



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

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**PRESENT:**

Z. Maartman, Chair  
B. Barton  
J. Kipp  
S. Welch

V. Alcock-Carter  
E. Forrester  
J. Neville

**REGRETS:**

A. Evans  
J. Lekisch  
J. Templeman

J. Cowling  
R. Meyerhoff

**STAFF:**

J. Horn, Social Planner

C. Hall, Recording Secretary

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1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved with the following additions:

- Invitation to Community Organized Dental Enterprise (CODE) Open House; and
- Info re VIU Community Information Session on the 'Economic Impact of International Students in Smaller Cities and Communities'.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by J. Kipp, SECONDED by E. Forrester, that the Minutes from 2011-Feb-01 be adopted as presented. CARRIED.

4. ITEMS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None.

5. DELEGATIONS

a) Nanaimo Citizen Advocacy Association

George McGladrey, Executive Director, thanked the Committee for inviting her to the meeting, and for their recommendation to Council that NCAA receive a Social Development grant in 2011. She noted that the provincial government has reduced gaming grants to every non-profit organization in the province.

She advised that NCAA started in the early 1970's as part of a recognition across Canada of people in need. Staff members consisting of professional counselors and volunteers, advocate and assist people with a wide variety of issues. Some of their services include:

- Completing disability applications, which they also confer with legal advocates on to ensure completeness of the applications.
- Helping clients “get to the bottom of their problems”, and referring them to VIHA for assistance if necessary. They liaise with the provincial ministries often, and hold the contract for third party referrals; i.e. people who have been banned from other agencies.
- Assisting people with residential tenancy problems.
- Providing information to other social agencies in the community on reoccurring issues.
- Providing outreach services to the entire mid-island area depending on the need, as many ministry offices have been closed. They have never turned anyone away in 40 years.
- Fundraising (which is a constant endeavour).

She distributed a brochure on the association, and statistical information on interventions from the past year which totaled 47,174 compared to 3,500 in 1999-2000.

The Committee stated it is sad how the need for NCAA's services has increased so dramatically, and commended Ms. McGladrey for the amazing job done by the NCAA. Concern was voiced regarding the provincial government not releasing the full amount of gaming revenue.

Ms. McGladrey was thanked for attending the meeting, following which she left.

## 6. CORRESPONDENCE

### a) Correspondence from Loaves & Fishes Community Food Bank

The Committee received the letter, dated 2011-Feb-22, which outlined how the Social Development grant received from the City in 2010 was utilized.

## 7. NEW BUSINESS

### a) Criteria for First Round of 2011 Community Service Grants

The Committee discussed several ideas regarding criteria, as well as changes to the application form.

MOVED by J. Neville , SECONDED by V. Alcock-Carter that the Community Service grant application be amended to remove the requirement for financial statements, but advising that they may be required at a later date. CARRIED.

MOVED by S. Welch, SECONDED by J. Neville that a notation be added to the Community Service grant application recognizing faith based organizations that are not registered societies, as eligible to apply. CARRIED.

MOVED by J. Kipp, SECONDED by S. Welch that the criteria for the first round of Community Service grants in 2011 be “projects or initiatives that help to improve the lives of people living in poverty”. CARRIED.

- b) J. Horn conveyed to the Committee an invitation from the Community Organized Dental Enterprise (CODE) to the opening celebration of the Nanaimo Dental Clinic on 2011-Mar-16. He will email the invitation to Committee members.
- c) J. Horn provided information on a session to be held at VIU on 2011-Mar-03 regarding the 'Economic Impact of International Students in Smaller Cities and Communities'. The guest speaker will be Dr. Roslyn Kunin, former Regional Economist for the federal government in BC.

8. OLD BUSINESS

None.

9. COMMITTEE UPDATES / COUNCIL UPDATE / INFO ITEMS

- a) PNAC – J. Kipp advised that PNAC has been reviewing the draft Zoning Bylaw, which will bring zoning in line with the OCP, and include Corridors to reflect social fabric. J. Horn noted that the proposed changes regarding minimum lot sizes have the potential to affect many people.
- b) Grants Advisory Committee – J. Neville reported the Committee has finished reviewing all applications for permissive tax exemption. Criteria that is used to determine the need of non-profits will be reviewed, and recommendations will be forwarded to Council on new criteria for grants and permissive tax exemptions.
- c) Safer Nanaimo Working Group – J. Horn advised that the Group recently discussed, with a representative of the RCMP Communications Division and Greg Perkins of Lahona Security, how the City considers CPTED when reviewing building permit applications.

The South End community had asked SAFER to look at alleys in their area, and SAFER subsequently designed a program for the community to reduce noxious activity. People are no longer congregating in the alley and getting out of hand, or tagging everything in sight. Some of the changes were lowering fences and hedges down to 42" so that residents can see what is happening in the alleys, and cleaning up backyards and fences which resulted in the residents "owning" the alley again and it being safe. There are other alleys in the city that could also benefit from such changes. Neighbourhoods should be given this information on how to get their alleys back.

- d) Nanaimo Working Group on Homelessness (NWGH) – S. Welch reported the group has been split into two parts. A community advisory board, 'Nanaimo's Community Advisory Board on Homelessness', consisting of 11 sectoral representatives will handle all matters related to federal HPS funding. The 'Nanaimo Working Group on Homelessness' will do community based activities like Thanksgiving dinner for the homeless. There will be no funding attached to the NWGH. Sharon has stepped down as chair and J. Horn will now work with the NWGH. Leslie Clark from the Womens Centre will work with the advisory board.

Sharon advised that a large group opposing the proposed supportive housing project in the Quarterway area recently attended a School Board meeting. In response, the Board may write a letter to City Council with concerns about affordable housing

being on both sides of Quarterway School. As the Board are only hearing the negative side, some positive lobbying by people in favour of the project might be helpful to the Board.

Z. Maartman requested J. Horn to contact the School District and ask that SPAC be put on their next agenda as a delegation.

- e) Council Updates: Feb.28 – B. Barton reported that Council discussed the new 7-11 store proposed for Nicol Street. Residents of the area are opposed to the store being open 24 hours/day. Council subsequently referred the issue to City staff to prepare an amendment to the Business License Bylaw restricting the store's hours.

Also discussed was the Conference Centre's denial of an application for a body painting contest because of the type of liquor license the Centre has.

J. Kipp advised that Council denied an application by Resort on the Lake for yard setback variances that had been requested so that park tenants could make upgrades to out buildings in order to comply with the Building Code as a condition of strata subdivision of the RV park. The issue has become a "social nightmare" with tenants worried about eviction.

10. STRATEGIC PLANNING

None.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting date is Tuesday, 2011-Apr-05.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.