MINUTES
SOCIAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD TUES, 2015-SEP-01
BOARD ROOM, SERVICE AND RESOURCE CENTRE, 411 DUNSMUIR STREET

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Linda McCandless, Chair Councillor Gordon Fuller Councillor Diane Brennan Ian Kalina Elizabeth Forrester Ralph Meyerhoff Bill Anderson Chris Beaton Mike Horn Val Alcock- Carter Suzanne Andre Bill Robinson

CITY OF NANAIMO

MEMBERS ABSENT:

John Horn, Social Planner

STAFF PRESENT:

Brenda Moore, Recording Secretary

GUESTS PRESENT

Dr. Paul Hasselback, Medical Health Officer, Island Health

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 pm. It was mentioned that Dianne Brennan will be re-joining SPAC, once the official procedures have been completed. She is attending today as an observer.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be adopted, motion carried unanimously.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the 2015-AUG-04 meeting be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

4. ITEMS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Correspondence to school board

No items.

5 DELEGATIONS

Dr. Paul Hasselback, from Island Health, came to speak to the group in regards to childhood poverty. He presented a power point presentation which began with an overview of the determinants of health and their correlation to poverty. It was said that a child's health and quality of life is a major factor that affects adult health. Graphs were shown to illustrate the low income population percentages in different municipalities on Vancouver Island. Second, the presentation covered reasons why certain municipalities might be doing better than others, and some of the reports that are used to determine

the state of children. Lastly, the presentation covered what SPAC and other organizations can do to improve the lives of children. This included implementing a policy that is child friendly, asking experts to come in as speakers and share their knowledge, as well as utilize current facilities for healthcare and childcare purposes.

Discussion of delegations

A discussion was held in regards to the information provided and members of SPAC were given an opportunity to ask any questions. The data provided is mostly from the census. With a new strategic plan coming January 1st as part of the CORE review, the group believes it is a good time to add a strategy for children and families.

Motion to receive delegation moved and seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

6. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Discussion of Social Development Grant program for 2016

A discussion was held in regards to what direction the group would like to go in. An education strategy/child and youth strategy was discussed. The strategy would be used to build a broader sense of community and support families from the prenatal stage right through to post secondary. The idea of hiring a consultant was discussed, but the group felt there may be easier and faster ways to collect data. One suggestion was to bring groups/organizations/non-profit societies together to get feedback on what are the most important issues facing the community and brainstorm initiatives we could take to improve the wellbeing of children and families.

It was mentioned that the Chamber of Commerce might be a good resource and have formed a group called the education committee. This group is looking for direction, as well as funding. Another group of interest would be to get the school board directly involved as they are a large resource in the community and are connected to other organizations such as the rotary.

After further discussion, the committee concluded that there should be a request for proposal advertised in the paper once the committee decides on criteria for funding. The committee would like to establish priorities and decide on a strategy at next month's meeting.

It was requested that the old SPAC strategic plan be forwarded to the members for review so they can be more informed before the next meeting.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

No items

8. NEW BUSINESS

Voting Obligation of SPAC members

Voting obligations for the SPAC committee are as follows: Every member must vote. If you do not vote you will be counted as affirmative. If there is a conflict of interest, the member(s) must leave the room when the voting occurs.

OLD BUSINESS

No items

10. Committee/Council Meeting Reports

- a) Grants Advisory no report
- b) Council no report
- c) SAFER no report

11. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held 2015-OCT-06 at 4:45 at 411 Dunsmuir Street.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:31 PM.