



MINUTES
SOCIAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD TUES., 2011-NOV-01, 4:45 PM
BOARD ROOM, CITY HALL, 455 WALLACE STREET

PRESENT:

Jim Kipp, Acting Chair
Janet Cowling
Elizabeth Forrester
Ralph Meyerhoff

Bev Barton
Terre Flower
Linda McCandless
John Neville

REGRETS:

Val Alcock-Carter
Zeni Maartman

Judy Lekisch
Sharon Welch

STAFF:

John Horn, Social Planner

Cindy Hall, Recording Secretary

OTHERS:

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:52 pm.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by J. Neville, SECONDED by R. Meyerhoff that the Minutes from 2011-Oct-04 be adopted as presented. CARRIED

4. ITEMS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None.

5. DELEGATIONS

None.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a) Social Development Grants

Letters of Intent received from the following organizations/individuals for the 2012 Social Development Grant program were reviewed:

Altrusa International of Nanaimo
Breachin Elementary School PAC
Valentina Cardinalli (re Chase River Elementary School)
Georgia Avenue Community School PAC
Nanaimo & Region Independent Living Resource Centre Association
Nanaimo Region John Howard Society
Sallee A. Kneller
Nanaimo District Secondary Community School PAC
Tillicum Lelum Aboriginal Friendship Centre
Uplands Park Elementary School PAC
Woodbank Primary School & North Cedar Intermediate School PACs

MOVED by J. Cowling, SECONDED by L. McCandless that the Letter of Intent from S. Kneller not proceed to the full application stage as the application is premature in that Ms. Kneller's proposed non-profit society is not in operation yet.

CARRIED

L. McCandless advised that she would abstain from any discussion and vote pertaining to the Letter of Intent received from the Tillicum Lelum Aboriginal Friendship Centre due to a conflict of interest.

J. Kipp arrived at the meeting.

The Committee discussed Letters of Intent received from some of the SD68 PAC's. Some of their comments were:

- As some of the requests do not correspond to what SPAC's intention was in the criterion they chose for this round of funding, direction should be given to the applicants as to what issues their projects should relate to when they are completing their Full Application. Their requests need to be specific and focused.
- Funding for some of the requests might be available through the Nanaimo-Ladysmith Schools Foundation. Information regarding that funding does not appear to be getting to the PAC's.
- Find out what funding is available through the Schools Foundation, and note that as another possible funding source when sending out the letters to the applicants
- Some schools that have been identified as having the greatest need do not appear to be utilizing all of the funds they have already received from the Foundation. Any such funds will be disclosed in the Full Applications.
- Concerned about transparency, i.e. equity opposed to equality. All applicants should be given the same message.

The Committee directed that all Letters of Intent received from individuals/organizations, with the exception of S. Kneller and the PAC's, proceed to the Full Application stage, and that letters be sent to the applicants advising so.

MOVED by J. Neville, SECONDED by R. Meyerhoff that letters be sent to the eligible PAC's who submitted Letters of Intent, with a copy to the schools' principals, inviting them to submit Full Applications; and requesting that their applications be focused on one of the following issues that SPAC has identified as meeting the intention of this round of grants:

- Food (e.g. snacks, food security such community gardens, nutrition information);
- Clothing;
- Transportation; or
- Learning support (e.g. literacy, computer training, reading skills, homework clubs, family home support - outside of school hours).

CARRIED

PAC's from schools that do not primarily serve Nanaimo students will not be eligible. They are to be advised by letter with a suggestion they investigate what kinds of funding the Schools Foundation and the Regional District of Nanaimo offer.

When SPAC reviews the Full Applications they can decide how the funds will be disbursed to the PAC's. Some suggestions were: putting the funds in trust with the School District Treasurer; having the School Foundation allocate the funds; or finding some other sponsoring agency.

8. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Revised Social Status - As the Committee previously stated that this document requires revamping before it would be acceptable to release to the public, J. Horn and J. Lekisch will meet on 2011-Nov-16 to review SPAC's concerns and revise the document. It will then be brought back to SPAC.

The Committee inquired how the issue of gaps in the document will be addressed. J. Horn advised that SPAC could attach an addendum to the document stating what was not covered.

The Committee also asked whether the document should just be abandoned because of it being based on so few responses. J. Horn advised that when the revised one is brought back to the Committee, they can decide whether to keep it or have the document completely rewritten.

The Committee reiterated that they are very disappointed in the document and will not release it in its present form.

9. COMMITTEE UPDATES / COUNCIL UPDATE / INFO ITEMS

- a) PNAC - R. Meyerhoff advised he had nothing to report as PNAC did not meet in October.
- b) Grants Advisory Committee - J. Neville reported that the Grants Committee recommended to Council that a funding request by Cops on Patrol for conference fees be denied and Council subsequently sent the request back to the Grants Committee to revisit the request. The Grants Committee then returned the request to Council for their consideration and possible issuance of funds from another source.

- c) Safer Nanaimo Working Group - J. Horn advised he had nothing to report as the Group had not met recently.
- d) Nanaimo Working Group on Homelessness - J. Horn advised that the Federal Government has confirmed it will be extending HPS funding to 2014 for Nanaimo (\$670,000 with \$250,000 going to urban aboriginal issues).

J. Neville noted the co-authorship by the Group of a recent ad in support of City Council regarding their stance on supportive housing.

- e) Council Updates - Oct. 17 - B. Barton reported on the many delegations at the Council meeting who were in opposition to the proposed supportive housing project in the north end. They were concerned about the building being low barrier, and suggested putting the project on hold, having independent research done, an impact study prepared, and holding a public meeting. Large petitions in opposition were submitted to Council.

Oct. 31 - Jim Kipp advised that a petition with 2000 signatures opposed to the proposed supportive housing project in the north end was presented to Council.

T. Flower left the meeting.

10. STRATEGIC PLANNING

- a) Emergency Food Group – J. Horn advised that emergency food providers will be brought together to acknowledge the work they did in opening the emergency food depots, and to determine what is still required. He will advise SPAC of the date when the get-together is arranged.

J. Neville left the meeting.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting date is Tuesday, 2011-Dec-06, followed by SPAC's Christmas Social at the Modern Café, 221 Commercial Street.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.