



**MINUTES**  
**SOCIAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING HELD TUES., 2011-MAY-03, 4:45 PM**  
**BOARD ROOM, CITY HALL, 455 WALLACE STREET**

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**PRESENT:**

Jim Kipp, Acting Chair  
Bev Barton  
Judy Lekisch  
John Neville

Val Alcock-Carter  
Elizabeth Forrester  
Ralph Meyerhoff

**REGRETS:**

Janet Cowling  
Sharon Welch

Zeni Maartman

**STAFF:**

John Horn, Social Planner

Cindy Hall, Recording Secretary

**OTHER:**

Terre Flower, Central V.I. Multicultural Society  
Councillor Greves

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:50 pm. Councillor Greves was welcomed to the meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved with the addition of 'Social Status Report Update'.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by E. Forrester, SECONDED by V. Alcock-Carter that the Minutes from 2011-Apr-05 be adopted as presented. CARRIED.

4. ITEMS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None.

5. DELEGATIONS

- a) Terre Flower, Manager, Diversity Programs, Central V.I. Multicultural Society (CVIMS) advised that between 1991 and 1996, 70% of labour market growth in Canada came from immigrants, and presently, 100% can be attributed to immigrants with the majority coming from the Philippines, China, UK, India and Iran.

One out of six people in Canada are from a minority group. By 2017, the population of Canada will be between 6-8 million people, and in large centres such as Toronto, visible minorities will be the majority.

The face of our community is changing and becoming more diverse, and having a community that immigrants feel welcome, included and safe in, is key to making them want to stay.

The CVIMS have resources and strategies in place that challenge racism, which include a Memorandum of Understanding of which the City of Nanaimo is one of the signatories, and the Diversity Program which offers the Safe Harbour Program, and other initiatives.

The Committee inquired where CVIMS gets its funding from, who does the lobbying to get immigrants into the types of jobs they are trained for, and how the aboriginal community is being serviced.

Ms. Flower advised the Society has memberships, and also receives funding from the provincial and federal governments. Regarding employment, she noted that accreditation is a large problem with credentials not being recognized, and the Society is working on that issue. Regarding the aboriginal community, she noted that Snuneymuxw are also a partner in the Memorandum of Understanding.

Ms. Flower was thanked for her presentation and she left the meeting.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a) Review of Community Service Grant Program Guidelines.

Suggested edits were noted and will be made to the guidelines prior to the next grant round.

b) Review Social Development Grant program guidelines.

Suggested edits were noted and will be made to the guidelines prior to the next grant round.

c) Review Social Development Awards Program Nomination Form.

This review will be done prior to the next call for nominations in 2013.

d) Awards Luncheon Wed. 2011-May-18, Oliver Woods (noon-2:30 pm).

The luncheon is being held to present Excellence in Social Development Awards, Green Nanaimo Awards, Heritage Awards, and Design Awards. As the luncheon is by invitation only, SPAC members are asked to RSVP to Cindy.

8. OLD BUSINESS

- a) The Social Status Report update was distributed and will be placed on next month's agenda for review.

9. COMMITTEE UPDATES / COUNCIL UPDATE / INFO ITEMS

- a) PNAC – R. Meyerhoff reported that PNAC received staff's review of the bylaw permitting chickens and ducks on residential properties. As few problems occurred in the first year of the bylaw, staff recommended that the allowable number be increased, and PNAC concurred. He also noted that the student housing project on Wakesiah is proceeding, a public hearing will be held on the Newcastle + Brechin Neighbourhood Plan on 2011-May-05, and an open house will be held on the Zoning Bylaw review on 2011-May-04. Regarding the Zoning Bylaw review, he noted that residents in the Westwood Lake area are concerned about small lots being permitted in their area, so have requested the minimum residential lot size in their area not change. Ralph also noted his concern regarding applications to rezone industrial property when there is currently a minimal amount of industrial land available in the city.
- b) Grants Advisory Committee – J. Neville advised that the Committee will forward their recommendations from the major overview they just completed on Committee guidelines, to Council in the near future.
- c) Safer Nanaimo Working Group – J. Horn – No report.
- d) Nanaimo Working Group on Homelessness – J. Horn advised that the new advocacy group held its first meeting and decided that their focus will be action oriented and doing small things that make a difference. John will send SPAC the group's meeting schedule.
- e) Council Meeting Updates – J. Kipp advised that many "spot rezoning" applications are coming before Council. He has requested that a Lunch and Learn session be held for Council to address this issue. R. Meyerhoff noted that the new Zoning Bylaw should alleviate this, as it will indicate where rezonings of this nature should and should not occur.

10. STRATEGIC PLANNING

J. Horn advised that the Mayor and Social Planner from Ladysmith have been invited to next month's meeting to share information on social initiatives and responses to social issues.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting date is Tuesday, 2011-Jun-07.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.