

**MINUTES**  
**SOCIAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**WEDNESDAY, 2008-NOV-12, BOARD ROOM, CITY HALL**

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**Present:** Zeni Maartman, Acting Chair                      Bev Barton  
                 Andrea Bonkowski                                Val Alcock-Carter  
                 Adam Evans     Elizabeth Forrester  
                 Lynne Fraser     Diana Johnstone  
                 Kathy Torhjelm

**Staff:** John Horn, Social Planner  
                 Dale Lindsay, Manager, Planning  
                 Cindy Hall, Recording Secretary

**Regrets:** Diane Brennan                                      Ralph Meyerhoff  
                 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 'Memorandum of Understanding' by J. Horn.
3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES  
MOVED by V. Alcock-Carter, SECONDED by L. Fraser that the Minutes from 2008-Oct-08 be adopted. CARRIED.
4. ITEMS ARISING FROM MINUTES:  
None.
5. DELEGATIONS
  - a) Dale Lindsay, Manager of Planning updated the Committee on the issue of rooming houses:
    - There are a number of rooming houses in the community that are not acknowledged by zoning. The Zoning Bylaw allows up to five unrelated persons to share a building; anything over that is considered a rooming house. Staff are trying to determine where they are and the magnitude of upgrades required.
    - When the Fire Dept. inspects them and identifies upgrades that are needed, the City is unable to issue building permits because the use is not permitted in the Zoning Bylaw.
    - In response to this issue, on 2008-Oct-06, Council endorsed staff's recommendations that amendments be made to the Zoning Bylaw in order to permit and regulate rooming houses.
    - Rooming houses with greater than 10 rooms will be subject to a housing agreement. (J. Horn noted that staff are aware of 2 buildings with over 10 rooms, and 25 buildings with between 5-10 rooms.)
    - Staff are also looking at what incentives could be offered to the owner. By making the process straight forward and legal, it will encourage more safe, affordable housing.

Discussion followed.

MOVED by E. Forrester, SECONDED by A. Evans that SPAC reconsider their motion made at their 2008-Oct-08 meeting directing staff to “draft a response to City Council that SPAC agrees with housing agreements but do not find it appropriate to set rental limits.” CARRIED.

MOVED by V. Alcock-Carter, SECONDED by L. Fraser to recommend that the housing agreement used for rooming houses over 10 units ensure that the monthly rental for each sleeping unit does not exceed the housing allowance as established by the Province of British Columbia plus utilities. CARRIED.

## 6. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

## 7. NEW BUSINESS

- a) The following Letters of Intent for the 2009 Social Development Grant Program with criteria being “projects that improve the chances of success for sex-trade workers attempting to exit the industry” were reviewed. Prior to discussion of the Letters, J. Horn noted that he would be abstaining from any discussion regarding the Letter of Intent from Nanaimo Family Life Association.

Organization	Purpose	Amount
AVI Health Centre	200 hrs./yr. of street outreach; counselling; advocacy & referral for sex-trade workers attempting to exit the industry.	\$10,000
Nanaimo Men’s Resource Centre	Research, identify & recommend steps to help male & transgendered prostitutes leave the sex-trade industry.	\$20,000
Nanaimo Family Life Association	Help clients build a cohesive support network & assist them to make changes that will support them in creating healthy independence for their future.	Not indicated
Haven Society in collaboration with the Nanaimo Women’s Resources Society	Service provision which addresses a woman’s initial decision to exit as well as providing the supports necessary to successfully transition away from street life.	Not indicated

MOVED by K. Torhjelm, SECONDED by L. Fraser that all the organizations who submitted Letters of Intent be asked to submit a full application, but that they explore the potential to collaborate with the other proponents. CARRIED.

- b) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) - J. Horn advised that the City of Nanaimo has signed a MOU with BC Housing regarding the development of sites to create 160 supportive housing units in Nanaimo aimed at the hardest to house. Sites identified are:
- 437, 441, 445 Wesley Street and 421 Franklyn Street (City-owned);
  - 1402-1590 Bowen Road (City-owned);
  - 1598 Townsite Road (City-owned);
  - 3515 Hillside Avenue (PRHC-owned); and
  - 477 Tenth Street (Tillicum Lelum-owned).

In response to a question about SPAC recognition for projects that SPAC has endorsed or initiated, J. Horn stated that SPAC may wish to have a member attend openings, etc. and speak on SPAC's behalf.

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 - Z. Maartman advised that consideration of Permissive Tax Exemptions is now complete.
- c) Council Monitoring - No report.

10. STRATEGIC PLANNING

None.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 2008-Dec-10 at 4:45 p.m. in the City Hall Board Room, with a Christmas Social to follow at Basque Restaurant.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.