



**MINUTES**  
**SOCIAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING HELD TUESDAY, 2010-JUL-06**  
**BOARD ROOM, CITY HALL**

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**PRESENT:**

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

V. Alcock-Carter  
J. Templeman  
J. Kipp  
R. Meyerhoff  
S. Welch

**REGRETS:** A. Evans

J. Cowling

**GUESTS:** L. Brown, Past Chair, Social Development Strategy Steering Committee

**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 as presented.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by R. Meyerhoff, SECONDED by J. Templeman, that the Minutes from 2010-Jun-04 be adopted. CARRIED

4. ITEMS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None.

5. DELEGATIONS

a) Lynne Brown, Past Chair, Social Development Strategy Steering Committee.

J. Horn introduced Ms. Brown and provided background information regarding the Social Development Strategy and the Social Status Report. The Report was commissioned for in 2003, and in 2007 the Social Development Strategy Steering Committee requested that an update be done on its indicators. The Social Development Strategy formed part of the new Official Community Plan in 2008, and the Social Development Strategy Steering Committee met regularly to discuss how to move the Strategy forward.

L. Brown advised that she was Chair of the Social Development Strategy Steering Committee since 2008, and that the Committee had just recently disbanded. A new process has now begun, looking at quality of life in the Nanaimo/Ladysmith area. The purpose of repositioning the issue was to attempt to make more people understand what it was about. Many people did not know what the Social Development Strategy was, but do know what the term "quality of life" means to

them, so the change in name is a translation, not a change of direction. A new steering committee will be struck, and an update will be done to the Social Status Report.

J. Horn advised that in order to hire a consultant to update the indicators, funding will be required. He advised SPAC that funds are available from a portion of the gaming revenue the City receives annually.

L. Brown was thanked for her presentation and she left the meeting.

Discussion followed regarding the process to update the indicators. In response to questions, J. Horn advised that the indicators should be updated every couple of years. The present indicators were chosen over a two-year process of workshops in which themes were gathered. New indicators can be considered in order to address emerging issues such as food security. It was suggested that SPAC review the indicators and prioritize them to give input to the new steering committee. J. Horn will email out the list of indicators to SPAC.

MOVED by J. Templeman, SECONDED by R. Meyerhoff that the committee replacing the Social Development Strategy Steering Committee recommend which Social Status Report indicators require updating; that a consultant be retained; and that up to \$10,000 be set aside from the 'Social Service Grants' fund for this purpose. CARRIED.

S. Welch arrived at the meeting.

MOVED by E. Forrester, SECONDED by J. Kipp that 'food security' be added to the list of indicators to be updated by the consultant. CARRIED

It was suggested that a member of SPAC sit on the new steering committee. J. Lekisch volunteered. S. Welch also voiced interest in sitting on the committee, depending on its meeting schedule. SPAC also thought it was important for a staff member from the School District to be a member of the steering committee.

## 6. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) A letter dated 2010-May-03 from Nanaimo & Region Disability Resource Centre thanking the City for a 2010 Community Services Grant in the amount of \$3,500 was received.

## 7. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Community Service Grants

The Committee discussed what the criteria should be for the second round of 2010 Community Service grants, with \$10,000 still to be allocated.

Issues that food providers in the community are facing were discussed. Some Committee members stated they had a conundrum on the topic of food security because it is within the provincial government's mandate, but there is a lack in what the Province is actually doing with regard to food and poverty.

The Committee decided that “food provision to people living in poverty” would be the criteria for the next round of Community Service grants.

8. OLD BUSINESS

None.

9. COMMITTEE UPDATES / COUNCIL UPDATE / INFO ITEMS

- a) PNAC – R. Meyerhoff reported that the South End Neighbourhood Plan is almost complete, but the Newcastle + Brechin plan is not as far along in the process due to issues that have arisen respecting waterfront development. J. Kipp noted that both plans used the same process, but with diametric results.

Rezoning applications considered by PNAC recently included one for a highrise on Port Place property, and one for student housing on Wakesiah Avenue across from VIU. That application is proposing 300 ft<sup>2</sup> dorm-like units. As Wakesiah Avenue has a ‘Corridor’ designation in the Official Community Plan, many different uses would be permitted there, including student housing. As this is the first application of its type, PNAC believes more study needs to be done as to how the street should be developed.

- b) Grants Advisory Committee – J. Neville advised that the Grants Advisory Committee recently considered two applications. The 7-10 Club was found to be ineligible as they had already received tax exemption from the City, and the Genealogy Association’s request for tax relief was also denied on the basis that people using the service were able to pay for it. In August, the Grants Committee will review permissive tax exemptions, property by property.
- c) Safer Nanaimo Working Group – J. Horn advised that he recently attended the ground breaking for the 18-unit Tillicum Lelum affordable housing project on Tenth Street at which representatives from the Ministry of Housing also attended. This project is the first of five that are listed in the MOU between the City and the Province. The City will provide the land, and the Province will provide the funding (approx. \$31 million). The other projects will be located on Wesley Street (35-40 units), Bowen Road (35-40 units), Townsite Road (70 units), and Hillside Avenue (10 units ).

With respect to the Townsite Road proposal, attendees at a recent public meeting believed that all social infrastructure gets built in the central and south areas of Nanaimo, and not in the north end. J. Horn agreed that 70 units is excessive for this property, and will look into obtaining approvals from BC Housing and the City to use City-owned property in the north end, or to purchase property with housing legacy funds, to move 35 of the 70 units there.

J. Horn noted that each project will be operated by a non-profit society. Units will be pooled and every individual will be assessed to where they would fit better. Operational details still need to be worked out with VIHA. The Committee stated some pros and cons of pooling the units:

- We’re losing ground in housing women, so there would be value in providing specific units for women.
- Pooling would provide more choices for women.

- Having units for men and women in the same building might discourage some organizations from applying to operate them, as it might not fit their mandate.

J. Horn concurred that anything that might push away potential providers would be a problem, as the provider also has to have the capacity to be around as long as the operating term.

- d) Nanaimo Working Group on Homelessness – S. Welch reported that the Working Group had a report card prepared as an alternative to doing a census. VIU students did the research, but because the students were on a tight timeline, some data was missed and therefore a complete snap-shot was not obtained. The Working Group will have to decide whether to continue the research.

e) Council Update:

*June 7* – E. Forrester noted presentations were given regarding the South Fork Water Treatment Plant, and regarding storage of recreational vehicles (RV's) on residential properties.

*June 21* – Z. Maartman advised that a presentation was given by the 7-10 Club regarding a budget shortfall, and Council approved a development permit at Port Place. J. Kipp noted that the zoning amendment bylaw pertaining to the proposed highrise at Port Place will be going to an upcoming Public Hearing. Zeni also advised that Council agreed to recommend that the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch approve the Casino's liquor license application with SPAC's provisos.

10. STRATEGIC PLANNING

None.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting date is Tuesday, 2010-Sep-07. (No meeting in August)

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm.

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Chair

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Date