

MINUTES
SOCIAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, 2008-DEC-10, BOARD ROOM, CITY HALL

Present: Jim Kipp, Chair
Val Alcock-Carter
Elizabeth Forrester
Diana Johnstone
Ralph Meyerhoff

Bev Barton
Adam Evans
Lynne Fraser
Zeni Maartman
Kathy Torhjem

Staff: John Horn, Social Planner
Cindy Hall, Recording Secretary

Regrets: Andrea Bonkowski Amrit Lally

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:50 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved with the addition of a letter from Community Kitchens (to be considered under 'Correspondence').

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by Z. Maartman, SECONDED by K. Torhjem that the Minutes from 2008-Nov-12 be adopted. CARRIED.

4. ITEMS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

None.

5. DELEGATIONS

None.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

The following two pieces of correspondence were received by the Committee:

- a) Letter dated 2008-Dec-01 from the South End Community Association providing an update on how funds from their 2008 Community Service grant from the City have been used so far.
- b) Letter dated 2008-Nov-17 from the Nanaimo Community Kitchens Society thanking SPAC for their \$3,500 Community Service Grant, and advising of activities planned by the Society.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a) 2009 Social Development Grants Program - The Committee considered applications from:

Applicant	Project	Amount Requested
Haven Society in partnership with the Women's Resource Society	'Stepping Out': <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a continuum of care intended to assist women exit the sex trade in a safe and manageable manner. Will work cooperatively with a number of community partners to ensure the success of the project. 	\$54,632
Nanaimo Men's Resource Centre	'Male and Transgendered Sex Trade Workers': <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To design a program to assist male and transgendered sex trade workers to leave the sex trade industry. Will partner with other agencies to implement the program to prevent and delete overlaps and inefficiencies. 	\$20,000

The Committee discussed the applications and some of their comments were:

- Do not think it is the City's responsibility to fund research.
- The NMRC project includes a research piece, but that portion will be funded by BC Gaming Commission funds, and not by any City funds received.
- Stats. are not presently known on Nanaimo's male and transgendered sex trade.
- Maybe their research will determine that they cannot address the problem.
- Invite them to a SPAC meeting when their research is complete, so that they can advise how the grant monies will be used.

MOVED by Z. Maartman, SECONDED by V. Alcock-Carter to recommend that the City allocate Social Development grants in the amounts of \$40,000 to Haven Society in partnership with the Women's Resource Society, and \$20,000 to the Nanaimo Men's Resource Centre with confirmation that the \$20,000 to the NMRC will be used for its project's second-stage action plan. CARRIED.

The Committee directed that following Council's decision, letters be sent to the applicants advising of the decision and also inviting them to attend a SPAC meeting to advise how the grant funds will be used.

- b) Homelessness - D. Johnstone stated that until the proposed affordable housing units are built, there is a need to provide shelter for the homeless. J. Horn advised that a further 60 shelter beds come available when the extreme weather protocol is enacted. J. Kipp suggested that he, D. Johnstone, and J. Horn also look into whether the emergency program mattresses stored at the Fire Rescue station could be used for the homeless.

J. Horn advised that the Working Group on Homelessness investigated the use of campgrounds during the winter for the homeless, but found that the campground owners were not interested in renting them out or selling them for that purpose. The Working Group were also unable to locate property suitably zoned for campsites. J. Kipp suggested that the issue of homeless people camping be put on SPAC's 2009

Workplan. A suggestion was made that this type of camping could be regulated in the same manner that low-income housing is by use of an application or resume.

8. ISSUES ARISING OUT OF NEW BUSINESS

None.

9. COMMITTEE UPDATES / COUNCIL MONITORING / INFO ITEMS

a) Plan Nanaimo Advisory Committee - No report.

b) Grants Advisory Committee - No report.

c) Council Monitoring - No report.

d) Info Items:

- Affordable Housing Project (Bowen/Meredith) - L. Fraser advised that extensive work is finally underway at this site.

10. STRATEGIC PLANNING

None.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, 2009-Jan-14 at 4:45 pm (meeting room to be determined). **[Was subsequently changed to 2009-Mar-11]**

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting portion adjourned at 5:30 pm. The Committee then held its Christmas Social until 7:30 pm.