



MINUTES
GRANTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY, 2014-AUG-20, 2:37 P.M.
BOARD ROOM, 411 DUNSMUIR STREET

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor D. Johnstone, Chair
V. Alcock-Carter
W. Anderson
L. Avis

D. Bonner
I. Thorpe
T. O'Flanagan

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Councillor G. Anderson

STAFF PRESENT:

D. Hiscock, Manager of Revenue Services
B. Clemens, Director of Finance
R. Tubbs, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 2:37 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

It was moved and seconded that the Agenda be adopted. The motion carried.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Grants Advisory Committee Meeting held in the Board Room, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC on Monday, 2014-JUL-07 at 3:25 p.m. be adopted as circulated. The motion carried.

4. INFORMATION ITEMS:

- (a) Report to Council.
- (b) 2014 Grants Committee Budget.
- (c) 2014 Synopsis of Grants Awarded / Denied.
- (d) No Renewal Permissive Tax Exemption Application received from the Nanaimo Community Archives (Folio: 856.0090 at #9 – 150 Commercial Street).

5. DELEGATIONS:

The Committee discussed the Nanaimo Recycling Exchange Society's application before the delegation entered the room, making note that the challenge is that the Society does not currently occupy the property that they are applying for an exemption for. They received a three-year exemption (three years ago) based on the assumption that they would move to a new facility on the exempt property within months, which still has not taken place.

(a) Nanaimo Recycling Exchange Society (RPTE-34)

Ms. Jan Hastings, Nanaimo Recycling Exchange Society, entered the Board Room at 2:47 p.m.

The Committee welcomed her to the meeting as she began her presentation, making note of the society's goals (zero waste philosophy), the difference between non-profit and for-profit ventures, types of services / employment opportunities / educational programs offered, etc.

The Society has not yet moved to the new location due to funding. They must be vacated from their current location by March 2015 as Toyota is unwilling to renegotiate the lease. They pay taxes for their current location and are always undergoing fundraising in order to help assist with costs. If they are not able to raise enough funds to relocate by March 2015, they have the ability to borrow against the land (but they do not want to). Another option is to subdivide the land and sell parts of it in order to mitigate costs.

Ms. Jan Hastings vacated the Board Room at 3:10 p.m.

6. RENEWAL APPLICATIONS:

(a) Nanaimo Recycling Exchange Society (RPTE-34)

The Committee further discussed the application. The Society has received an exemption for the last three years, under the assumption that they would have moved by now. They have not. Can we make the recommendation SUBJECT to them relocating to their property?

D. Hiscock explained that BC Assessment needs the numbers by the end of October. The Committee has the option of granting the exemption, but revisiting the issue in 2015 to determine if they have in fact moved.

The Committee decided to approve the exemption for one year, making note that the Society will have to reapply for a 2016 tax exemption by October of 2015 (to ensure that they have in fact relocated).

It was moved and seconded that the Nanaimo Recycling Exchange Society remains on the City's Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw for property at 2491 Kenworth Road, receiving exemption from taxes for the year 2015. The motion carried.

They Society will have to reapply in 2015 for a permissive tax exemption for 2016.

7. NEW APPLICATIONS:

(a) Nanaimo Women's Resources Society (PTE-05)

The Committee discussed the application. As well, staff provided a copy of a letter from the landlord (Archie Johnstone) to confirm that any tax benefits resulting from the exemption would be passed along to the tenant.

It was noted that this Society received a \$16,500 grant from the Social Planning Advisory Committee in 2013 (see SPAC minutes from 2013-NOV-05).

It was moved and seconded that the Nanaimo Women's Resources Society be placed on the City's 2015 Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw for property it leases at 150 Wallace Street. The motion carried.

8. NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Grants Advisory Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, 2014-SEP-17 in the Board Room, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 3:31 p.m. that the meeting terminate. The motion carried.

Chair

Date