



MINUTES
SOCIAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD TUESDAY, 2010-DEC-07, 4:45 PM
BOARD ROOM, CITY HALL, 455 WALLACE STREET

PRESENT:

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

V. Alcock-Carter
E. Forrester
J. Lekisch
J. Templeman

REGRETS:

A. Evans
J. Neville

J. Cowling

STAFF: J. Horn, Social Planner C. Hall, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by E. Forrester, SECONDED by S. Welch that the agenda be approved with the addition of an information item regarding a LGBTQ club for youth. CARRIED.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by V. Alcock-Carter, SECONDED by J. Lekisch that the Minutes from 2010-Nov-02 be adopted. CARRIED.

4. ITEMS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None.

5. DELEGATIONS

None.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a) 2011 Social Development Grant Program

S. Welch advised the Committee of a possible conflict of interest with regard to the application received from Nanaimo Citizen Advocacy Association. She stated that she sat on the NCAA Board until June 2010, and is currently employed by SET, who provided a letter in support of the grant application.

The Committee discussed the issue and determined that S. Welch was not in conflict of interest as she is not a present member of the NCAA board.

The Committee discussed the grant applications.

J. Horn advised that although the Salvation Army were chosen to submit a full application, they advised that because of time constraints, they would instead apply for a community service grant in the spring.

MOVED by J. Templeman, SECONDED by V. Alcock-Carter to recommend that Council allocate the following 2011 Social Development Grants:

| Organization | Purpose | Requested Amount | Recommended Amount |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Volunteer Nanaimo (sponsor) | Community Operated Dental Clinic | \$35,000 | \$29,000 |
| Haven Society/Nanaimo Women's Resources Society | Stepping Out Program | \$24,597.84 | \$20,000 |
| Nanaimo Citizen Advocacy Association | Operational Support | \$15,000 | \$11,000 |
| Nanaimo Women's Resources Society | Go Girl Program | \$15,000 | 0 |

CARRIED.

The Committee noted that although the Go Girl program appeared to be a very worthwhile project, grant funds were insufficient to cover all of the requests, and therefore SPAC made the difficult decision to recommend the project not receive a grant. Nanaimo Women's Resources Society are to be encouraged however, to apply for future funding.

b) Report to Council re Housing Legacy Reserve

J. Horn provided background on the Housing Legacy Reserve which is intended to provide a funding resource for municipal support to affordable housing initiatives. The City's recent involvement in supportive housing projects, as well as the amount and diversity of requests from non-profit organizations to access the funds, has resulted in a need for a policy to guide City staff in their assessment of the requests.

The Reserve is for capital build costs; i.e. physical construction components, and not for operational uses. The funds can also be used by the City to purchase sites for future affordable housing sites.

Although the Reserve is mainly for social housing purposes, providing relief from payment of DCC's for affordable housing projects, could also be considered.

The Committee inquired how the student housing project proposed for Wakesiah Avenue would fit in with the draft policy. J. Horn advised that the Wakesiah Avenue proposal is for market housing, so would therefore not be eligible for assistance from the Reserve.

MOVED by S. Welch, SECONDED by R. Meyerhoff that SPAC endorse the proposed Council policy entitled "Housing Legacy Reserve – Funding Allocation Criteria" to guide the use of the reserve for affordable housing initiatives. CARRIED.

c) Space for LGBTQ Club

J. Kipp advised that he had been asked about possible locations for a LGBTQ club for youth. The 7-10 Club premise is being considered as a possible location for use in the evenings, and funding sources are also being investigated. As the club is still in its early stages of planning, they have not submitted grant applications to SPAC. They may also contact the School District with regard to assistance. In response to a question from the Committee, J. Kipp advised that there is a greater need for this type of meeting space, than what Nanaimo Youth Services provides.

8. OLD BUSINESS

None.

9. COMMITTEE UPDATES / COUNCIL UPDATE / INFO ITEMS

- a) PNAC – R. Meyerhoff advised that at their last meeting, PNAC passed a motion encouraging City Council to retain their stance regarding the supportive housing projects planned for Nanaimo.
- b) Grants Advisory Committee – J. Neville – No report.
- c) Safer Nanaimo Working Group – J. Horn reported that after BC Housing has completed its EOI process with regard to choosing service providers for the proposed supportive housing projects, the information will be provided to the applicable neighbourhoods. He will notify SPAC members of those meeting dates.
- d) Nanaimo Working Group on Homelessness – S. Welch advised that the mandate for the NWGH has changed over time without the group changing accordingly. Following strategic planning around composition of the group, the NWGH have decided to change the group to a community entity model from the current shared delivery model with Service Canada. A local organization has been asked to be the community entity, and the group is awaiting their decision. They are also considering splitting the group into two parts, with each part having their own chair. One part would be service providers (new name to be determined) with sectoral representation. The second part, the current NWGH, will provide advocacy, organize

events, put out media releases, etc. The changes will probably not occur until June 2011.

In response to a question as to what the federal government is still funding, S. Welch replied they fund transitional housing, emergency shelters, and outreach services.

S. Welch also noted that a difficult situation exists with stakeholders of the group sometimes being the ones pursuing the funding. To address this, they will have open membership on the advocacy side, and closed membership on the other side. Service Canada is getting more rigid on what they will fund, and the group is not sure how much longer they will fund advocacy, so they are hoping that the new group that will do advocacy work will be able to access other funding sources.

e) Council Update – November 22 - S. Welch – No report.

f) Discussion re Supportive Housing Projects

J. Kipp advised that City Council are being strongly lobbied by residents in the hospital area who are opposed to the supportive housing project proposed for that area. The RCMP have stated, however, that statistically, crime goes down and the neighbourhood improves in areas where supportive housing is built.

The Committee noted that there has been a large amount of misinformation in the newspapers' letters to the editor regarding the project.

It was also suggested that the City meet with the School Board, in order to apprise the Board of the projects so that they have accurate information in case they are questioned about them.

10. STRATEGIC PLANNING

11. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting date is Tuesday, 2011-Jan-04.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm. The Committee proceeded to the Keg Restaurant for their Christmas social.