

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT
STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE BOARD ROOM, CITY HALL,
ON THURSDAY, 2004-MAR-25, COMMENCING AT 3:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillor L. J. Sherry, Chair

Members: Councillor R. A. Cantelon
Councillor W. J. Holdom

Absent: Councillor L. D. McNabb

Staff:	A. W. Laidlaw	D. Lindsay
	B. N. Mehaffey	A. Tucker
	K. M. MacKenzie	B. Prokopenko
	T. P. Seward	J. T. Bowden
	T. F. Moscrip	K. L. Burley
		C. Hambley

1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

- (a) Minutes of the 2004-MAR-11 Meeting of the Planning, Environment and Development Standing Committee held in the Board Room, City Hall at 3:30 p.m.

It was moved that the Minutes be adopted as circulated. The motion carried.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

- (a) Councillor Sherry advised that Ms. Lynne Fraser was in attendance and wished to address the Committee as a late delegation regarding the recommendations of the Social Planning Advisory Committee.

It was moved that Ms. Fraser be permitted to address the Committee as a late delegation with a five-minute time limitation.

3. RECEIVING OF DELEGATIONS:

It was moved that the Delegations be permitted to address the Committee. The motion carried.

- (a) Ms. Bev Bravender, 2662 Tamara Drive, Nanaimo, B.C., regarding the need to establish a new blasting control bylaw for the City.

Mr. J. T. Bowden, Senior Manager of Corporate Administration advised that Ms. Bravender previously contacted the Corporate Administration Department to advise that she would not be in attendance.

- (b) Ms. Lynne Fraser, Vice-Chair, Social Planning Advisory Committee, to provide a summary of the recommendations made by the Social Planning Advisory Committee. *(Supplemental)*

Ms. Fraser stated that:

- the Social Planning Advisory Committee (SPAC) is bringing forward recommendations to allocate a further \$20,000. from Casino Revenue which is to be used for homelessness issues.
- SPAC has considered requests from Phase 1 Supporting Community Partnership's Initiative (SCPI) projects that have been shortlisted to receive Phase 2 SCPI funding these include: Haven Society, Tillicum Haus Society and Nanaimo and Area Resource Services for Families.
- Phase 1 SCPI funding will end on 2004-MAR-31; Phase 2 funding will not be dispersed until June of 2004.
- these three agencies will have to scale back their programs if they do not receive bridge funding for the months of April and May.
- as the Nanaimo and Area Resource Services for Families is a for-profit agency, it is not eligible for a civic grant.
- SPAC will be recommending that the Haven Society and Tillicum Haus receive \$10,000. from Casino Revenue for bridge funding.

It was moved that the presentation be received. The motion carried.

4. REPORTS OF ADVISORY BODIES:

Social Planning Advisory Committee:

(a) Allocation of Gaming Revenue for Social Purposes

The Social Planning Advisory Committee (SPAC) has, since 1999 when the Provincial Government first began sharing a portion of gaming revenue with municipalities, made annual recommendations to Council on the allocation of \$90,000. in gaming revenue which the City has earmarked for social purposes.

In the 2003 annual report to City Council on the allocation of gaming revenue for Social Purposes, SPAC recommended the following allocations:

Project	Amount
Social Development Strategy	\$25,000.
Food Link Nanaimo	\$10,000.
SAFER Downtown Nanaimo Project	<u>\$10,000.</u>
TOTAL	\$45,000.

These funds have been disbursed. It should be noted that the Social Development Strategy and Food Link Nanaimo received matching grants from the Vancouver Foundation while the SAFER Downtown Nanaimo Project received funds from the National Crime Prevention Foundation.

In its earlier report that was approved by Council, SPAC recommended that the remaining \$45,000. gaming revenue identified for social purposes in the 2003 Budget be held in reserve pending outcome of the Working Group on Homelessness Issues' review. Now that this review is complete and the Working Group has begun its own allocation of the \$1.7 Million coming to Nanaimo, SPAC recommends that Council allocate \$20,000. from the remaining \$45,000. to specific agencies/projects.

At the Meeting of the Social Planning Advisory Committee held 2004-FEB-04, SPAC considered requests from the following three local agencies to provide bridge funding for three Phase 1 Supporting Community Partnership's Initiative (SCPI) projects which have been short-listed to receive Phase 2 SCPI funds. The dilemma they face is that, should they receive final approval for Phase 2 SCPI funds, the money will not be disbursed to agencies until sometime in early June, 2004. Since Phase 1 SCPI funding ends 2004-MAR-31, it leaves the months of April and May with no funding. The agencies are struggling to keep these services available to clients during April and May and they are scaling back their programs and using contributing agency funds to fill the gap.

Agency	Project	Grant
Haven Society	Transition house for former sex trade workers	\$10,000.
Tillicum Haus Society	Safe house for youth	\$10,000.
Nanaimo and Area Resource Services for Families	Wrap-around flexible housing fund	\$8,450.
TOTAL		\$28,450.

SPAC has reviewed these requests and feels that all three are worthwhile programs and services that address the needs of the homeless in Nanaimo. However, the *Community Charter* restricts the kind of organizations that can receive municipal grants to non-profit societies and Nanaimo and Area Resource Services for Families, a for-profit agency, is not eligible for a civic grant. Therefore SPAC is recommending that the funds be allocated to the Haven Society and the Tillicum Haus Society.

Recommendation: That the Planning, Environment and Development Standing Committee recommend that Council endorse the Social Planning Advisory Committee's recommendations on funding allocations from the 2003 gaming revenue budget as follows:

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Haven Society	\$10,000.
Tillicum Haus Society	<u>\$10,000.</u>
Total	\$20,000.

It was moved that the recommendation be adopted. The motion carried.

(b) Annual Report for 2003 and Priorities for 2004

Highlights of the Social Planning Advisory Committee's (SPAC) activities in 2003 include:

- Continued to support SPAC's sub-committee, Social Development Strategy Steering Committee, in their development of a Social Development Strategy for Nanaimo. Social Status Report, 50 quality of life indicators to be used as background information for the Strategy process, completed in May and introduced to Council in a seminar session.
- Continued to support SPAC's sub-committee, Working Group on Downtown Social Issues (WGDSI), formerly Community Alliance for Social Action (CASA), and their safety audit project titled SAFER Downtown Nanaimo Project.
- Advised Council on the use of the \$90,000. Casino Revenue set aside for social purposes in Council's 2003 Budget: \$25,000. for Social Development Strategy process, \$10,000, for Food Link Nanaimo's creation of an umbrella organization for the emergency food and food security sector, \$10,000. for SAFER Downtown Nanaimo Project and the remaining \$45,000. to an unnamed initiative of the federal homelessness program, Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative.
- Researched the impacts on the community of the provincial government changes to social welfare programs.
- Reviewed five Liquor Retail Store rezoning applications.
- Represented SPAC on Secondary Suites Task Force, Liquor License Task Force, Grants Advisory Committee and Plan Nanaimo Advisory Committee.
- Responded in a timely fashion to issues referred by Council.

SPAC Priorities for 2004

<u>Task</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Expected Outcomes for 2004</u>
<u>Advice to Council:</u>		
Respond to Council referrals.	Offer comments to Council on social issues.	As needed in a timely manner.
Review Liquor Retail Store rezoning applications.	Offer comment to Council on applications from a social perspective.	As requested in a timely manner.
Continue to participate on the Plan Nanaimo Advisory Committee, Grants Advisory Committee, Liquor License Task Force, Secondary Suite Task Force.	Offer comment to Council on applications from a social perspective.	Attend meetings as required.

Education and Awareness

Evaluate the possibility of establishing an annual awards program to recognize individual and/or community agency achievement.	Awards offer an opportunity to celebrate community and raise awareness about social issues.	A decision regarding whether SPAC will develop an awards program. If "yes", plan for and possibly implement program. Report to Council recommending program.
Communication of emerging key social issues by SPAC to Council and Staff.	Build relationships and understanding through effective communication.	Possible reports to Council as issues emerge over the year.
Complete SPAC's communication strategy.	Build relationships and understanding through effective communication.	Completion anticipated April, 2004.
SAFER Downtown Nanaimo Project.	Ensure that the SAFER Downtown Nanaimo Project being undertaken by the Working Group on Downtown Social Issues addresses the issue of personal safety in the Downtown and makes a positive contribution to Downtown Revitalization efforts.	Report to Council on results of the SAFER Downtown Nanaimo Project for consideration and potential implementation by the City of Nanaimo. Completion anticipated in April.

Community Capacity Building

Social Development Strategy.	Ensure that the Social Development Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fosters collaborative partnerships to address Nanaimo's social issues.• Process is open and consultative resulting in a usable, effective blueprint document for addressing our community's challenges.	Report to Council on Social Development Strategy for consideration and possible adoption by the City of Nanaimo. Completion anticipated in September/October.
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Participate on community committees such as New Hope Centre Community Advisory Committee

Offer comment on development of Salvation Army's new shelter from a social planning perspective.

Attend meetings as required

Committee Capacity Building

Develop criteria for the use of Casino Revenue assigned in Council's budget for social purposes.

Ensure that SPAC's recommendations to Council on the use of the \$90,000. Casino Revenue are thoughtfully and fairly determined.

Report to Council with recommended criteria. Completion anticipated May, 2004.

Review and possibly recommend revision of SPAC's Terms of Reference.

Ensure that the existing Terms of Reference reflect the work the Committee is doing.

Report to Council advising of potential changes to Terms of Reference. Completion anticipated in June, 2004.

Recommendation: That the Planning, Environment and Development Standing Committee recommend that Council endorse the Social Planning Advisory Committee's work plan priorities as outlined in this report.

It was moved that the recommendation be adopted. The motion carried.

5. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS:

- (a) Report from Mr. T. P. Seward, Senior Manager, Permits, Bylaw and Property Services re: Regulation of Blasting.

It was moved that the Information Only Item be received. The motion carried.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved at 3:44 p.m. that the meeting terminate. The motion carried.

C H A I R

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

SENIOR MANAGER,
CORPORATE ADMINISTRATION