



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

PRESENT:

J. Kipp, Acting Chair
B. Barton
E. Forrester
J. Neville

V. Alcock-Carter
J. Cowling
R. Meyerhoff

REGRETS:

J. Lekisch
S. Welch

Z. Maartman

STAFF:

J. Horn, Social Planner

C. Hall, Recording Secretary

OTHER:

T. Davis, Loaves & Fishes Community Food Bank
P. Sinclair, Loaves & Fishes Community Food Bank

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 pm.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by V. Alcock-Carter, seconded by E. Forrester that the Minutes from 2011-Mar-01 be adopted as presented. Carried.

4. ITEMS ARISING FROM MINUTES

5. DELEGATIONS

- a) Tony Davis, Chair, Loaves & Fishes Community Food Bank gave a presentation. He advised that the Food Bank opened in the mid '90s at St. Paul's Anglican Church and moved into its present home on Farquhar in 1999. It has five satellite sites, and the capacity to open one more in the north end. As well as donations to the organization growing from \$200,000 in 2001 to \$1 million in 2010, expenses have also increased from \$250,000 in 2001 to almost \$900,000 in 2010. They are always looking for ways to become more efficient, such as combining their pick-up with the Salvation Army's.

Mr. Davis noted the reluctance of the business community to volunteer or be involved in the issues of hunger and poverty. He also did not think the press provided enough coverage throughout the year on those issues. He acknowledged SPAC's support through their grant programs.

The Committee commented on the difficulty other organizations are also having in attaining board members. Business people may not see the poverty in the community because it does not affect them, or they may think they can support the organizations with money, and not time. They also may not see the mass demand because of the satellite sites.

Mr. Davis introduced Peter Sinclair, Executive Director of Loaves & Fishes. Mr. Davis was thanked for the presentation, then he and Mr. Sinclair left the meeting.

The Committee considered a suggestion in Mr. Davis' presentation that a working group be established to address hunger and poverty in Nanaimo, and agreed that it would be beneficial for coordination purposes and to determine gaps. They agreed that further dialogue was needed on this issue.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) An email dated 2011-Apr-04 from Jane Templeman tendering her resignation from SPAC, was received.
- b) A letter dated 2011-Mar-16 from Michele Hillier, Acting Executive Director, Nanaimo Family Life Association advising how they utilized their 2010 Community Service grant, was received.
- c) A letter from Tina Fabbro, President, Start With Art Nanaimo advising how they used their 2010 Community Service grant, was received.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a) The Committee reviewed applications for the first round of 2011 Community Service grants.

MOVED by V. Alcock-Carter, SECONDED by J. Neville to recommend that Council allocate the first round of 2011 Community Service grants as follows:

Applicant	Purpose	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Tillicum Lelum Aboriginal Friendship Centre	To supplement the budget for the Centre's 'After School Nutrition Break Program'.	\$1,000	\$1,000
Nanaimo Seniors Visiting Society	Operational support.	\$2,000	\$2,000
Nanaimo Men's Resource Centre	To assist their 'Family Crisis Support Services Program'.	Up to \$12,000	\$2,000
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church	To provide fruit twice a month with their soup & sandwich lunch.	\$1,200	\$1,200
The Victoria Human Exchange	To set up a house in Nanaimo for people in need of transitional housing.	\$5,000	0

Start With Art Nanaimo	Operational support.	\$4,000	0
Nanaimo Family Life Association	To assist their 'Essential Life Skills Training Programs'.	\$2,000	0
Nanaimo Community Kitchens Society	To operate a 'Cooking on a Budget' program.	\$5,000	0
Nanaimo Citizen Advocacy	Operational support.	\$10,000	0
Altrusa International of Nanaimo	To assist their 'Provide Opportunities Working with Educational Resources Program'.	\$3,000	0
Nanaimo Unique Kids Org.	To cover in part recreational and operating costs for their summer program.	\$5,000	0
Island Crisis Care Society	To split their large office into two small offices to provide privacy for their clients.	\$10,000	0
Nanaimo Foodshare Society	To support the 'Gleaning Program'.	\$5,000	0
Nanaimo Community Gardens Society	To allow them to work with their volunteers and increase the impact of their educational programming.	\$2,000	0
Total		\$67,200	\$6,200

CARRIED.

MOVED by J. Cowling, SECONDED by R. Meyerhoff that criteria for the Community Service Grant Program, Social Development Grant Program, and Excellence in Social Development Awards Program be reviewed at the next SPAC meeting.
CARRIED.

- b) The Committee reviewed nominations received for the 2011 Excellence in Social Development Awards.

MOVED by J. Cowling, SECONDED by V. Alcock-Carter to recommend to Council that the following Excellence in Social Development Awards be awarded:

Recommended Recipient	Achievement
Marlene White Administrator of the Semi-Independent Living Program	For providing support to adults with disabilities, allowing them to realize independent and productive lives as fully participating members of our community.
Unitarian Fellowship of Nanaimo	For their caring spirit and commitment to the homeless by providing shelter beds 7 nights a week until Spring.
Nanaimo Men's Resource Centre	For their dedication to families in Nanaimo by welcoming men, women and children to use their services, and for keeping their services going and doors open in the face of funding cuts.
Columbian Centre Society	For providing dignified housing and loving support to women and men with severe and persistent mental illness.
Nanaimo Community Hospice Society	For providing support to individuals facing a wide range of end of life issues including death, dying, caregiving and

	bereavement, improving the quality of life in our community.
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CARRIED. (B. Barton abstained from voting.)

8. OLD BUSINESS

9. COMMITTEE UPDATES / COUNCIL UPDATE / INFO ITEMS

- a) PNAC – J. Kipp advised that the Newcastle + Brechin Neighbourhood Plan, which had been reviewed by PNAC, was considered by Council at the Finance/Policy Committee of the Whole meeting on 2011-Apr-04. Council subsequently directed that the base height of buildings along the waterfront within the Medium High Density Waterfront designation, be four storeys, but that applications for taller buildings could be accepted and evaluated.
- b) Grants Advisory Committee – J. Neville advised that following an extensive review, the Grants Advisory Committee will be recommending to Council a policy rather than guidelines for the Committee. The Committee has also been reviewing the Permissive Tax Exemption list to determine if any organizations should be taken off the list, or not be eligible for any other City grants if they are on the list. The Committee is considering these options from a business perspective so that some organizations would have to pay taxes, and from a social standpoint in that the organizations could apply for all and the respective review committee would do due diligence. SPAC noted that the Permissive Tax Exemption list should be reviewed frequently to ensure the validity of the organizations on the list.
- c) Safer Nanaimo Working Group – J. Horn – No report.
- d) Nanaimo Working Group on Homelessness – J. Horn advised that the new NWGH will hold its first meeting on 2011-Apr-21. They will consider whether to allocate \$66,000 received from the RDN to address homelessness, to the Unitarian Church to fund their cold wet weather shelter in 2012. Following 2012, there should not be a need for that shelter because the supportive housing projects would have opened. He noted the Public Hearing regarding the Bowen Road supportive housing project rezoning will be held on 2011-Apr-14, and that all SPAC members are welcome to attend.
- e) Council Update – Feb. 14 – J. Kipp advised that Council has considered several requests for infill projects lately, and that hopefully this may decrease some housing prices.

10. STRATEGIC PLANNING

11. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting date is Tuesday, 2011-May-03.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.