



**Council on Aging Grey Bruce (COAGB) Meeting**  
**Friday, March 13, 2020**  
**Time: 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**  
**Location: Chesley Community Centre**

**WELCOME**, introductions by Chair, Tanya S., and sign-in attendance sheet circulated.

**PRESENT:** Wally H., Audrey W., Doug W., Tanya S., Amber S., Ed P., Lynn S., Frank E., Ann M., Brian G., Sharon Mc., Linda I., Mary-Beth L., David B., Muriel S.

**GUEST:** Carly S.

**REGRETS:** Jan C., Sharron C., and Pam Mc.

**TELECONFERENCE:** Meri-Diane, and Loretta D.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

Additions:

1. Elections after Greetings
2. June 2020, Senior's Fair: under Executive
3. Doug W. Two Letters re Dental Plan & Pharmacare: under Roundtable
4. COPVID-19: Lynn S. after Roundtable Reports

**CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

Tabled until next meeting: Ann to resend and Sharon Mc. will reply as received.

**GREETINGS FROM ARRAN-ELDERSLIE:** A welcome was extended both to Carly S. by the COAGB, and by Carly on behalf of the municipality. Doug W. noted how instrumental Carly's support has been in informally highlighting the work of the COAGB. (Note: Communities in Arran-Elderslie include 'Allenford, Arkwright, Arranvale, Burgoyne, Chesley, Dobbinton, Dreamland, Dunblane, Ellengowan, Elsinore, Gillies Hill, Invermay, Kelly's Corners, Lockerby, Mount Hope, Paisley, Salem, Salisbury, Tara, Vesta and Willisroft'.')

**ELECTIONS:** Wally H. noted that a COAGB Slate of Officers has been sent out to members over past three months.

- Call for nominations from the Floor three times
- Slate Reviewed by Wally
- All on the Slate chose to stand.

**MOTION:** Moved by Sharon Mc. that nominations close, and that the current COAGB Slate of Officers stand. Seconded by Doug W.

**CARRIED**

## REPORTS

- a) **HOUSING CHAIR UPDATE:** Jan C. /Wally H. as Designate Housing update has nothing current to report with the exception of the change in the planned Feb. 27th event on Housing, which has been moved, due to inclement weather to April 23<sup>rd</sup>, (same location and time: Ginger Press, Owen Sound, 7pm). **Note:** This event has now been delayed due to COVID-19 measures.

Wally also reported that Grey County has just posted for a Homelessness Outreach. The homeless are often an invisible population, but very much present. He also noted that Saugeen Shores Housing Initiative has a working group set up, and will host the COAGB in June to address what they are doing, with further details to come. Wally noted that the opportunity for the COAGB to hold its meetings in various municipalities has resulted in positive outcomes such as this one.

- b) **FINANCIAL UPDATE:** David B. Treasurer

Last month David reported that our COAGB has setup a bank account of our own at Meridian. All funding being held for us by the ALC (1276.91) has been received and deposited in this meridian account.

In addition, we have received honorariums from the Lions Head Legion (135), and Hanover Active Aging Expo, (300) for services provided, and a donation from the South East Grey Community Health Centre (550)

ALCGB	1276.91	Transfer
Lion Head Legion	135.00	Speaker Honorarium
Hanover Active Aging Expo	300.00	Speaker
Honorarium		
SEGCHC	550.00	Administration
<u>Funding</u>		
<u>Total</u>	2261.91	

David B.: looking at costing out an in-focus projector - \$800 approx. – concerned about warrantee available and repair – Tanya mentioned preferred customer site available at Staples – perhaps Tanya can do some background work – corporate flyer – Wally suggested sending quote on projector and laptop to Tanya

- c) **EXECUTIVE UPDATE:** Tanya S.

1. **COAGB, An Advocate for Seniors:** Although there wasn't a formal Executive meeting in February, Tanya summarized the follow-up that has occurred, particularly in one particular case regarding a senior requesting assistance from the COAGB. Tanya stressed the importance of the role of the COAGB as a consistent, proactive advocate, and sounding board for seniors in Grey Bruce.

2. **Frail Seniors' Strategy (FSS):** Tanya also reported on the FSS, initiated two years ago by the London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC). According to the LHSC the "Strategy will work to create locally integrated systems of care that shift the way services are offered for this underserved population." Tanya attended their information session and, because the strategy was specific to the London area, the information is in the process of being adapted to the needs of Grey Bruce. An information session at Bayshore Community Centre a year ago was filled to capacity. Tanya gave a broad stroke talk to those in Grey Highlands and Southgate and would like to ensure members of the COAGB have this information as well. Amber S. has seen the presentation, which focuses on e.g. memory clinics/ respite, etc. Tanya will take the two proposed dates in June and July, in various suggested locations (Markdale, Dundalk, Port Elgin or Saugeen Shores) and organize an information session and lunch using either dates. Sharron C. is also helping to organize an event. Linda I. will speak with her for further information.

3. **Seniors Fair and COAGB's involvement:** Tanya reported that Cori at the ALC asked Tanya and the COAGB to book our own table for the upcoming Seniors Fair on June 3, 2020.

**MOTION:** David B. moved that the COAGB register for the Seniors Fair and include a request that COAGB's table be situated beside the Active Learning Centre's (ALC's) table, at a cost of \$75. Seconded by Sharon Mc.

**CARRIED**

David B. will contact Francesca Dobbin at the United Way regarding this action item.

d) **COMMUNICATION CHAIR UPDATE:** Wally H.: see report

e) **ROUNDTABLE:** ALL

**Meri-Diane:** reported on a recent meeting in which COVID-19 protocols were reviewed, and the Community Safety and Well-Being Committee was introduced.

**Loretta D.:** reported on the Hanover Library talk and the HCSS name change, and also provided a VON update, stating that events may be cancelled due to COVID-19 (e.g. the March 31<sup>st</sup> event). A recent meeting focused on the safety of health care professionals and others at VON and COVID-19, she said.

**Doug W.:** Doug welcomed the COAGB to the Chesley Community Centre and reported on two letters of concern written by President Susanne Robarts, on behalf of The United Senior Citizens of Ontario and sent to the Minister for Seniors & Accessibility (Honourable Raymond Cho, MPP) and Honourable Deb

Schulte, MP. In these letters the USCO advocated for the expansion of the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program, and included the need to raise the financial thresholds for eligibility, as well as a strongly urged “the Federal Government to implement a Canada-wide Pharmacare Program immediately, for the benefit of seniors”. Doug shared the contents of these letters with the COAGB, and provided copies to the secretary for the Minutes. He also reported that the Chesley Community Centre room is provided free of charge for The USCO. Finally Doug stated that he did an interview for Rogers Cable where he discussed both The USCO and the COAGB, and he will try to acquire a copy for COAGB members.

**Audrey W.:** no report

**Wally H.:** no further report

**David B.: Kincardine: The Kincardine Area Senior Action/Advisory Committee (KASAAC)**

“The KASAAC hosted a workshop on Tues. Mar. 10<sup>th</sup> at Trillium Court, while we did not have a lot of feedback for our report, we did have 3 attendees who are very interested in being involved with KASAAC. A further workshop is planned for Tiverton in April. All the feedback gleaned from these workshops will be included in the final Kincardine Report.

**OACA (Ontario Association of Councils on Aging):** No New information to share at this time.

David B. has been in contact with West Grey – 10:30 a.m. May 26<sup>th</sup> West Grey Council Chambers, Durham – for Council - Second presentation”

**Mary-Beth L.:** Mary Beth reported that she met with staff from the Municipality of Georgian Bluffs who committed their supported to the development of an Advisory Committee. They are willing to provide municipal space in order to meet, and recommended a member of Council be on the Committee. Mary Beth also met with Deb F., a leader of the Kilsyth seniors group. Together they agreed that Deb F. would share with her group, Mary Beth’s request to host a May or June workshop for the Kilsyth seniors. Mary Beth also reported on the classes available by a qualified fitness instructor with the VON, who leads Fitness in Wiarton 2 days a week, including both aerobic and strength training. She also shared with the COAGB, the inspiring CBC documentary titled ‘Never Too Old’ about an 85 year old woman and activist in P.E.I. who successfully defended her PhD. dissertation and achieved her doctorate.

<https://www.cbc.ca/cbcdocspov/episodes/never-too-old>

**Linda I.:** reported on the Safe Community meeting that occurred yesterday and the ‘We Love How You Drive’ program.

**Sharon Mc.:** reported on the ALC funding for the Seniors ASK grant and its second phase, as well as the training for all volunteers on the phone system. F. Dobbin completed a presentation on 211, and the ALC picked up 5 different areas for its ASK program including North Bruce Peninsula, Cape Croker, South Bruce Peninsula, Kincardine/Southgate and Arran-Elderslie. Sharon also reported that the ALC is interviewing a week from today for a Peer Support Leader. Tanya S., Jan C., and Sharon Mc. are on the Steering Committee, and Linda I., and Brian G. are volunteers for the ALC. Sharon said that the ALC will be partnering with South Grey for the phone system, and noted that as of now there is not a representative from the COAGB on the ALC. The ALC meets the fourth Tuesday of the month.

**Muriel W.:** reported on Dundalk Housing stating that FLATO Developments Inc. is hosting a Preview Event on April 11/20 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 300 Hagan St. E., Dundalk for Edgewood Suites, Adult Lifestyle Community. Register at <https://www.edgewoodsuites.ca..> FLATO is also working to build townhomes, and another developer will be building single-story smaller homes. Muriel also reported that on Tuesday March 17/20 Sheatre will be presenting 'Ye Canna Throw Yer Grannie Under the Bus!' a presentation on elder abuse, from 12 p.m. until 3 p.m., and this event includes lunch. Call Tanya S. to register. (Note: COVID-19 measures in place will impact these events.)

**Brian G.:** no report

**Ann M.:** requested again for COAGB **Roundtable Reports** to be submitted by COAGB members prior to, during, or shortly after the meeting. Point form, handwritten, typed, sent online, or otherwise is acceptable and appreciated. She reiterated that COAGB Roundtable Reports ensure clarity in the Minutes, particularly regarding upcoming events, and speed up the completion of the Minutes considerably, so that they can be posted online. Ann gave her email address and she thanked all those who have provided her with their reports.

**Frank E.:** reported on the kits, which can be ordered, complete with cds and songs, to help relate to people with memory problems and dementia. He noted that libraries will also have this resource available to people.

**Lynn S.:** reported that, based on the success of the recent Lunch and Learn with Tanya S., Lisa A., and Sandra H., it was determined that these events will be offered four times a year. Lunch and Learn four times a year

**Ed P.:** reported on a recent presentation on hearing by ActivEars Hearing Centre, which was attended by 30 participants. He stated that another event is planned on the topic of Alzheimer's on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Ed also summarized the answer recently provided regarding the rent problem they are facing.

**Amber S.:** Amber requested that COAGB members bring their name tags back and forth to meetings, and noted the display board that is now available for use in future. She shared information on the Hanover Age Friendly Committee. Amber also provided a COVID-19 update for the COAGB, noted below.

**Tanya S.:** see below

**COVID-19 Update:**

**Amber S.:** reported that she is anticipating a shift in work for herself and co-workers as a result of COVID-19, thus may be more unavailable. Her main focus is to bring the key messages to share regarding COVID-19. She advised to check first regarding travel for updates and reinforced that masks are for the sick and not for the general public. Handouts were provided, and the Health Units are continually monitoring the situation she stated.

**Tanya S.:** reported that a top down approach is in place for direction on COVID-19, including the World Health Organization, Health Canada, Federal and Provincial governments and local Health Units, all of whom are providing a consistent and regularly updated plan of action. Grey Bruce County is currently considered a low risk area for COVID-19, she said. Tanya also spoke about the decision to extend the March Break for school children due to COVID-19 and the higher risk impact by people travelling. She reported that events with groups of 250 or more have been discontinued. Letters have been sent out to all CEOs with a list of the assurances and safeguards to follow, all of which are necessary to maintain a sanitary level to stop the spread of the disease. Finally, Tanya said to CALL TeleHealth Services at 1-866-797-0000 if you suspect COVID-19.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 11:50 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING:** NOTE: The APRIL MEETING IS CANCELLED – Happy Easter everyone.

**MAY MEETING:** Details TBD pending COVID-19 Update: If meeting in person, then the site is OSHaRE, in Owen Sound: 946 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. E., Owen Sound N4K 2K9

Minutes prepared by: Ann M.