

**MINUTES OF THE SOCIAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2005-SEP-14
IN THE TRAINING ROOM, CITY HALL ANNEX**

Present: Bill Holdom, Chair Ralph Meyerhoff
 Phil Field Darcy Ross
 Zeni Maartman Kathy Torhjelm
 Ralph Motzek Lynne Fraser
 Eileen Hooyberg

Staff

Alison Millward, Social Planner
Cindy Hall, Recording Secretary

Regrets: TerryLynn Saunders Val Alcock
 Tony Davis

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 4:46 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda:

The Agenda was approved with the following additions:

- Community Contributions – A. Millward

3. Adoption of Minutes:

MOVED by Z. Maartman, SECONDED by D. Ross that the Minutes of 2005-Jul-13 be adopted. CARRIED.

A. Millward reported on the following items:

4. New Business:

- a) Referral from Council - Request from UBC for City Letter of Support – The BC Homelessness & Health Research Network are submitting a proposal to the Canadian Institute of Health Research for an Interdisciplinary Capacity Enhancement Grant. They are a worthwhile organization, well-known to the community, however, it is not clear in their request as to what their actual project is. Alison will get further information on their proposal.

MOVED by L. Fraser, SECONDED by Z. Maartman that subject to A. Millward's positive evaluation of the project following further review, that SPAC send a Letter of Support to the BC Homelessness & Health Research Network, and also recommend that Council send a Letter of Support. CARRIED.

- b) Crystal Meth Forum – A Crystal Meth Forum will be held September 15th at McGirr Elementary School starting at 6:00 p.m. The Mayor has formed a Task Force on this issue, with Mike Hunter to chair. NADAC will be heartily supporting the issue but want it known that Crystal Meth is not the most significant drug in Nanaimo, that being alcohol. The Nanaimo Working Group on Homelessness will advise that Crystal Meth is not the only reason for homelessness. Other factors such as mental health problems and other addictions also play a role. The RCMP however are worried that Crystal Meth will explode in Nanaimo, so feel that this forum and task force will be proactive. Z.

Maartman advised that she will attend the forum as SPAC's representative and pass on their message that the forum is a good starting point, they support the principle of it, they would like to see the business community involved, and that the discussion should be as comprehensive as possible because it will lead into other issues.. A. Millward and B. Holdom will also attend the Forum.

5. **Business Arising:**

- a) **Social Development Grants** – A brief outline of the seven applications was given, and Alison clarified that the difference between this grant program and the Grants-in-Aid program is that these grants focus on poverty and are project-oriented. The applicants will have to report back and cannot apply for additional funding until they have submitted their report. She noted that this is 2004 funding and another proposal call will be held in November to allocate 2005 funds.

In response to a question of how the two applications pertaining to youth address poverty, K. Torhjelm explained that the programs will be preventative to try to stop the disadvantaged youth defined in the applications from ending up in a life of poverty.

MOVED by L. Fraser, SECONDED by Z. Maartman to recommend that the PEDSC approve the grants as outlined in their report dated 2005-Sep-13. CARRIED.

- b) **Excellence in Social Development Awards** – An update was given on the awards program and certificate examples were circulated and decided upon. The Committee members will do some PR on the program; i.e., distribute nomination forms and posters.
- c) **Social Development Strategy** – A. Millward reported that a Report to Council has not been prepared yet because content is still being decided upon. She will email out details of the sub-committee's next meeting time.

- d) **SPAC Reports to Council:**

- i) ***Housing Needs*** – Since senior staff rejected the proposal of recommending that a consultant be hired to do a housing needs assessment, Alison is now proposing to write a report on housing need in Nanaimo and highlighting the concept of density bonusing.

MOVED by K. Torhjelm, SECONDED by R. Meyerhoff that A. Millward write a report on housing need in Nanaimo and how the City might address those issues. CARRIED.

- ii) ***Committee Terms of Reference*** – The report previously prepared will now be forwarded to the Planning, Environment and Development Standing Committee.
- e) **Altrusa YWCA Proposal** – The Altrusa Club will hold a fact-finding session in October and SPAC members are invited to attend. Alison will email out an invite to them.
- f) **Temporary Drop-in / Living Room** – A location on Victoria Road is being pursued. Alison will meet with the landlord of the property with the hope of having something in place by November. The property will require rezoning.
- g) **Community Contribution** – A future agenda item will be to formulate a policy for community contributions given by developers. Suggestions for the funds are to place

them into a housing legacy, host a proposal call, or put them towards the Social Development Grant fund.

6. **Attend Council:**

No report.

7. **Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 2005-Oct-12, at 4:45 p.m. in the Board Room.

8. **Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

g:\commplan\spac\Agen_min05\minsep14