



**Southeast Vancouver Seniors Arts
And Cultural Centre Society
S-53479**

Meeting # 72

**Champlain Heights Community Centre
Wednesday April 16, 2015 at 10:00AM
www.SVSACS.org – 604-325-0163**

Our Goal: a Dedicated Seniors Centre

Minutes

Present: Lorna Gibbs, George Grant, Ramesh Kalia, Mabel Leung, Margaret Homonnay, Barbara Warner, Beatrice Ho, Joan Wright, Manfred Hagen, Jagjit Mann, Wendy Emslander, Donna Davies, Gail McKay, Pat Deibert.

1. Call to Order – 10:10 am - Lorna Gibbs in the chair
2. Approval of Agenda - moved by Barbara Warner, 2nd by Gail McKay, carried.
3. Approval of Minutes of Meeting 71 - moved by Joan Wright, 2nd by Beatrice Ho, carried.

4. President's Report: Bouquets: The Chair recognized **Ramesh Kalia, Wendy Emslander, Jean Macpherson** and **Eddie So**. Ramesh for her work with Alzheimer patients in Seniors Homes and Eddie for facilitating basic English classes for Chinese-speakers at SVNH. Wendy tutors children in literacy, works at diverse Seniors residences and she and Jean provide home-baked treats for our SVSACS seniors' luncheons. We can all be proud of the work these members do in so in many places. Senior volunteers are the backbone of our communities.

A) Meetings of Note: MLA Moira Stilwell convened a meeting of *Elder Care Services* attended by representatives from many diverse organizations. Margaret Homonnay, Beatrice Ho and myself represented SVSACS. Nelson Didulo, Mohinder Sidhu and Shelley Jorde attended for Seniors' Hub. At the meeting MLA Darryl Plecas, newly-appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Hon. Terry Lake (Min. of Health), was introduced. Mr. Plecas left with 27 items to consider.

B) Seniors' Centre: *This morning (16 April) we received an email notice from Ainslie Kwan that Sandra Korpan (COV) proposing a meeting with Building Committee at end of April. Date to be negotiated.*

C) SVSACS Annual General Meeting will be September 11th at 7:00 pm and held at Killarney CC, Room 203. Members must be in good standing with current Memberships to cast a vote at the AGM. Duties will be assigned at June Meeting and all Directors are expected to attend. Most current directors and officers have indicated that they are willing to stand for another term, however further nominations can be made verbally at our June meeting, by email to SVSACS@gmail.com or by letter mail to:

Southeast Vancouver Seniors Arts & Cultural Centre Society
6260 Killarney Street
Vancouver, B.C. V5S 2X7

D) Visit to view Kerrisdale Seniors Centre on April 30th (bus and lunch included) as guests of Killarney's Senior Association. You must register immediately at Killarney Reception

to participate. First come, first served. Bus leaves at 11:00 am, lunch provided. Return at 2:00 pm. This will provide an opportunity to observe a successful seniors centre in action.

5. New Business – Beatrice Ho reported on the Mayor’s Council.

On March 20, the newly constituted Seniors’ Advisory committee, to serve through 2017, expressed grave concerns regarding the definition of social housing, (previously referred to as low cost housing). The Seniors’ Advisory Committee urges Council to defer approval of the definition of social housing until there is an opportunity for clarification and to consult with other Vancouver Civic Agencies so that Council is in a position to make an informed decision on this definition. If the definition is not deferred, the Seniors’ Advisory Committee cannot support this proposal as presented because of lack of clarity regarding the definition of social housing and its potential impacts.

A Council of Councils meeting will be held on April 27, 2015.

Vancouver Coastal Health is redeveloping both Pearson Hospital and Dogwood Lodge. These facilities are being replaced with new housing options. A briefing is scheduled Tuesday, April 28 at 4:00 pm. Dogwood Lodge is located at 500 West 57th just west of Cambie Street.

The Seniors Advisory Committee was designated by Council to be part of this consultation.

Some information at: <http://vancouver.ca/home-property-development/pearson.aspx>

The Park Board Liaison provided updates on a number of topics including:

- Potential increased budget for garbage clean up in parks and chafer beetle management
- Moving forward with the Killarney Seniors Centre
- [The] Library is beginning a pilot project with the Alzheimer’s Society and other community groups to raise awareness and friendliness around dementia, and explore the Library’s role in the project.

Beatrice will be organizing outreach meetings in the South East Vancouver Area.

Joan Wright spoke on **Advocacy on behalf of Seniors' Concerns for the Fall 2015 Federal Election** and Outlined by the National Framework on Aging:

Dignity - being treated with respect, regardless of situation, and possessing a sense of self-esteem.

Independence - being in control of your own life, able to do as much as possible for yourself, and making your own choices.

Participation - getting involved, staying active, taking part in the community as well as being consulted, and having government consider your views.

Fairness - giving real needs, in all their diversity, equal consideration with those of other Canadians.

Security - having an adequate income and access to a safe and supportive living environment.

Issues of Concern to Seniors: Strengthen income support & pension reform

- Restore OAS eligibility age to 65 from 67
- Increase the exempt earning band for GIS
- Increase the amount of OAS and GIS for low income seniors

Healthcare Transformation

- National Seniors Care Plan - Federal Government support [for] all levels of government to develop a national strategy on seniors care

• Placement, Drugs and Therapy - Isobel Mackenzie's April 15 Report.
News release: <https://www.seniorsadvocatebc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2014/10/SA-news-release-Placement-Drugs-Therapy.pdf>

Full 28 report here: <https://www.seniorsadvocatebc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2014/10/SA-Placement-Drugs-Therapy-Report.pdf>

- Homecare and Assisted Living - CURAC, Sherbrooke's Assisted Living, Neighbourly Together, Health Authority
- National Dementia Plan - Denmark's experience - timely diagnosis, self-determination for the person with dementia, unbroken "care chain", better possibilities for the relief of informal carers, balanced view on assistive technology, de-stigmatization
- Caregivers - It's time for governments to step up and care for our caregivers
- End of Life Care - Palliative Care Initiatives & Physician-assisted Suicide
- Affordable and Supportive Housing - follow up with MPs you contacted during the 2013 campaign. Let them know how you feel about their vote (in favour or against) with letters, emails, or comments on social media. Encourage them to prioritize housing and homelessness and to work in non-partisan ways to develop lasting solutions. Canada must do more to end homelessness and ensure everyone has access to a decent place to live.

6. Adjournment at 11:45 am - moved by Pat Deibert, 2nd by Beatrice Ho, carried.

Wednesday May 6, 2015 Luncheon/Movie: *Belle* - (2013) Drama · 104 min · PG
Luncheon for 1st 30 seniors to register served at 11:30 am. Registration open from Apr. 22nd to Apr. 29th call 604-718-6575. Reservation not required for the movie. Coffee/tea available.
Movie start time 12:20

Thursday May 7 – Celebrate bird week – **create your own bird paintings – free instruction** by renowned Chinese Brush painter Mabel Leung. 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm at Moberly Arts & Cultural Centre, 7646 Prince Albert St.

Next meeting: Thursday, May 21, 2015, 10:00 am at CHCC. Everyone is welcome.
Topic: *Navigating the Health Care System*

Upcoming Events

Saturday June 6 - Champlain Heights CC Spring Fair - 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.
We exhibit at this event and need five or six volunteers over two shifts. If you can help please email or call me at 604-321-3067.

SVSACS PARTNERS are all working together to get a real Seniors Centre for you!

