

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Brandon Age Friendly Committee of Council
Held February 20, 2025, at 5:15 p.m. in the T.E. Snure Room, 638 Princess Avenue**

Present:

Chair Nancy McPherson, PMH Representative
Areta Donnelly, Citizen Representative
Sylvia Barr, Citizen Representative
Jim Doppler, Citizen Representative
Rana Wilkinson, Citizen Representative
Heather Karrouze, Councilor
Perry Roque, City Representative
Carter Greig, Administrative Assistant

Regrets

Pamela McTavish, Program Assistant
Greg Hildebrand, Councilor
Kaley Dueck, Administrative Assistant
Don Kostas, Citizen Representative

1.0 Call to Order

Chair Nancy McPherson called the meeting to order at 5:17 p.m.

Introductions

Carter Greig was introduced to the meeting representatives. N. McPherson informed members that Pamela McTavish will be scaling back her workload to focus on the Age friendly Newsletter and WCG Programming initiative. All other Age Friendly activities will be supported by Committee members.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

(04/2025)

Motion: Areta Donnelly / Rana Wilkinson

To approve the January 22, 2025, Age Friendly Committee meeting agenda with the following additions:

- 6. (b) Manitoba 211 Update
- (c) Motion to extend Pamela McTavish contract.

Carried

3.0 Approval of Age Friendly Committee Minutes

(05/2025)

Motion: Sylvia Barr / Heather Karrouze

To approve the meeting minutes of January 22nd, 2025, as received.

Carried

4.0 Correspondence

None.

5.0 Old Business

a) WCG Programming initiative update

Filming is complete and Pamela McTavish has been working with WCG to organize the raw footage to align with the appropriate AF domain. Pamela will focus on script writing next.

b) March 2025 Newsletter & proposed future content

Pamela McTavish will be sending a draft March Newsletter for committee members' feedback. Pamela has also been following up with the City of Brandon IT department, so each edition is posted on the Age friendly website.

c) Phase I Cycling Without Age initiative update

Nancy McPherson provided an update from the planning team: five (5) product options were explored, and a decision was made to purchase a model called *the Beau* from a Calgary-based company, Cycles Toussaint. The decision was based on price point, Canadian-made and fewer anticipated maintenance issues.

Action Item:

- i) Perry Roque will arrange the transfer of additional funds from the Riverbank Discovery Centre to the Age Friendly account to cover the full costs of the product.**

Motion: Sylvia Barr / Heather Karrouze

That Age Friendly Brandon provide a deposit of 2500.00 as required for the purchase of The Beau bike from Cycles Toussaint.

(06/2025)

Carried

Action Item:

- i) Perry Roque to arrange payment of the required deposit from the Age friendly account.**

d) Seniors Day (Riverbank Discovery Centre) update

Sylvia Barr reported that representatives from Seniors for Seniors, Age Friendly and Riverbank Discovery Centre met on February 5th to begin planning the event. It will be held on August 8 & 9th and offer several information/activity-based stations such as the Peter Sawatsky sculptures, pollinator garden, Brandon Garden Club Discovery Gardens, etc. The event was originally intended to be a one-day event on the weekend but the buses from assisted living facilities do not operate on the weekends, so it is now scheduled for a Friday and Saturday to accommodate those residents. Transportation was identified as a significant issue and potential barrier for seniors to attend the event so various options are being explored.

e) Ageism Workshop update

Areta Donnelly provided an update on the workshop that will be held on May 13th from 1-4 pm at Seniors for Seniors. Jim Doppler, Areta Donnelly, Rana Wilkinson will each facilitate a table. Plans are underway to engage the Chamber of Commerce and CARM to promote the event with the intent to enroll 25-30 people.

f) 2025 Budget update

Heather Karrouze informed the Committee that the Age friendly 2025 budget request was approved by City Council. Perry Roque noted the Committee's presentation on the work of Age friendly over the past year to City Council in December had a positive impact on budget deliberations.

g) Silver Alert update

No update. Brandon Police Service will be meeting in March to discuss further.

h) BU Student Project re: Dementia discussion

Jim Doppler provided an overview of the dementia project final report and facilitated a discussion regarding next steps. This item will remain on the meeting agenda over future meetings to allow the Committee adequate discussion time to brainstorm what the Age Friendly Committee of Council can contribute and what is achievable.

Action Item: Rana Wilkinson will reformat the students' brochure to allow for necessary edits.

i) Vision Zero update

Areta Donnelly: 34th Street walking path will be getting extra street lighting.

j) AF Social Media Account Access

Rana Wilkinson volunteered to lead the AF social media accounts with a focus on Facebook and the website. Susan Boyachek managed the AF Facebook page in the past.

Action Item:

- i) Nancy McPherson is following up with Susan Boyachek on other issues and will obtain access to passwords and account information.**
- ii) Perry Roque will share City of Brandon IT Guidelines with Rana Wilkinson.**

6.0 New Business

a) Age friendly Committee of Council Co-Chair Election

Jim Doppler agreed to let his name stand as co-chair. Nominations from the floor were called three times; no other names came forward.

Motion: Rana Wilkinson / Heather Karrouze

To appoint Jim Doppler as Co-Chair for the remainder of the calendar year.

Carried

b. Manitoba 211

Nancy McPherson received a request from the 211MBteam at United Way Winnipeg for our committee to review our information on the MB211 listing and revise, if necessary.

Discussion: The Age friendly Brandon Information Line is posted on the listing with a brief description of the service. Seniors for Seniors manages the phone line. Nancy McPherson noted the description of the phone line is not accurate and Sylvia Barr reported there have been 219 calls over a 2-year period. It is not known if Seniors 4 Seniors are still receiving calls, if the calls are displayed as AF or if the calls are tracked. Further conversations would be needed before the decision will be made.

Action Item:

- i) Rana Wilkinson will follow-up with Seniors 4 Seniors for more details about the current state of the information line.**

c. Extend Pamela McTavish contract to December 2025

The Committee previously approved the extension of Pamela McTavish's contract as Program Assistant to December 31, 2025 and included the role in the 2025 budget request.

Motion: Areta Donnelly / Rana Wilkinson

To approve the extension of Pamala McTavish contract until December 31, 2025.

Carried

(07/2025)

(08/2025)

7.0 Information Items

None.

8.0 Adjournment

Motion: Jim Doppler / Sylvia Barr

To adjourn the meeting at 6:22 pm.

Carried

(09/2025)

Co-Chairperson

Date

Next Meeting: March 20, 2025

Minutes prepared by Carter Greig.