

MINUTES
SOCIAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, 2007-OCT-10, BOARD ROOM, CITY HALL

Present: Diane Brennan, Chair
Bev Barton
Diana Johnstone
Ralph Meyerhoff
Val Alcock
Lynne Fraser
Zeni Maartman
Kathy Torhjelm

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

Regrets: Andrea Bonkowski
Elizabeth Forrester
Adam Evans
Darcy Ross

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by K. Torhjelm, SECONDED by L. Fraser that the agenda be approved with the following addition:

- Criteria for next round of Social Development Grants
- CARRIED.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by Z. Maartman, SECONDED by K. Torhjelm that the Minutes from 2007-Jul-11 be adopted. CARRIED.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

a) None.

5. COMMITTEE UPDATES / INFORMATION ITEMS / NEW BUSINESS

- a) Report to Council re Community Service Grants - The Committee reviewed the report that will be considered by Council on 2007-Oct-15, recommending Community Service Grant allocations. On 2007-Sep-18, the SPAC sub-committee consisting of D. Brennan, Z. Maartman and J. Horn reviewed 12 applications and chose 5 to receive funding totaling \$15,000. Rationale for the sub-committee's recommendations was discussed.

K. Torhjelm left the meeting room.

MOVED by Z. Maartman, SECONDED by L. Fraser to recommend that Council approve the following Community Service Grant allocations:

Applicant	Amount	Purpose of Grant \$
United Way Central Island	\$5,000	'Clemente' program
Central V.I. Multicultural Society	\$1,000	Multicultural Health Fair
Nanaimo Community Gardens Society	\$4,425	Community Gardens
Nanaimo Community Kitchens Society	\$4,425	Community Kitchens' Programs
United Way Central Island	\$ 150	Offset cost of Fundraising Campaign Banner

CARRIED.

K. Torhjelm returned to the meeting.

- b) Excellence in Social Development Awards - The Committee reviewed applications received for the 2007 award program.

MOVED by D. Johnstone, SECONDED by L. Fraser to recommend that John Barsby Secondary School be awarded an Excellence in Social Development Award in the Caring Young Person (under 19) or School/Youth Group category. CARRIED.

MOVED by D. Johnstone, SECONDED by V. Alcock to recommend that Joanne Bevis be awarded an Excellence in Social Development Award in the 'Caring Citizen' category. CARRIED.

MOVED by Z. Maartman, SECONDED by R. Meyerhoff to recommend that the Clemente Program be awarded an Excellence in Social Development Award in the 'Community Collaboration' category. CARRIED.

MOVED by R. Meyerhoff, SECONDED by B. Barton to recommend that the MGM Restaurant be awarded an Excellence in Social Development Award in the 'Caring Corporate Citizen' category. CARRIED.

As no nominations were received for the 'Caring Non-profit Society', it was decided that nominations would still be accepted for that category, and that an email poll of SPAC members would be taken on any forms received.

MOVED by Z. Maartman, SECONDED by K. Torhjelm that based on the email poll that will be taken on the 'Caring Non-profit Society' category, that SPAC empower D. Brennan to make that recommendation to Council. CARRIED.

- c) Homeless Census 2007 - A draft Report to Council was considered on the homeless census held in Nanaimo on 2007-Sep-26. A few points noted were:
- Approximate number of homeless people interviewed was 181.
 - Majority were between 26 and 50 years old, with the youngest being 14 and the oldest 64.
 - 70 people have been in Nanaimo for more than a year.
 - Results of the survey determine how resources are spent. For example, the first survey indicated there was a fairly even split between female and male homeless persons, but the shelter beds did not reflect that. Samaritan House has since been converted to a women-only shelter. Also, as urban aboriginals have been found to be a significant percentage of the homeless, funds have been allocated accordingly.
 - Homeless persons' names are not taken when doing the surveys. However when people stay at the shelters their names are checked with the police to make sure there are no warrants out for their arrest.

MOVED by D. Johnstone, SECONDED by K. Torhjelm to receive the report. CARRIED.

- d) Reports from Committee Reps:

PNAC - R. Meyerhoff advised that the committee is still working on the OCP Ten-year Review, so the next application round has been deferred until next spring.

Grants-in-Aid - Z. Maartman advised that the MCSEEDS organization had also applied to the Grants-in-Aid Committee for funds to assist with their proposed agricultural farm. Committee members were generally interested in the concept, but felt it was premature.

MOVED by B. Barton, SECONDED by V. Alcock to receive the reports. CARRIED.

- e) Criteria for next round of Social Development Grants - As the next round of Social Development Grants will be starting up shortly, the Committee discussed possible eligibility criteria.

MOVED by K. Torhjelm, SECONDED by B. Barton that the criteria for the next round of Social Development Grants be "families living in poverty". CARRIED.

6. DELEGATIONS

None.

7. STRATEGIC PLANNING

- a) Social Development Strategy - In order to determine what the next steps should be with regard to the Strategy, a representative from the Social Development Strategy Steering Committee will be invited to the next SPAC meeting to discuss this matter.

D. Brennan left the meeting.

- b) Social Service Rezoning - J. Horn advised that Council will be considering adoption of the social service resource centres zoning bylaw on 2007-Oct-15. If the bylaw proceeds, SPAC may wish to make recommendations to Council on a community consultation process. Discussion followed:
- If the zoning passes, public consultation is not required. Social agencies can locate where they want without having to deal with nimbyism. People will always say no before they say yes to something like this.
 - The majority of people at the public hearing were in favour of the rezoning.
 - If the zoning goes through, will need to use it very wisely.
 - People do have issues about this proposed zoning. Have heard many concerns regarding the Community Services Building.
 - Believes SPAC should have a role in recommending a process that should be followed before social services locate somewhere.
 - Maybe develop a good neighbour agreement for these uses.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 2007-Nov-14.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.