

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

---

**Present:** Diane Brennan, Chair  
Bev Barton  
Adam Evans  
Lynne Fraser  
Amrit Lally  
Ralph Meyerhoff

Val Alcock-Carter  
Andrea Bonkowski  
Elizabeth Forrester  
Diana Johnstone  
Zeni Maartman  
Kathy Torhjem

**Staff:** Bruce Anderson, Manager, Community Planning  
Deborah Jensen, OCP Planner  
Cindy Hall, Recording Secretary

**Regrets:** John Horn, Social Planner

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by L. Fraser, SECONDED by V. Alcock-Carter that the agenda be approved.  
CARRIED.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by K. Torhjem, SECONDED by E. Forrester that the Minutes from 2008-Feb-13 be adopted. CARRIED.

4. ITEMS ARISING FROM MINUTES: The following actions were taken as requested in the 2008-Feb-13 Minutes:

a) Nanaimo Men's Resource Centre - A letter was sent to NMRC.

b) Grant Guidelines - Guidelines were amended.

c) Inviting Non-profit Organizations to SPAC Meetings - The NMRC have been invited to the next SPAC meeting.

d) Closure of ADAPT - Letters were sent to MLA's Ron Cantelon and Leonard Krog.  
The Committee requested that J. Horn give an update on ADAPT at the next SPAC meeting.

5. NEW MEMBER

Amrit Lally was welcomed to the Committee.

## 6. DELEGATIONS

### a) B. Anderson, Manager, Community Planning and D. Jensen, OCP Planner re 10-Year OCP Review:

- The draft OCP is now available for review. It can be viewed on the City's website, as well as in public facilities. A summary "wrap" will be in the March 13 Bulletin newspaper and displays will be at Woodgrove Mall on March 29 and Port Place on April 5.
- The first phase of the OCP 10-Year Review was a background review which proceeded into a community conference and several workshops.
- A working paper containing policy directions was considered over the summer, and after being reviewed by PNAC, a draft plan was prepared.
- The Review schedule was thrown off track by some very large Official Community Plan amendments being received by the City.
- Process is back on track now in Phase 2 with the issuing of the draft plan and a public forum to be held on April 10 at Beban Park. Comments from the forum and website will then be reviewed and the plan amended accordingly.
- Phase 3 will include Council consideration of the revised plan, and then the adoption process of the required bylaw.
- The approach of the Review was to reaffirm the vision of "Imagine Nanaimo", verify and confirm what was still relevant in "Plan Nanaimo", refine some elements, and make sustainability more explicit as a guiding principle. Social and economic goals have also been added.
- Tried to simplify the document and make it less regulatory and a more policy document.
- The UCB has been amended and urban reserve areas have been added for Linley Valley and Jingle Pot areas. The new alignment tried to manage urban growth but still pay respect to agricultural reserve lands and environmentally sensitive areas.
- Looking at an urban nodes and corridors concept to try to focus residential density on corridors that run between major urban nodes, and support transit along the corridors, with more frequent transit service between the nodes. This would encourage less vehicle usage. Is also a way to increase density, which wasn't happening with the neighbourhood village concept, so that concept is not proposed to be continued in the new plan.
- Will still have neighbourhood commercial centres, just not on a neighbourhood village scale.
- City may want to explore community centre opportunities more, in light of the fact that social service agencies are struggling for homes and need to be in neighbourhoods. Schools may provide some opportunities for this use.

When asked to comment on the impact the Cable Bay proposal will have on the community's social issues such as affordable housing, Mr. Anderson advised:

- Development is market driven.
- The Cable Bay development proposes to add a new very specific market to Nanaimo centering around an amenity; i.e. golf course.
- As it is geared toward the higher end of the market, it would not necessarily pull the rest of housing costs up, and because of its proposed location he was not sure if it would have any social impacts compared to if it were built in an area of low income housing where it could possibly increase that area's market values.
- Amenities from the developer still need to be negotiated - the funds will go directly into the housing legacy fund.

- With respect to concerns about increased traffic on Cedar Road, road access will come out Lindsay Road and there will be a new alignment to connect to the Duke Pt. Highway. There also will be a secondary access via Nicola Road.
- As some of the property lies within the RDN, the boundary extension issue is presently being considered by the Province.
- Would not be residential support for a town centre at the Cable Bay development - would more likely be a local service centre geared toward the residents.

Mr. Anderson and Ms. Jensen were thanked for their presentation and they left the meeting.

## 7. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) MOVED by D. Johnstone, SECONDED by A. Bonkowski that the letter dated 2008-Jan-04 from the Nanaimo Region John Howard Society thanking the City of Nanaimo for the grant which will assist them with the Social Development Feasibility Analysis be accepted. CARRIED.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS / COMMITTEE UPDATES / INFORMATION ITEMS

a) Satellite Food Bank

K. Torhjem advised that a Loaves & Fishes satellite food bank is now operating out of Brechin United Church every Tuesday from 1 - 3 p.m. which eases the pressure on the Farquhar location. Loaves & Fishes are also considering other locations such as Cedar.

MOVED by L. Fraser, SECONDED by R. Meyerhoff that a letter of thanks be sent to Brechin United Church Council and volunteers from Hope Lutheran Church for working with Loaves & Fishes on food distribution, and for use of the building. CARRIED.

b) Reports from Committee Reps.

**Plan Nanaimo Advisory Committee** - R. Meyerhoff advised that some of his concerns with regard to moving the urban containment boundary have been addressed.

**Grants Advisory Committee** - Z. Maartman advised that the March meeting had been cancelled, so had nothing new to report.

**Secondary Suites Committee** - L. Fraser advised that recommendations will be going to Council regarding "granny flats", and then out to the public for input.

D. Brennan advised that with respect to rooming houses, the City is asking the province to assist in ways to maintain the rooming houses because we do not want to lose more units from the affordable housing stock.

c) Council Monitoring

**2008-Feb-25** - L. Fraser advised:

- An application to move a liquor license to upstairs at the Modern Café was rejected.
- Community Social Service Week was declared.
- The addition of a social goal to the OCP was announced.
- Request to keep goats in a residential yard was turned down.
- Amrit Lally was appointed to SPAC.

**2008-Mar-10** - Z. Maartman advised:

- The decision regarding the liquor license at the upstairs of the Modern was reversed.
- A presentation was given by City staff on the OCP 10-Year Review.
- The 7-10 Club received an extension of their temporary lease at the Community Services Building.

d) Discussion re Social Component of OCP

MOVED by A. Evans, SECONDED by V. Alcock-Carter that this item be deferred to the next meeting. CARRIED.

e) Municipal Support to Nanaimo's Non-profit Sector

The Committee discussed the merits of having a gathering of social service non-profits once a year to acknowledge that the City is interested in the work that they do.

MOVED by R. Meyerhoff, SECONDED by Z. Maartman that J. Horn be requested to explore the concept of having a workshop that would bring together non-profit social service providers, and that he report back at the next meeting. CARRIED.

f) Criteria for Next Round of Community Service Grants

MOVED by K. Torhjelm, SECONDED by D. Johnstone that J. Horn and C. Sholberg be requested to prepare criteria for the next round of Community Service Grants that would encourage social improvements to neighbourhoods. CARRIED.

MOVED by K. Torhjelm, SECONDED by L. Fraser that the application deadline for this round of Community Service Grants be extended to 2008-May-01. CARRIED.

Staff were directed to proceed with advertising for the grants after the criteria is determined, and to email the criteria to SPAC members for their information.

9. STRATEGIC PLANNING10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 2008-Apr-09.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.