

## CITY OF JOONDALUP

### MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE SENIORS INTERESTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD IN CONFERENCE ROOM 3, JOONDALUP CIVIC CENTRE, BOAS AVENUE, JOONDALUP ON WEDNESDAY, 5 APRIL 2006

#### ATTENDANCE

##### Committee Members:

SHARLEEN MANN (Chair)	Industry Representative - Silver Chain
ALLYN BRYANT	Industry Representative - Association of Independent Retirees
DIANE DAVIES WHITE	Industry Representative – Seniors Recreation Council of WA (Inc) <i>from 0955 hrs</i>
JOY COLEMAN	Community Representative
MARGARET MARCH	Community Representative

##### Officers:

Manager Community Development Services	GRAEME HALL
Community Development Officer:	LANIE PIANTA
Minute Clerk	GILLIAN HAMPSON

##### In Attendance:

Peter Boam	Industry Representative – WA Retirement Complexes Residents Association
Sue Chapman	Department for Community Development

#### DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Chairperson declared the meeting open at 0940 hrs.

#### APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

##### Apologies

Jeanette McDonald	Community Vision Inc
Valerie Corey	Community Representative
Patricia Geary	Community Representative

#### CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

##### MINUTES OF THE SENIORS INTERESTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 1 FEBRUARY 2006

**MOVED** Allyn Bryant, **SECONDED** Joy Coleman that the minutes of the meeting of the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee held on 1 February 2006 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

The Motion was Put and

**CARRIED (4/0)**

In favour of the Motion: Sharleen Mann, Allyn Bryant, Margaret March and Joy Coleman.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION**

Resignation of Representative from National Seniors.

**DECLARATIONS OF FINANCIAL INTEREST**

Nil.

**IDENTIFICATION OF MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY SIT BEHIND CLOSED DOORS**

Not Applicable.

**PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS**

Nil.

*Diane Davies-White entered the Room at 0955hrs.*

## REPORTS

### ITEM 1 FOCUS AND STRATEGIC DIRECTION OF THE SENIORS INTERESTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE - [55511]

**WARD:** All

**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR:** Mr Clayton Higham  
Director Planning and Community Development

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## PURPOSE

To enable members of the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee to make recommendations to progress the identified priority focus areas and the strategic direction of the Committee.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Through workshop participation in August and November 2005 and further discussion in February 2006, the Committee broadly identified its priority key strategic focus areas for 2006 and beyond. These were determined to be: health; access to information; accessibility and affordability of transport; and entertainment/GOLD Program.

The purpose of discussion at the April 2006 meeting is to determine strategic actions that the Committee can implement or recommend in order to best meet the needs of seniors in the community. Priority actions will be determined in the context of the City's Strategic Plan and Seniors Plan 2003 – 2008.

## BACKGROUND

Providing advice to Council, to ensure that the concerns of seniors are adequately represented in the City's planning processes and strategic directions are developed for older people across the City, is the primary objective of the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee.

At the first two meetings of the Committee on 3 August 2005 and 3 November 2005, members began a process of workshop discussions with the aim of identifying issues/areas for focus, to assist with planning for the future strategic direction of the Committee. City officers facilitated the workshop process. The subsequent Committee meeting on 1 February 2006 provided the opportunity, through further discussion, to identify four priority focus issues/areas for the Committee to address strategically.

This important process, which occurred over several Committee meetings, enabled the Committee to determine those issues/ areas that would direct its focus and strategic direction through 2006 and beyond. This particular process will be completed, at the meeting on 5 April 2006, when Committee members will recommend options for the best way to progress the identified priorities.

## DETAILS

Given that the objective of the Committee is to provide advice to Council to ensure that concerns of seniors are adequately represented in the City's planning processes and strategic direction; it is essential that the Committee determines the needs of those seniors and identifies strategies to achieve those needs. Recommendations from the Committee will need to be relevant, appropriate and informed.

The Committee was asked to consider several statements and questions, which included: identifying current relevant and important issues for seniors; the local impact of these issues for seniors; the role of the Committee; current priorities for the Committee; and the strengths and gaps of the Seniors Plan.

Issues identified by the Committee as being important for seniors included: health; personal safety; accessibility and affordability of transport; information access; family support; entertainment; social isolation; financial issues; positive ageing; staying physically active; and accommodation i.e. future needs, retirement, contract advice.

At the Committee meeting of 1 February 2006, as part of the ongoing process, members were asked to note and discuss the information that was provided at the two previous meetings. The Committee was then asked to act upon the recommendation that, members: identify and prioritise the Committee's key strategic focus areas for 2006 and how the Committee could progress those prioritised key focus areas.

The Committee concluded the four general areas for priority focus in 2006 and beyond are:

- health issues related to seniors;
- access to information;
- transport accessibility and affordability;
- and entertainment/GOLD Program.

Options for progressing the priority focus areas include:

- Developing a reviewed directory for seniors and people with disabilities which promotes holistic positive, active, healthy ageing and well being i.e. social, economic, cultural, physical, spiritual;
- Reviewing and publishing the directory bi-annually, enabling it to remain a relevant, up-to-date, sustainable holistic resource which reflects current accurate information, concepts, trends and issues for seniors and people with disabilities;
- Linking the seniors directory with the concept that underpinned the Living Now: Seminar for Seniors which captured all priority focus areas identified by the Committee plus additional issues of relevance i.e. accommodation, financial issues, social isolation;
- Holding an annual seminar which offers seniors the opportunity to be informed and active participants in life and issues relevant for them;
- Seeking funding through appropriate advertising and/or grant application which complements the seniors directory and seminar content and target audience of seniors and people with disabilities.

- Committee members to actively participate in the planning process for the 2007 Joondalup Festival and festivals thereafter; ensuring that seniors' participation needs are considered and included. This may include linking with the GOLD Program and/or other "yet to be determined" relevant individuals, programs or community groups.

These options meet active ageing aims, which are to optimise opportunities for people to realise their potential for social, physical and psychological / emotional well being and quality of life as they move through the lifecycle into ageing. Active ageing is a more comprehensive concept than simply the ability to be physically active. It acknowledges the importance of older people being recognised by society as active and valuable contributors and participators as individuals and within family, peer and community relationships.

The options described, will assist the Committee to make recommendations to Council for endorsement, which will then allow for the progression of the strategic focus priority areas; enabling implementation to proceed.

#### **Link to Strategic Plan:**

The Seniors Interests Advisory Committee and the Seniors Plan 2004 – 2008 are linked to the Strategic Plan through the plan's objectives, which include:

- 1.1 To develop, provide and promote a diverse range of lifelong learning opportunities.
- 1.3 To continue to provide services that meets the changing needs of a diverse and growing community.
- 1.4 To work with the community to enhance safety and security in a healthy environment.
- 3.3 To continue to meet changing demographic needs.
- 4.3 To ensure the City responds to and communicates with the community.

#### **Legislation – Statutory Provisions:**

The strategic actions of the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee are not bound by legislation.

#### **Regional Significance:**

The Seniors Interests Advisory Committee is fundamentally a locally focused working group, established by Council to advocate for the needs of seniors within the City of Joondalup. The Committee's participation in future planning processes and subsequent strategic direction for the needs of seniors within the City is crucial. It provides a mechanism or process whereby: the interests of seniors can be represented; where concerns, needs and issues can be identified by appropriate people; and where recommendations can be made to Council through legitimate formal processes.

Although there may be some issues unique to seniors within the City of Joondalup, it is probable that they are likely to have similar concerns as many seniors throughout the state and Australia. Therefore, whilst focusing and operating at a local level, the Committee has and does consider issues that impact upon seniors from regional, state and national perspectives.

**Sustainability implications:**

The active participation of members of the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee in future planning for their community is crucial in order to develop and grow a healthy, equitable, active and involved community that will sustain provision of services for seniors that: considers their needs, are relevant and appropriate.

**COMMENT**

The Seniors Interests Advisory Committee has been presented with options, which if implemented through recommendations, will provide practical ways to begin to address the priority focus areas. The process undertaken to date validates and acknowledges the concept of active ageing, whereby older people are valued and active participants in their own community and elsewhere, whose own voices determine their own needs.

The ongoing effectiveness of the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee is dependant on Committee members engaging, participating and contributing through developmental processes, which inform the future planning and strategic direction of the Committee.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1

Seniors Plan 2004 - 2008

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee supports the following initiatives to:

1. HOST a seminar for seniors in 2006 that focuses on positive, active and healthy ageing;
2. DEVELOP the focus of the directory for seniors and those with disabilities to be aligned with the positive, active and healthy ageing concept;
3. SEEK external funding from appropriate sources to support the implementation of both the senior's seminar and the directory;
4. DEVELOP a strategy that encourages the active participation of seniors in future Joondalup Festivals by Committee representation and involvement in the planning process for the 2007 Joondalup Festival.

**MOVED Margaret March, SECONDED Sharleen Mann that the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee:**

- 1. HOST a seminar for seniors in 2006 that focuses on positive, active and healthy ageing;**
- 2. DEVELOP the focus of the directory for seniors and those with disabilities to be aligned with the positive, active and healthy ageing concept;**
- 3. SEEK external funding from appropriate sources to support the implementation of both the senior's seminar and the directory;**
- 4. DEVELOP a strategy that encourages the active participation of seniors in future Joondalup Festivals by Committee representation and involvement in the planning process for the 2007 Joondalup Festival.**

Discussion ensued regarding hosting a working seminar for seniors in 2006. Various options were discussed including a venue, date, name of the seminar and content.

Several suggestions were discussed including:

*Seminar*

- Thought to be given to the name of seminar to best attract seniors.
- A name was suggested: "Whole of Life Long Learning for Seniors."
- Event to be holistic, reflecting positive, active ageing, health and wellbeing.
- Possible presenters / speakers from a whole range of appropriate agencies i.e. Centrelink, Office of the Public Advocate, Office of Seniors Interests.
- Speaker knowledgeable on retirement village issues i.e. possible pitfalls of entering into legal contacts and the importance of having sound advice.
- Information on the issue of reverse mortgaging.
- Entertainment to be a part of event.
- Events to be held during the week of 11-15 September 2006.
- Seminar format to be a series of event/workshop type events over a week, with events to be held in various venues throughout City of Joondalup.
- Community Development Officer to provide a draft programme at next meeting.

*Funding – Directory / Seminar*

- Outside funding to be sought.
- Several possibilities regarding funding Directory, these include: a grant; selling advertising space; or a combination of advertising space and a grant.
- Advertisement space reflective of and complementary to Directory contents.

*Strategy for active participation of seniors in Joondalup Festival*

- The Committee to actively participate in future meetings / planning sessions for the 2007 Joondalup Festival.

**The Motion was put and**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5/0)**

**In favour of the Motion: Sharleen Mann, Allyn Bryant, Diane Davies-White, Joy Coleman and Margaret March.**

**MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

Nil.

**REQUESTS FOR REPORTS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION**

Nil.

**CLOSURE**

The Chairperson advised the next meeting would be held on Wednesday, 7 June 2006 and closed the meeting at 1110 hrs.