



MINUTES
SOCIAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD TUESDAY, 2010-FEB-02
BOARD ROOM, CITY HALL

PRESENT:

Jim Kipp, Chair
Adam Evans
Judy Lekisch
John Neville

Bev Barton
Elizabeth Forrester
Zeni Maartman
Sharon Welch

REGRETS:

Val Alcock-Carter
Ralph Meyerhoff

Janet Cowling
Jane Templeman

STAFF:

John Horn, Social Planner

Cindy Hall, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF LATE ITEMS & AGENDA

The agenda was approved with the addition of an item pertaining to Loaves & Fishes (E. Forrester).

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by J. Neville, SECONDED by S. Welch that the Minutes from 2010-Jan-05 be adopted. CARRIED.

4. ITEMS ARISING FROM MINUTES

J. Horn advised that he will write a letter of support for the Schools Foundation as noted in the Minutes.

5. DELEGATIONS

6. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Letter dated 2010-Jan-13 from the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) re Balmoral Hotel – Building Permit and Housing Legacy Fund Issues.

J. Horn advised that the City has a Housing Legacy Fund consisting of approximately \$3 million made up of contributions from developers and from taxation. The CMHA are requesting funds from the Housing Legacy Fund to provide sprinklering in the affordable housing units, at a price of \$53,000. City staff support their request, and would like SPAC's consideration.

MOVED by Z. Maartman, SECONDED by J. Lekisch to recommend that Council approve Option #3 in the letter from CMHA (i.e. "Forgive the water connection fee and provide a Housing Legacy grant to the Society to cover the cost of completing the fire sprinkler tree and suppression system to the remainder of the building." CARRIED unanimously.

- b) Email dated 2010-Jan-12 from Susan Murphy regarding 'Four Feet Up' film event.

J. Horn advised that sponsoring this type of an event is an example of an action that SPAC could undertake. Committee members added that a City committee such as SPAC would also have access to City facilities, and also that the topic, child poverty, is something that SPAC should raise awareness of considering child poverty rates.

MOVED by Z. Maartman, SECONDED by S. Welch that the correspondence be received and forwarded to SPAC's strategic planning session. CARRIED.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Council Report re Committee Review - J. Kipp gave an overview of the report noting that committee member appointments have been extended to 2012-Mar-31, and that advisory committees can now elect their own chair.

The SPAC committee review session was deferred to March 2. The previous year's workplan will be sent out with the agenda, and members will bring their top three issues to the session.

- b) Loaves & Fishes – E. Forrester advised that a manual card registration system is used at the outlying food distribution depots. As data is lost if cards go missing or are mis-filed, the depots would like to change to a computerized system, which would also reveal whether anyone had registered more than once. She inquired how old City Hall laptops are disposed of, as the depots could utilize them. J. Kipp advised that he would check with the City's Information Technology department, and Z. Maartman advised that she would check whether BCAA could donate some laptops to the food depots.

8. OLD BUSINESS

9. COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL UPDATES / INFO ITEMS

- a) Plan Nanaimo Advisory Committee – No report.
- b) Grants Advisory Committee – No report.
- c) Safer Nanaimo Working Group – J. Horn advised that SAFER will be launching the Wesley Street supported housing project by providing information about the communications strategy and service provider at the Feb. 8 Council meeting and a press conference on Feb. 9. John also noted that as SAFER's mandate now includes all of Nanaimo and not just the downtown, they would welcome issues brought to them by other neighbourhoods.

d) Nanaimo Working Group on Homelessness – S. Welch reported that the Working Group is looking at their structure and purpose in order to avoid duplication. She also advised that the John Howard Society finally received its funding from the federal government.

e) Council Update

2010-Jan-25 – Z. Maartman noted the following:

- There was a lengthy discussion about Councillors receiving information after the Oceanview Master Plan public hearing, and whether it qualified as new information.
- An Economic Development Commission will be formed. Zeni noted the lack of an environmental voice and social voice in the proposed membership, in comparison to the previous Economic Development Strategy which included economic development, environment and social; the three components which must be “married” to create a desirable and vibrant city.

J. Kipp advised that the commission is meant to meld the Economic Development Office (EDO) and the Economic Development Group (EDG) together, and to address a concern that there was no Council rep. on EDG.

10. STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Strategic Planning session will be held following SPAC's next regular meeting on 2010-Mar-02. The 2009 Workplan will be forwarded to the members who will bring their top three issues for consideration in 2010 to the session.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 2010-Mar-02 at 4:45 pm in the City Hall Board Room.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.

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Chair

Date