

**MINUTES
SAFER NANAIMO ADVISORY COMMITTEE
HELD 2012-JAN-16 AT 9:00 AM
BOARD ROOM, 411 DUNSMUIR STREET, NANAIMO, BC**

Note: Typographical error -
dated 2012 - should be 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Fred Pattje, Chair
Diane Brennan
Jim Kipp
Laraine Ashpole
Samantha Letourneau

STAFF:

Randy Churchill, Bylaw Services
Dave LaBerge, RCMP
Gail Honeyman, Recording Secretary

John Horn, Community Planning
Jeff Ritchie, Parks, Recreation & Culture

CALL TO ORDER

J. Kipp called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

There were no late items presented.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as circulated.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The minutes were adopted as amended. L. Ashpole pointed out that she was present at the December meeting.

INTRODUCTION OF RCMP STRATEGIC PLAN

D. Laberge outlined the RCMP strategic plan. The focus is on crime reduction and public safety.

There was discussion on initiatives for sex trade workers. Nanaimo is making enormous headway with initiatives to help these workers feel safer and to build resources.

INTRODUCTION OF CITY OF NANAIMO STRATEGIC PLAN

J. Horn outlined the City of Nanaimo strategic plan. The plan identifies priorities including public safety and how it can be enhanced. The plan also addresses social equity and has a cultural pillar which is not usually in strategic plans.

FORMULATION OF 2013 SAFER WORK PLAN

R. Churchill outlined the mandate of the SAFER Committee.

Safer has been successful in dealing with various issues. The committee is good at doing things but has not done as well in communicating these successes.

Discussion:

- should an overture be made to Snuneymuxw First Nation?
- there is a high rate of child poverty in Nanaimo. What can be done?
- the youth emergency shelter is only being used at about half capacity as there is not enough funding
- the Neutral Zone is well used as a youth centre and continuation should be encouraged
- how could the Harewood neighbourhood be helped
- Bar Watch has been successful with lessening public disorder downtown

Housing standards were discussed. Some felt that something should be done about derelict buildings/substandard housing. R. Churchill explained that there are bylaws that enable the City to ensure that a vacant building is safe for the general public. This may include having the building boarded up or demolished. We do not have the authority to regulate actual living conditions in a building. The provincial health authority may have jurisdiction in that respect. The fire department will inspect multi-family for life-safety issues.

It was decided that the new priorities are:

1. Juvenile issues – need a focus
2. Tillicum Lelum – Neutral Zone
3. Standards of maintenance for buildings

Ongoing priorities are:

1. Low obstacle housing
2. Sex trade project
3. Bar Watch

DISCUSSION

J. Kipp spoke about the proposed new toilet facility at Diana Krall Plaza. He felt that more than one toilet is needed. He suggested that toilets are needed in other areas of town. The toilets would also be available for tourists.

The meeting terminated at 10:20 am.

APPROVED:

Chair

Date