

# Whitby 55+ Recreation Advisory Committee (2025)



## Meeting Minutes

Friday, February 14, 2025 – 9:00 a.m.

Location: Boardroom (Upstairs), Brooklin Community Centre & Library

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**Present:** Lise Watt, Joanne Smith, Mary Poirier, Jane Hilton, Lynda Kruitz, Lena Ebrekdjian, Susan Lythgoe, Sharon Bagatto, Carol James, Deborah Nanton, Erica Mittag, Roz Puddester, Kristina Von Eschscholtz, Amanda Wood

**Regrets:** Mayor Elizabeth Roy

- 1) **Call to Order**
- 2) **Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting** – Lynda requested a revision to Supervisor’s Report item 3 by including Sharon’s name. Deborah moved to approve Minutes as Amended.
- 3) **Approval of Agenda** – As amended – Susan moved to approve.
- 4) **Presentations/Delegations**
  - **Spring Fling Fashion Show** (Amanda) – “Spring into Style” will be a fashion show and accessory swap. The Pink Jaguar vintage store in Brooklin will provide outfits for the models. Each outfit will be discussed regarding themes, patterns, skin tones, etc. A raffle will be held for a “style package”. An accessory swap party – bring a few accessories to get tickets to be able to swap for “new” items brought by other attendees. Joanne will present on the psychology of fashion. Deborah may know a hairstylist who could be a presenter. Jane may know a makeup artist to be a presenter. This will be a registered event with refreshments for a \$10 fee. The event will be on Tuesday, April 1, at 6:00 p.m. at the Brooklin Community Centre and Library (BCCL). Amanda to look at getting a larger room so the attendance number can be higher. Lynda, Sharon, Jane, Susan, Carol, Deborah and Lise volunteered to model
  - **Volunteer Appreciation Event** (Kristina) – The event will be held on May 1. This year’s new caterer is Angels Taste of Home, whose price of \$24.95 per person, is much lower than previous caterers. They will provide servers to bring around hot appetizers. There will be two tables of cold appetizers. They will supply all linens, china and cutlery, and cocktail napkins. We will have a table stocked with masquerade masks for people who do not bring one (purchase masks from Temu as they have low prices). Waiting for confirmation that the Melotones will perform. The invitation list will include 2024 volunteers as well as 2025 volunteers who began with us by February 14, 2025. Kristina will ensure that all eligible volunteers are included. Final attendance numbers to be provided to the caterer by April 28. There have been 3 nominations received so far for the Mayor’s Senior Volunteer Award. The group discussed several people that they would like to nominate. Susan is not looking to nominate anyone and so she volunteered to shadow Jane and be a committee judge. The event sponsors will also supply two judges, for a total of three. A planning meeting to finalize details will be held on Wednesday March 12 from 9am to 11am in the 55+ Boardroom.

## 5) General Business

- **Supervisor's Report** (Supervisor)

- Whitby Public Library Seniors' Wellness Series** – Mary, David, Jane and Erica met with the Whitby Public Library staff recently as the grant project will finish at the end of March. The purpose of the grant was to increase access to programs and support for older adults. The “Steps to Retirement” was a very popular workshop, along with workshops on mental health and technology. Also held were workshops on Mystery Arts and Crafts, Chair Yoga and Bibliotherapy (a new program). Library staff are hoping to continue with some of the workshops and apply for the grant again when it becomes available.
- Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC)**– Has new members and the Committee would like to meet with this, and other, committees for opportunities to partner and share ideas. The AAC helps Council and staff meet obligations under the Ontarians with Disabilities Act. They may have a table at the Active Living Fair to promote and raise awareness of what they do. The AAC contributes to an Accessibility Workplan and has consulted with the 55+ Recreation Advisory Committee in the past. Deborah is interested in getting involved with that committee. Will they review the 55+ Recreation Centre for accessibility issues? There are currently issues with the acoustics in some of the rooms affecting those with hearing loss. Staff are actively working on solving this issue now.
- Seniors' Active Living Centre Survey** – It is a requirement of the funding that 55+ Recreation receives to provide reporting in June of the effectiveness and engagement of our members. A member survey will be available starting Thursday, February 20 until Friday, March 14. Survey results will be compiled into a report.

- **Sub-Committee Reports** (Members)

- Program Committee:** (Kristina, Amanda, Lise, Joanne) Sharon requested Kristina to remind Ukulele Group to be welcoming, inclusive and respectful.
- Special Events Committee:** (Kristina, Jessica, Lise, Joanne, Mary, Sharon, Lena, Lynda, Susan)

Discussion:

- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – Ashlyn is working with Dr. Peter Menzies on developing a workshop for this occasion, to be held Friday, September 26, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. She is also working with Janet Dugan to set up an Orange Shirt beading workshop. Dates for both events are still to be confirmed.

Upcoming Events:

- Mayor's Senior Volunteer Award Nominations – January 13 to March 7
- Valentine's Social – Friday, February 14 (2:00 p.m.)
- St Patrick's Day Social – Friday, March 14 (6:00 p.m.)
- Murder Mystery – Friday, March 28 (2:00 p.m.)
- Spring Fling Fashion Show – Tuesday, April 1 (6:00 p.m.)
- Volunteer Appreciation Event – Thursday, May 1, (6:30 p.m.)

iii. **New Members Committee** (Erica, Roz, Lise, Mary)

- Wednesday, March 26, 10:00 a.m. – Lynda and Deborah volunteered. Discussed the larger than expected number of attendees at the last two sessions. Roz will see if there is a larger room that can be used as we don't want to turn people away who come.

6) **Other Business (Committee/Staff)** – Extravaganza in June: the Quilt group asked if name can be changed from Quilt Bazaar as it is so much more than just a bazaar. Erica will ask Jessica to come to the March meeting to discuss the plans for the event.

7) **Council Update (Mayor Roy)** - regrets

8) **Community Information Sharing (Members)** - Community Items/Events of interest to share with group.

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

- Erica to get Deborah in touch with the Accessibility Advisory Committee.
- Erica to invite Jessica to the March meeting to review the Extravaganza plans.
- Lynda to poll members of Kitchen Table Euchre about noise/hearing issues in the Craft Room and report to Lise and Kristina.
- Continue working to resolve acoustics in Craft Room.
- Kristina to remind convenors about Fair Play.
- **Next Meeting:** Friday, March 14, 9:00am at the 55+ Recreation Centre, Lena to provide snack.

10) **Adjournment** at 11:01 a.m.