



MINUTES
SOCIAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD TUES., 2013-SEP-03, 4:45 PM
BOARD ROOM, SERVICE AND RESOURCE CENTRE, 411 DUNSMUIR STREET

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Terre Flower, Chair
George Anderson
Helena Green

William Anderson
Diane Brennan
Ralph Meyerhoff

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Val Alcock-Carter
Elizabeth Forrester
Dot Neary
Angelica Valchar

Suzanne Andre
Linda McCandless
Jan Tatlock, ex officio

STAFF PRESENT:

John Horn, Social Planner

Cindy Hall, Recording Secretary

GUEST PRESENT:

Peter Sinclair, Executive Director, Loaves & Fishes Community Food Bank

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:55 pm without a quorum. It was acknowledged that the meeting was being held on the traditional territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

3. ADOPTION OF 2013-Jul-02 MINUTES

Deferred to 2013-Oct-01 meeting due to lack of quorum.

4. ITEMS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None.

5. DELEGATIONS

- a) Peter Sinclair, Executive Director of the Loaves & Fishes Community Food Bank gave an update on the Food 4U program, and how the 2013 Social Development grant they received from the City was utilized. The Food 4U program provides collection totes to grocery stores for their employees to put groceries into that would normally be thrown out by the stores. Loaves & Fishes then picks up the totes daily and provides the food to clients and agencies, utilizing the huge amount of healthy food that would otherwise be wasted. Providing this food also frees up time and resources of the participating social agencies.

The \$60,000 Social Development grant that Loaves & Fishes received from the City in 2013 was used to purchase a five-ton delivery truck, an electric pallet jack, and a bread slicer. The equipment has made a huge difference to Loaves & Fishes' operations as they are now able to collect food from four grocery stores, including Target. He advised:

- On average, 10,000 kg of food is recovered per month. This amount relates to \$55,000.
- Since Sept. 2012 to Sept. 2013 over 100,000 kg of food has been recovered. This amount relates to \$550,000.
- A full-time manager has been hired to oversee the Food 4U program.
- The amount of food provided to Loaves & Fishes' clients doubled from 2012 to 2013.
- They now provide food to 31 agencies, with 24 orders being filled every week.
- 75 to 85% of Food 4U goes to its food bank clients.
- 10 – 20% of Food 4U goes to outside agencies.
- 4 – 7% of Food 4U goes to compost or farm.
- Most food is distributed within 24 hours of it being picked up.

With regard to the amount of food provided doubling since 2012, P. Sinclair clarified that there are not significantly more people using the food banks. They are now able to access the food bank twice as often with the increase in available food.

P. Sinclair was thanked for his presentation. He will be invited to attend a SPAC meeting again in February 2014 to provide an annual report on the Food 4U program. He then left the meeting.

6. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

None.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) The Committee received a report from the Nanaimo Old City Association in which they advised how the 2012 Community Service Grant they received from the City was utilized.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Choose criteria for second round of 2013 Community Service grant allocations.

J. Horn distributed the final report from the recent Health and Social Forums, which contained a list of key issues identified by the participants. He suggested that the Committee consider choosing one of the issues in the list to address with the second allocation of 2013 Community Services grants. The issues were discussed and the Committee members then individually advised which one they believed should be addressed. They then discussed which method should be used to choose the recipients and projects to be funded. As the direct approach worked well with the allocation of the 2013 Social Development grant (\$60,000 to Loaves & Fishes for

Food 4U truck), they decided to do this again rather than advertising for applications and possibly allocating small grants to several organizations.

The issue the Committee decided to address with the remaining 2013 Community Service grant funds and the 2014 Social Development grant funds was 'Mental Health'. They will seek a proposal which is inclusive, and prepared collaboratively by mental health providers.

John will contact mental health organizations and invite them to a meeting within the next two weeks. They will be asked to collaborate and present a project idea to address mental health issues (with sub topics being accessibility, education and suicide) at the October SPAC meeting. The Committee can decide at that time whether to solely allocate Community Service grant funds to the project, or to wait for the 2014 Social Development grant funds to become available and combine the two grants.

A comment was made that small mental health agencies should be the ones asked to participate, "as real collaboration is at the grass roots".

9. OLD BUSINESS

a) Review revised Grant Evaluation Table

The Committee discussed the revised table. It was clarified that the scoring option of 0-10 for Individual Factors allows for more credibility and weight. It was also noted that after the scores are tallied, the Committee still has the opportunity to revisit any application they believe might require further review.

10. COMMITTEE / COUNCIL MEETING REPORTS

a) Grants Advisory Committee – No report.

b) Safer Nanaimo Advisory Committee – J. Horn advised that a portable toilet has been installed in Diana Krall Plaza.

c) Nanaimo Working Group on Homelessness – No report.

d) City Council – J. Horn advised that Council recently approved the allocation of \$275,000 from the Housing Legacy Reserve fund for offsite works and services costs associated with the supportive housing project at 6025 Uplands Drive.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting date is Tuesday, 2013-Oct-01.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.