



MINUTES
SOCIAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD TUESDAY, 2010-OCT-05, 4:45 PM
BOARD ROOM, CITY HALL, 455 WALLACE STREET

PRESENT:

Z. Maartman, Chair
B. Barton
J. Lekisch
J. Neville

V. Alcock-Carter
J. Cowling
R. Meyerhoff
J. Templeman

REGRETS:

A. Evans
J. Kipp

E. Forrester
S. Welch

GUESTS: Councillor Fred Pattje

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:55 pm.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by J. Neville SECONDED by B. Barton that the Minutes from 2010-SEP-07 be adopted. CARRIED.

4. ITEMS ARISING FROM MINUTES

J. Horn advised that with respect to Item 4(a) of the Minutes, a consultant has been chosen to update the Social Status Report. SPAC members interested in attending will be advised when a meeting time is established with the consultant.

5. DELEGATIONS

None.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a) Review Social Development Grant Program Guidelines and Application Form

Comments

- A targeted call of societies on a particular subject matter could be considered.
- Concerned whether that would be ethical.
- There would be a responsibility to let everyone know.
- Add to the criteria that agencies should have had previous success in their application's subject matter.
- The present process works fine, but SPAC does have the capacity to set aside an amount for a particular project, and keep the remainder for a general RFP.
- Review the applications received prior to deciding whether to set aside an amount.
- Would targeting the applicants help eliminate overlapping?
- Organizations should be encouraged to work together with other agencies.
- Guidelines could state that groups working together are preferred, and that a larger grant would be considered.
- Clarification on ineligible expenses was given. The original intent was to exclude any legislated mandates of the Province. As there is no legislated mandate in the Province pertaining to food, that reference could be removed from the Guidelines. The reference to "educational services" should also be removed.
- Should the Committee be considering what their general intent is for the funds available prior to considering the guidelines?
- The guidelines should be more generic so that they don't have to be revised every time the criteria is changed; i.e. make them universal no matter what the criteria.
- Applications for grants-in-aid are rejected if they have received other funding from the City, such as permissive tax exemption (PTE).
- The Social Development grant and Community Service grant processes do not follow that rule.
- Should organizations be allowed to apply for more than two consecutive years for a specific project?
- Leave that requirement in to avoid applications on the same project every year.
- Consider giving more than "little band-aids".
- The Committee has the option to give more; they choose to "band-aid".
- Use language encouraging organizations to request the full amount required for their project.
- Should the Committee consult with Council on whether they know of interests that need to be addressed?
- SPAC has the expertise to make recommendations to Council who then consider them thoroughly.
- Council previously referred issues to SPAC. They haven't done so recently.
- Organize a full-day retreat for SPAC for them to consider what the role of social development is, and what the issues are.
- Is there any way to ask for a condensed form of financial statements?

- A more detailed budget about the project is necessary, and a condensed one about the organization.
- When the casino expands, Social Development grant funds will be a percentage of revenue.

MOVED by J. Templeman, SECONDED by V. Alcock-Carter that "Ineligible Services/Expenses" on Page 2 of the guidelines be amended to read:

"Any proposed service or program that falls within the legislated mandate of other levels of government will not be eligible for funding from the City of Nanaimo.

Other ineligible expenses include: training or banquets; travel expenses; and reducing or eliminating existing accumulated deficits."

CARRIED.

MOVED by V. Alcock-Carter, SECONDED by B. Barton that the guidelines and application form be amended to request a "consolidated financial statement (or year-end financial statements endorsed by two signing officers for the Board of Directors) rather than "most recent audited financial statement", and to add that more financial information may be requested. CARRIED.

b) Review Criteria for 2011 Social Development Grants

Comments

- Suggested an open call; i.e. demonstrate how the project would further the *Social Development Strategy*.
- It's important to make organizations aware of problems other than what they deal with.
- There are issues in the community that SPAC is unaware of as well.
- Having an open call might get applications from organizations who have not applied before.
- Last year the grant helped launch something that will be significant. Do not like assisting with core programming - don't see the City being a core funder.
- Use language about being innovative, etc.
- Could partnerships be encouraged to reduce duplication in the delivery of services?
- Existing initiatives can also be supported, such as the supportive housing projects; i.e. grants for local initiatives to improve the quality of life in the neighbourhoods.

MOVED by J. Cowling, SECONDED by J. Lekisch that the criteria for the 2011 Social Development grant program be "projects that address areas of focus in the *Social Development Strategy* and *Social Status Report*". CARRIED.

J. Neville noted the Nanaimo Working Group on Homelessness will be hosting a Thanksgiving dinner for the homeless at St. Paul's church on 2010-Oct-09.

F. Pattje left the meeting.

J. Neville left the meeting.

The Committee continued discussing the Social Development grant process, and recommended that organizations chosen to submit full applications be advised:

- SPAC would consider recommending a larger grant amount to organizations who work collaboratively with other organizations.
- Organizations should request the full amount required for their project.
- Innovative proposals are preferred.
- Projects that support existing initiatives are eligible.
- Prefer organizations to have had previous success on the issue their proposal would address.

8. OLD BUSINESS

None.

9. COMMITTEE UPDATES / COUNCIL UPDATE / INFO ITEMS

- a) PNAC – R. Meyerhoff noted that PNAC recommended approval of the South End Neighbourhood Plan to Council. Regarding the Newcastle + Brechin Neighbourhood Plan, reps. from the Brechin neighbourhood have issues with the number of votes the land owners along the waterfront have.

PNAC also considered a rezoning application from Traveller's Lodge, who plan to build a new building on Northfield Road.

- b) Grants Advisory Committee – J. Neville – No report.
- c) Safer Nanaimo Working Group – J. Horn reported that Safer will discuss how to conduct the public meetings to be held regarding the proposed supportive housing projects. The Chair requested that SPAC be advised by email when the meeting dates are set.
- d) Nanaimo Working Group on Homelessness – S. Welch – No report.
- e) Council Update – September 13 – J. Horn advised that Council received a report regarding the possible location of a supportive housing project in the north end of the city.

10. STRATEGIC PLANNING

None.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting date is Tuesday, 2010-Nov-02.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

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