the meeting to order at 5:04p.m.

B. Land Acknowledgement

The land acknowledgment was read by Nadia Diakun-Thibault.

C. Adoption of the Agenda

Item G.1. was moved after G.3.

#HAC-2025- 13

Moved By Ardis Lerner
Seconded By Deb Wilson

Be it resolved:

THAT the Committee agenda for June 5, 2025 be approved as presented.

D. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

None.

E. Deputations

None.

1. Seniors Community Services

Dawn Rodger and Bill Forbes provided an overview of the services offered by Seniors' Community Services in North Grenville. The organization supports approximately 820 clients annually, with a team of about 8 staff members and 116 active volunteers. Their programs include Transportation, Meals on Wheels, Footcare, Friendly Visiting, social and recreational activities, and more.

Funding is received through Ontario Health East Champlain, but this funding has not increased in recent years. Despite this, the organization has continued to deliver services, relying heavily on volunteers and strong community support.

The organization recently made a presentation at Queen's Park to a standing committee to advocate for increased funding. Looking ahead, they are seeking to expand their facility to accommodate more clients and are exploring opportunities to offer housing supports, including subsidized housing and longer-term care options for seniors.

It was noted that when seniors contact the Municipality of North Grenville (MNG) regarding recreation programs, they are often referred to Seniors' Community Services. Dawn Rodgers noted that seniors have expressed concerns about the limited availability of municipal services.

Bill Forbes highlighted that some seniors are forced to withdraw retirement savings to cover essential living expenses before becoming eligible for government supports, placing significant financial strain on them.

There are currently limited housing options available for seniors in North Grenville and surrounding rural communities. However, there is a growing focus on expanding senior housing options in future planning initiatives.

Ardis Lerner noted that some existing buildings lack accessibility features for seniors. In response, Amy Martin explained that new developments are subject to accessibility requirements under the Planning Act, which are incorporated into all current planning applications. However, older buildings, particularly in the downtown

core, present more challenges. Amy referred to a Planning Act table outlining accessibility requirements for both commercial and residential units. She also highlighted the Downtown Community Improvement Plan (CIP), which offers funding and incentives for businesses to improve accessibility, alongside specialized grants. She noted that accessibility legislation is updated frequently.

Kristin Strackerjan emphasized that Council remains committed to supporting accessibility and improving housing options for seniors within the community.

Today's presentation will be shared with members following the meeting.

F. Minutes of Previous Meeting

#HAC-2025- 14

Moved By Ardis Lerner

Seconded By Alain Cayer

Be it resolved:

THAT the following meeting minute be approved as circulated:

- Committee Meeting Minutes - April 3, 2025

CARRIED

1. Committee Meeting Minutes - April 3, 2025

Correction to the previous minutes: The name should be updated from Don Rodgers to Dawn Rodgers, and the organization should be listed as Seniors Community Services.

G. Reports and Decision Items

1. Population Growth Study

Amy Martin provided an overview of the Growth Study for North Grenville, explaining that the study was undertaken to support the development of the Housing Needs Assessment. The study incorporated census data and locally collected information to assess current and future housing needs. She also noted that the Official Plan review is currently underway.

Ardis raised questions regarding zoning standards for both residential and commercial buildings, with a particular focus on Additional Residential Units (ARUs) and multi-unit developments. Amy explained

that there are specific limitations and requirements set out by the Planning Act and the Province, which developers must adhere to.

The committee engaged in further discussion about the new housing development near Food Basics, including the installation of roundabouts in the area. Concerns were raised about the use and design of the roundabouts, particularly related to pedestrian safety and crosswalk placement. Ardis emphasized that this highlights a growing need to expand local transportation infrastructure to accommodate new development.

At 6:29 p.m., it was noted that quorum was no longer present. As a result, the meeting was adjourned and no further business was conducted.

2. Extension of Meeting Duration

Kristin left meeting at 5:53pm.

The members agreed to maintain the current two-hour meeting duration.

3. Workplan Review

Ardis Lerner expressed interest in reviewing the Terms of Reference (TOR) and suggested forming a working group to update both the TOR and the Work Plan with relevant and current information. She invited any members interested in contributing to this effort to join the group.

The Mayor Nancy Peckford voiced support for this review and brainstorming process, noting that the Housing Advisory Committee should maintain its focus on housing and community planning.

Working group members: Ardis Lerner, Alain Cayer, and Nadia Diakun-Thibault. Current TOR and Workplan email to working group members.

H. Correspondence

None.

I. Adjournment

No motion was needed to adjourn the meeting. It concluded at 6:29 p.m. due to a loss of quorum.