

AGM Minutes
Travelodge Hotel & Conference Centre, Regina, SK
June 1, 2017, 1 p.m.

Present:

President: Robert Wuschenny

Voting Delegates

Jacqueline Plante	Fédération des aînés fransaskois
Jocelyne Poirier	Fédération des aînés Fransaskois
Agathe Gaulin	Fédération des aînés Fransaskois
Marj Thiessen	Lifelong Learning Centre
Kerrie Strathy	Lifelong Learning Centre
Darlene Marchuk	Lifelong Learning Centre
Elaine Parsons	Moose Jaw & District Seniors Association
Sybil Nugent	National Association of Federal Retirees
Charles Keple	National Association of Federal Retirees
Terry Gabriel	National Association of Federal Retirees
Maxine Boyle	Regina Seniors Citizens Centre Inc.
Thor Spagrud	Regina Seniors Citizens Centre Inc.
Cathy Theriault	Regina Seniors Citizens Centre Inc.
Randy Dove	Saskatchewan Retirees Association
Ken Lozinsky	Saskatchewan Retirees Association
Sheldon Kraus	Saskatchewan Senior Fitness Association Inc.
Ollie Marciniuk	Saskatchewan Senior Fitness Association Inc
John Keeler	Saskatchewan Senior Fitness Association Inc
Fern Haight	Saskatchewan Seniors Association Inc.
Pat Trask	Saskatchewan Seniors Association Inc.
Robert Walker	Saskatchewan Union Retirees Federation
Fran Passmore	Saskatchewan Union Retirees Federation
Kathy Lang	Saskatchewan Union Retirees Federation
Wilma Mollard	Saskatoon Council on Aging
George James	Saskatoon Council on Aging
Doreen Rathbeger	Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan
Sunil Pandila	Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan
Jane Isinger	Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan

Board Members not listed above (Voting)

Andre Nogue
Brian Harris
Margaret Gailing
Nancy O'Donnell-Monk
Louise Nichol
Sunil Pandila

Staff

Holly Schick
Michel Sorensen
Lynne Couzens
Linda Anderson
Total attendance 46

1. Call to Order

President Robert Wuschenny called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Motion: Sunil Pandila/Robert Walker that the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried.

3. Introduction of SSM Board

4. Approval of the minutes of June 2, 2016 AGM

Motion: Ken Lozinsky/Doreen Rathgeber moved the minutes be adopted as circulated. Carried.

5. President's Report – presented by Robert Wuschenny

6. Executive Director's Report – presented by Holly Schick

There was a round of applause in recognition of Holly's contribution to SSM as Executive Director.

7. Program & Steering Committee Reports

- a) Century Club – presented by Michel Sorensen
- b) Celebrating Seniors – presented by Fern Haight
- c) Communication – presented by Margaret Gailing
- d) Research & Issues – presented by Brian Harris

Error in 2017 AGM Book (page 43) – Maureen Klemp S/B Maureen Klenk

Seniors Strategy in SK

– SSM is applying to the Federal Government for funding to develop a provincial seniors' strategy to be presented to the provincial government.

– Health strategy developed and on National Pensioners website.

- e) Age-Friendly Saskatchewan – presented by Robert Wuschenny
- f) Media & Ageism – presented by Linda Anderson

Motion: Bob Walker/Kerrie Strathy that the President's, Executive Director's, Program Committee Reports be accepted as circulated/presented. Carried.

8. Standing Committee Reports

- 8.1 Finance & Audit Committee Report – presented by Andre Nogue
Presentation of Audited Financial Statement by Andre Nogue

Motion: Andre Nogue/Brian Harris that the Financial Statements and the Auditor's Report be accepted as presented. Carried.

Motion: Andre Nogue/Randy Dove that MWC Chartered Professional Accountants be reappointed as auditor for 2017/2018. Carried.

- 8.2 Governance Committee Report presented by Randy Dove

Motion: Randy Dove/Ken Lozinsky that the Standing Committee Reports be accepted as presented.
Carried.

9. Other Reports

9.1 Grants Report – presented by Holly Schick

9.2 Philips Lifeline Saskatchewan – presentation by Terri Berglund

Motion: Andre Nogue/Nancy O'Donnell-Monk that the Other Reports be accepted as circulated/presented. Carried.

10. Nominations Committee Report presented by Randy Dove

Thank you to Wilma Mollard, retiring board member, for her contributions to SSM.

Withdrawal of Brenda Selinger as a nominee.

The following nominees were declared by Vice President, Randy Dove, to their respective positions by acclamation.

Each nominee was allowed to speak for 2 minutes.

Treasurer: Andre Nogue (re-elected by acclamation)

Secretary: Margaret Gailing-Stepp (re-elected by acclamation)

Members At Large:

Brian Harris (re-elected by acclamation)

George James (re-elected by acclamation)

Louise Nichol (re-elected by acclamation)

Motion: Randy Dove/Wilma Mollard that the Nominations Committee Report be accepted as circulated/presented. Carried

11. Resolutions

SUBMISSION OF RESOLUTION #1

To: SSM Resolutions Committee

Date: April 17, 2017

Sponsored by: Board of Directors, Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism

Moved by Randy Dove

Seconded by Brian Harris

BE IT RESOLVED that: The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism carry out ongoing and multifaceted advocacy on behalf of its member organizations and older adults in Saskatchewan to demonstrate to the Government of Saskatchewan that the 2017 provincial budget has an adverse affect on the health and wellbeing of older adults.

Background Information:

Age-Friendly Communities encourages older adults to be involved in decision making in their communities, and encourages government leaders at all levels to take seriously the opinions of older adults.

Addressing the current provincial deficit is important. However, it is equally important to ensure that the needs of the people of Saskatchewan, particularly the most vulnerable, are being met. Our measure as a society comes from our ability to provide for a good quality of life for our citizens. Not all decisions can be made based on financial cost – the cost to our physical, mental and spiritual health must also be taken into account.

Funding for health care services

Good health is key to being able to live a full and active life. To maintain good health requires access to a variety of services as part of our health care system or at affordable costs.

Many older adults have fixed incomes not protected from inflation and cost increases. The recent provincial budget has made significant changes to funding that may affect the health and wellbeing of older adults and others.

Included in the changes are:

- Increased long term care charges
- Loss of funding support for chiropractor services
- Loss of support for hearing aid and podiatry services
- Introduction of PST on health insurance premiums
- Uncertainty about service levels with the merger of the health regions

Loss of STC Bus Service

Transportation is an essential service for people to allow them to access services, participate in the life of their communities, and stay connected with family and friends. Transportation needs change for many older adults. Driving may be restricted. Mobility issues may affect walking. Connecting to services requires affordable, appropriate transportation. With STC service no longer available, how will the provincial government address the need to provide the valuable services STC has offered? These include:

- Transportation to appointments e.g. medical
- Transportation to access services only available in another centre
- Accessible, affordable transportation, particularly for people in rural communities
- Freight service e.g. cancer medications to be administered locally for those too frail to travel
- Transportation of library books for the interlibrary loan system
- Providing the sole public transportation option in many areas

Reduction in Funding for Library Services

Older adults can become isolated due to ageism, chronic health problems, lack of transportation, low income, living at a distance from family, and critical life transitions. Libraries provide a valuable service that assists in reducing isolation of older adults. Library materials help older adults stay connected with current issues in the world, and provide a source of education and entertainment. Libraries are places where older adults can learn about and try out technology. Local libraries often provide programming that helps build stronger community connections for older adults and others.

Increases in PST

For older adults on low and/or fixed incomes, increases in the costs of goods and services can have a significant effect on their ability to access some of the things essential to their lives. It can also mean having to cut back on the sort of activities that help increase their quality of life.

Reduction of Hospital Chaplaincy Services

Overall health and wellbeing includes access to spiritual care. People in hospitals, and their family, are usually stressed and often facing a time of crisis in their lives. Some of these people are not regularly associated with any faith community, or may be a long way from their home faith community. Government supported

chaplains services ensure that spiritual support is available to all people in hospital and their families. Government supported chaplains services also help to provide the listing of names of those in hospital who want spiritual care from local faith visitors.

Reduced Funding for Communities

Strong communities ensure a healthy population and high quality of life. The loss of SaskPower and SaskEnergy payments in lieu from local communities has left many communities struggling to address this reduction in resources. The shortfall in funding to communities is likely to result in:

- Reduced services
- Increased taxes

Discussion:

AT the AGM, SRA passed a resolution to support this resolution and call for the support of others.

Article in Leader Post detailing that older adult are the large majority of home owners. Taxes have gone up re: reduction of provincial grants to cities & communities. These taxes are being passed on to home owners, largely older adults.

Significant increased cost to Long term care as of May 18th, 2017. Every resident's fees were increased.

Carried.

SUBMISSION OF RESOLUTION #2

To: SSM Resolutions Committee

Sponsored by Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan

Moved by Randy Dove Seconded by Brian Harris

BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism urge the Government of Saskatchewan to increase preventative and supportive resources for community-based seniors and those with chronic disease, promoting long term independence and well-being.

Carried.

SUBMISSION OF RESOLUTION #3

To: SSM Resolutions Committee

Sponsored by Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan

Moved by Randy Dove Seconded by Brian Harris

BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism work with the STS and other organizations to advocate for expanded seniors' health care in Saskatchewan that would include increased funding specific to senior health care, a prescription drug plan that ensures affordable access to prescribed medicine, and the expansion of home care as well as regulated and affordable care homes. Carried.

Follow- up 2016 resolution

Resolution #1 Page 71, 2016 AGM Book – Cardiac Rehabilitation – This resolution has been presented to Ministry of Health but has not had much response to date.

12. Closing Remarks –by Robert Wuschenny

Robert Wuschenny declared the meeting be adjourned @ 2:40 p.m. Carried.

Robert Wuschenny, President

Lynne Couzens, Admin Assistant