

MINUTES
SOCIAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, 2007-MAY-09, BOARD ROOM, CITY HALL

Present: Zeni Maartman, Acting Chair Val Alcock
Beverley Barton Andrea Bonkowski
Diane Brennan (late) Adam Evans
Elizabeth Forrester Diana Johnstone
Ralph Meyerhoff Darcy Ross

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

Regrets: Lynne Fraser Kathy Torhjelm

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:47 p.m. by Acting Chair Z. Maartman.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED by D. Ross, SECONDED by E. Forrester that the agenda be approved with the following addition:

- Zoning for Social Services
- CARRIED.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by R. Meyerhoff, SECONDED by D. Ross that the Minutes from 2007-Apr-11 be adopted. CARRIED.

4. NEW BUSINESS / COMMITTEE UPDATES / INFORMATION ITEMS

- a) Community Service Grant Sub-committee - A report from the sub-committee's meeting held 2007-May-09 was distributed. It recommended that the following grants be allocated:

Applicant	Amount	Purpose of Grant \$
F.A.S.D. Society	\$1,000.	Education and awareness events regarding Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.
Crisis Society	\$3,000.	Printing costs of newsletter, and membership fees in Chamber of Commerce & 'Foundation Search' and 'Big Online'.
7-10 Society	\$4,000.	Operate soup kitchen.
Meals on Wheels Society	\$2,000.	To meet increased cost of fuel, increase token honorarium paid to volunteer coordinator, and re-establish reserves and working capital.

The report also advised that the next application deadline is 2007-Sep-15 and there will be \$15,000. available to be allocated. The Sub-committee recommended the following

criteria for that round: "Engaging people in the public life of the community in order to create a more liveable community."

It was noted in discussion of this item that the two deadline dates for the Community Service Grants will be April 15 and September 15 of each year. John will also check the criteria for festival grants given out by the Cultural Committee to ensure that the criteria suggested for the next round of SPAC's Community Services grants does not conflict.

MOVED by R. Meyerhoff, SECONDED by D. Ross that the Sub-committee's report be endorsed, and that SPAC forward a report to Council on the recommended grant allocations. CARRIED.

J. Horn advised that further to the Sub-committee's discussions, he will redraft the Council guidelines for Community Services Grants, and will bring a draft Report to Council on this to the next SPAC meeting. D. Brennan stated that these amendments to the guidelines will reflect a move to being able to assist 'community services' rather than just 'social services', e.g. neighbourhood groups will then be eligible to apply.

- b) Plan Nanaimo Advisory Committee - R. Meyerhoff advised that PNAC's role in the last amendment round has now concluded. They had previously asked that the next amendment round be postponed until the OCP Ten-year Review was completed; however, four applications for minor changes have since been submitted so PNAC will proceed with reviewing them. With respect to the OCP Ten-year Review, a draft discussion paper is expected shortly from the consultants and will be discussed by PNAC.
 - c) Grants Advisory Committee - Z. Maartman advised that the Grants Advisory Committee had not met since her last report to SPAC.
 - d) Social Development Strategy Steering Committee - J. Horn reported that at the last SDS Steering Committee meeting, a sub-committee was formed to look at how to reflect the social agenda in the OCP. When the sub-committee met, they looked at it from two perspectives: the six focus areas of the Social Development Strategy; and an overall view of what social pieces should be included in the OCP. As this is a "work in progress" John will provide SPAC with a copy of the submission as soon as possible. R. Meyerhoff stressed the importance of having the social aspects included in the Review.
- D. Brennan advised that the proposed commencement date for the 'Clemente' program is 2008-Jan-01. Mal-U has prepared a tentative budget and is discussing possible funding with the City, and space requirements with the Multicultural Society.
- e) Council Monitoring - Contentious OCP amendment applications were considered at both the April 16th & 30th Council meetings. E. Forrester advised that there was good representation from residents in the Hammond Bay area opposed to the 'Hammond Bay Road gas bar' application at the April 16th meeting, and D. Brennan noted the many delegations in opposition to the 'Stewart Avenue high-rises' application at the April 30th meeting. Both applications were subsequently denied by Council.
 - f) Zoning for Social Services - J. Horn advised that one of the recommendations contained in the 'Strategy to Promote a Safer Downtown' that was ratified by Council on 2007-Apr-16 addressed zoning for social services. When the City's Zoning Bylaw No. 4000 was adopted, it resulted in the opening of social service resource centres requiring a

rezoning. The odds of the rezonings being approved were slim because of the contentious nature of the services. In order to rectify this impediment to resolving the safety and security issues facing the downtown, a Zoning Amendment Bylaw will be presented to Council setting out zones that these services should be a permitted use in.

John also noted that emergency shelters are not included in the bylaw in order to be respectful to neighbours in allowing them to give input at a public hearing. Also, if more shelters become necessary, the underlying problems should be examined more closely, rather than simply opening up another shelter. Samaritan House, which presently contravenes its zoning is included in the bylaw to make it a conforming use.

And the last part of the Zoning Amendment Bylaw is to rezone the Harewood Firehall in order to allow the 7-10 Club to possibly relocate there. He noted that the space is large enough for Loaves and Fishes to also use as a satellite location.

Discussion followed:

- Opposed to having social services in industrial areas because of the current shortage of light industrial land within the community.
- Be cautious when allowing social services in areas zoned P2 as schools and churches are sometimes located in the middle of residential areas.
- Neighbourhood villages and town centres would work for locating social services.
- Each town centre is different from the next so should be considered separately.
- Glad the north end is included, as there are hungry people there too.
- Loaves and Fishes are looking into having a location in the north end.
- When the bylaw goes to public hearing, would be advantageous for SPAC members to speak in support of it.

J. Horn will send out background information to SPAC members by email, in order for speakers to prepare for the public hearing. He will also advise them of the date, time, location, etc. of the public hearing.

g) Security Checks - Deferred to next meeting.

5. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 2007-Jun-13.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.