

TOWN OF KIRKLAND LAKE
AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY PLANNING
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Tuesday, April 11th, 2017

Council Chambers
3 Kirkland Street
Kirkland Lake, ON

Town Planner, Ashley Bilodeau presented the scope of the Committee. She advised the group that the purpose of the meetings will be to create a plan, which can be approved by Town Council. Although Town Council cannot control or change these issues, the plan can be supported by Town Council.

The following are discussions which took place during that meeting.

Housing: There is a need for senior housing (everything on one floor is ideal). The waiting lists are very long, some being over 10 years and other over 20 years.

There is a need for more assisted living services. Currently the CCAC is available, however they are not available to all, and they only provide some services. It would be nice to see common rooms made available, as many seniors do not get out of their homes/ apartments and would benefit from a social setting close to their own rooms.

Transportation: Grocery stores pay the local bus company to supply a bus for seniors to do their grocery shopping. Currently this service is available to the two grocery stores and the mall, and they pick up at centralized locations, such as the large senior complexes (eg. DTSSAB & KL Non-Profit). It would be nice to have additional shopping locations to the list, along with private pick ups or additional pick up locations.

Temiskaming Home Support also offers a travel service for transportation to appointments, not only in town, but also out of town appointments.

A discussion about walking areas in town was had. The group felt that Kinross pond is a really nice place to walk around, however it is unfortunate that it is unmaintained during the winter months. The group was advised that it was never the intention to maintain the pond over the winter months, however the Complex is available for walking anytime of the year, and there is also a walking group two nights a week during the winter months at the High School, KLDCS. The group discussed various locations that are nice to go to such as the Encore Club, however it

can be difficult to get there, whether it's due to lack of transportation or lack of snow removal on certain sidewalks.

The group also discussed the need for development incentives. They felt that our taxes are too high and that makes it difficult to bring in new development. Ashley explained that incentives can be offered through a Community Improvement Plan such as offering a tax incentive, eg. no taxes for first two years of operations.

At the end of the meeting it was apparent that there is a lack of communication in regards to getting the information out there. The group was advised that going forward there will be one meeting per month to discuss one of the eight (8) topics. The public was then asked to sign up to any one or all of the topics; and they will be informed of the next date.