



**MINUTES**  
**SOCIAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING HELD TUES., 2011-JUL-05, 4:45 PM**  
**BOARD ROOM, CITY HALL, 455 WALLACE STREET**

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**PRESENT:**

Zeni Maartman, Chair  
Terre Flower  
Jim Kipp  
Ralph Meyerhoff  
Sharon Welch

Val Alcock-Carter  
Elizabeth Forrester  
Linda McCandless  
John Neville

**REGRETS:**

Bev Barton  
Judy Lekisch

Janet Cowling

**STAFF:**

John Horn, Social Planner

Cindy Hall, Recording Secretary

**OTHER:**

Geri Sera, Executive Director, Nanaimo Addiction Foundation

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:50 pm.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by V. Alcock-Carter, SECONDED by R. Meyerhoff that the Minutes from 2011-Jun-07 be adopted as presented. CARRIED

4. ITEMS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- a) J. Horn advised that Council, on 2011-Jun-13, endorsed the two motions regarding senior care that SPAC had recommended be considered at the UBCM Conference in September.

5. DELEGATIONS

- a) Geri Sera, Executive Director of the Nanaimo Addictions Foundation (NAF) read out a letter dated 2011-Jul-05 from NAF's Board of Trustees, with regard to the Foundation seeking a partnership with SPAC in order to combine Foundation funds with Community Service Grant funds administered by SPAC. The combined funding would be used for addiction treatment needs provided by non-profit agencies.

She advised that \$15,000 was available from NAF and that if a significant project were identified, a further \$15,000 could be added to that amount. Either NAF or SPAC could administer the process with both being recognized as equal partners.

MOVED by J. Kipp, SECONDED by S. Welch that the delegation be received.  
CARRIED

6. CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee received the following correspondence:

- a) Letter from the Nanaimo & Region Disability Resource Centre advising how the Community Service grant they received in 2011 assisted them in their operations.
- b) Letter dated 2011-Jun-06 from Nanaimo Community Hospice Society thanking the City for the Excellence in Social Development Award they recently received.
- c) Letter dated 2011-Jun-10 from St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church thanking the City for the Community Service grant they received in 2011 which assisted them to provide fruit with their soup and sandwich lunches.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Criteria for Fall Round of Community Service Grants

The Committee discussed whether to enter into a funding partnership with NAF, or to proceed with the City's Community Service grant process. Some comments were:

- Would this be a one-off partnership? Would other organizations be considered for funding partnerships in the future?
- Child poverty is a huge issue at the present time.
- Should SPAC wait until the next round of Social Development grants to partner with NAF?
- Treatment needs may be identified at NAF's conference next March. Should SPAC wait until after then?
- More of an impact could be made by combining the two funds.
- Community Service grants should be used for issues not dealt with by other levels of government.
- NAF is a private foundation and do not receive any government funding. They follow a similar process as SPAC in allocating their grants.
- If SPAC were to partner with NAF, the criteria would have to be related to addiction treatment.
- Could families with children be included in the criteria?
- A partnership with NAF would be a win/win situation.
- It could be considered a pilot project.
- Addiction treatment by non-government agencies is downloading.
- Instead of thinly spreading funds, start with an amount that could make an impact.
- Many of the issues SPAC are concerned about are related to addiction, which is a huge issue in Nanaimo.
- City grants must be used in Nanaimo.
- Request applications for addiction services for families with children living in poverty, and see what proposals are received. If a large project is suggested,

ask NAF to partner in the funding then, and to participate in SPAC's grant process.

- Make a commitment to NAF that when the 2012 Social Development grant monies are available, SPAC could partner with them at that time.
- Would like to see Community Service grant funds go to senior's issues, or to assist families qualify for the LEAP program.

MOVED by R. Meyerhoff, SECONDED by J. Kipp that J. Horn advise NAF that SPAC supports the idea of SPAC partnering with NAF to combine funding to address an addiction treatment issue, and that SPAC would be prepared to allocate \$15,000 out of the 2012 Social Development grant fund for this purpose. CARRIED

MOVED by J. Kipp, SECONDED by V. Alcock-Carter that the criteria for the second round of the 2011 Community Service grant applications be "proposals that address health and wellness of vulnerable families". CARRIED

- b) Young Professionals of Nanaimo (YPN) requesting support from SPAC for their Community Garden Initiative.

J. Horn advised that the YPN are seeking \$3,500 as a one-time grant from the Community Planning Section's 2011 budget, to assist with capital and operational needs of their community garden project. If SPAC has no objection to their request, the draft Report to Council from SPAC which was circulated to SPAC members, could be forwarded to Council's Finance/Policy Committee of the Whole meeting on 2011-Jul-25 for consideration.

MOVED by J. Kipp, SECONDED by J. Neville that SPAC has no objection to the Report to Council regarding the YPN community gardens funding request being forwarded to the FPCOW meeting on 2011-Jul-25 for Council's consideration. CARRIED

It was noted that the YPN have done a considerable amount of fundraising for this project, the goal of which is to convert abandoned gas station sites and derelict pieces of property into community gardens. The gardens use raised beds so toxicity is not an issue.

- c) Review Parks and Recreation Leisure Economic Access Policy (LEAP)

The Committee was concerned that the income levels for the LEAP program for some family groups (i.e. single parents earning minimum wage who want to combine their families) are presenting eligibility challenges.

J. Kipp will discuss this issue with the Parks and Recreation Commission to determine how the gross income levels were determined, and how people on the fringe of those income levels could apply.

A suggestion was also made that the Premier should be asked to address the issue of recreation for people living in poverty.

8. OLD BUSINESS9. COMMITTEE UPDATES / COUNCIL UPDATE / INFO ITEMS

- a) PNAC – R. Meyerhoff advised that PNAC reviewed: new Sustainable Development Guidelines; a proposal from Island Timberlands to include property within the Urban Containment Boundary to permit a resort development to be built including a marina in the Cable Bay area; and a rezoning application for the five-acre farm at Third Street and Howard Avenue. Ralph noted that there should be a comprehensive plan for the entire area in which the farm is located, and that the City will need to consider it very carefully as it is the entrance to the downtown.
- b) Grants Advisory Committee – J. Neville reported that the Grants Advisory Committee reviewed permissive tax exemption (PTE) applications, and discovered that exemptions cannot be given to organizations without leases. Three organizations originally rejected were eventually approved for tax exemption when a precedent was found in Victoria. Also, the City is no longer authorizing cash in lieu of PTE's, and have eliminated financial need as a criteria.
- c) Safer Nanaimo Working Group – J. Horn – No report.
- d) Nanaimo Working Group on Homelessness – J. Horn advised a BBQ for the homeless will be held on August 13 from 10 am until 2 pm. Families are being encouraged to attend, as many activities are planned. He also advised of funding the City received from the RDN, which had originally been allocated to the RDN from VIHA to support capacity building for homelessness. The NWGH are requesting permission from Council to use \$10,000 on their homelessness initiatives. The remainder will be subject to an RFP with the criteria that the applicant be required to provide direct services to the homeless.
- e) Council Updates  
June 13 – J. Neville reported:
  - A presentation was made to J. Scantland in recognition of his gold medal win at a swimming meet in California.
  - City staff presented information on the proposed new Zoning Bylaw.
  - An application by Westwood Tennis Club for a structural change to increase the size of their patio was considered.
  - K. Slater and D. Brennan presented information related to SPAC's report regarding motions to submit to UBCM on senior care.
  - Haven Society thanked Council for their long-time support.
  - Council considered what process to follow with regard to borrowing for the proposed new Water Treatment Plant.

June 27 – Z. Maartman reported that Council reversed their decision to hold a referendum on the Water Treatment Plant borrowing question, and will now use an Alternative Approval Process.

10. STRATEGIC PLANNING

- a) J. Kipp suggested that a tea be held in the fall for social agencies to thank them for the work they do. It would also provide the agencies an opportunity to explain what they do.
- b) J. Horn advised that September 1<sup>st</sup> is the anticipated date for the Community Dental Clinic to start seeing patients.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting date is Tuesday, 2011-Sep-06. There will be no meeting in August.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.