

MINUTES
HEALTH AND HOUSING TASK FORCE MEETING
DODDS NARROWS ROOM A/B, VANCOUVER ISLAND CONFERENCE CENTRE
80 COMMERCIAL STREET, NANAIMO, BC
MONDAY, 2020-OCT-14, AT 3:04 P.M.

- Present: Mayor Krog
Councillor Bonner, (joined electronically)
Councillor Hemmens, Chair
L. Fletcher, A/OIC, Nanaimo Detachment, RCMP (joined electronically)
Jason Harrison, Executive Director, CMHA
Terra Kaethler, Impact Officer (joined electronically)
Signy Madden, Executive Director, United Way (joined electronically)
John McCormick, Executive Director, Nanaimo Region John Howard Society (joined electronically)
Lisa Murphy, Director, MHSU, Island Health (joined electronically)
Kim Smythe, CEO, Chamber of Commerce (joined electronically)
Marina White, Snuneymuxw First Nation (joined electronically)
- Absent: Virginia Fenton, Managing Executive Director, Nanaimo Region John Howard Society
Jan Fix, Director Program Delivery, Service Canada
Keva Glynn, Executive Director, Mental Health and Substance Use
Heidi Hartman, BC Housing
Anita LaHue, A/Director Partnerships and Strategic Initiatives Strategic Services Branch, Service Delivery Division, Ministry of Social Dev and Poverty Reduction
Councillor Emmy Manson, SFN
Lisa McHaffie, Service Manager
Malcolm McNaughton, BC Housing
- Staff: D. Lindsay, General Manager, Development Services
B. Corsan, Director, Community Development
L. Bhopalsingh, Manager, Community Planning
F. Farrokhi, Manager, Communications (joined electronically)
K. Kronstal, Planner
D. Stewart, Planner (joined electronically)
S. Snelgrove, Deputy Corporate Officer
K. Gerard, Recording Secretary

1. CALL THE HEALTH AND HOUSING TASK FORCE MEETING TO ORDER:

The Health and Housing Task Force Meeting was called to order at 3:04 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

The Agenda was adopted by unanimous consent.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES:

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Health and Housing Task Force Meeting held in the Boardroom, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Thursday, 2020-OCT-01, at 3:02 p.m. be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

4. PRESENTATIONS:

- (a) Dr. Alina Turner, CEO, HelpSeeker, re: Health and Housing Action Plan Overview and Governance Options
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Introduced by Lisa Bhopalsingh, Manager, Community Planning.

1. Dr. Alina Turner, CEO, HelpSeeker, provided the Task Force with a presentation regarding the Action Plan Overview and Governance Options. Highlights included:
 - Recap of projected deliverables, where the Task Force is in the action plan and what is the end goal
 - Funding strategies, completion of design labs and presentation to Council for approval will be taking place in October and November
 - December will be the launch of the governance implementation resourcing
 - Community engagement consisted of nine design labs with 200 participants
 - Complex needs and integrated service model will be completed and provided to the Task Force
 - Complex needs component and situation tables will need to be organized with final ideas and feedback from participants
 - BC Housing and Island Health have supplied the data requested and the data is included in the updated version of the needs assessment

Mayor Krog entered the Dodd Narrows Room at 3:16 p.m.

- Needs are layered between basic needs, health and wellness, family and community and safety and security
- Need to understand how these needs manifest for different groups such as youth, Indigenous people and the elderly
- Immediate findings include housing instability, transitional housing and mental health and the priority population includes seniors, renters, youth and Indigenous people
- Financial modelling is completed by inputting flow through rates and diverse assumptions and include cost of serving one person per year, levels of service needed, and growth in population
- Dr. Turner offered the Task Force a session in financial modelling
- Funding will require considerable coordination and integration between employees and stakeholders
- The Federal government has a significant role to play in the future implementation but the major investment will come from the Province

Task Force discussion took place regarding the factors that influence the worst and best case scenarios.

Dr. Alina Turner, CEO, HelpSeeker, continued the presentation:

- Current funding can be re-organized to maximize the return on investments
- The more coordinated the system in place is, the more consistent the outcomes are regardless of funding available
- Scenarios presented focus on the current, chronically homeless population

Task Force discussion took place. Highlights included:

- The social impact assessment, priorities for difference groups and data will show us how people can be better served
- Snuneymuxw First Nation (SFN) is interested in housing and mental health issues and how these can be interconnected to get people the help they need

Dr. Alina Turner, CEO, HelpSeeker, continued the presentation:

- Ensuring that SFN is the leader in the commitments and to keep truth and reconciliation as a stand alone commitment
- Including an awareness piece regarding Indigenous people and suggestions on how to do this are included in the design lab feedback
- Ensuring that SFN is represented at the table when discussing funding
- The Systems Planner Organization will be the decision makers and manage the execution of the coordinated access program
- Ensuring Indigenous equity in decision making process and target portions of funding specifically for the Indigenous community
- Funding plan must be flexible based on different scenarios and needs at the time and when new opportunities comes up
- Building an ecosystem approach into the coordinated access plan which will help in directing users to the services they need
- Comprehensive and holistic approach gives users a wide range of service options
- Core Integrated Coordinated Access (ICA) components include digital navigation, community locations, integrated service tables and systems navigators
- Ensure locations of assistance are where people naturally gather for easy access to help and in-person support at key access points will be beneficial for users when looking for help
- By-Names-Lists can assist resource providers, RCMP, mental health and other services to track of the needs of individuals
- The numbers represent how many times a person has used a certain service which can help in creating a plan of action to match services needed with housing supports
- This information is allowed to be shared under the current legislation and can reduce negative behaviour by ensuring users are getting supports they need

Task Force discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Reduction in usage of supervised consumption sites shown on the chart
- Data collected will allow for focus on a certain high usage/risk groups
- Ensuring data from every participating source is collected and shared
- Successful applicant of the Request For Proposals (RFP) will collect the data and connect all the information
- Building and advocating for low income/supportive housing and using the data to show where the most support is needed to outside funders and key stakeholders
- Ensuring we are looking at short and long term planning and using the funding already available through Reaching Homes now for short term housing and shelters

Dr. Alina Turner, CEO, HelpSeeker, continued the presentation:

- Investment and policy coordination are two pieces that will drive the action plan forward
- Advocating will require a shared, strong voice between all providers and resources
- Community based governance includes a stewardship group and a system planning organization
- Working with existing entities and/or service providers to save costs as the approximate cost of the plan, once implemented could be \$1 million
- Key roles in the systems planning organization include coordination of the stakeholders and coordinating funding
- Review of the governance recommendations including a revamp the Health and Housing Task Force to become the stewardship group

Task Force discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Methods to ensure that key partners/stakeholders are actively participating
- Have committed members sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which clearly lays out goals, expectations and deliverables
- Funding could be allocated to the systems planner organization to attract additional funding

Dr. Alina Turner, CEO, HelpSeeker, continued the presentation:

- Review of the Assessing Options worksheet which will be filled out by Task Force members and suggestions of other service providers that could be involved
- Invite other service providers, agencies and stakeholders to a design lab to communicate the action plan

Task Force discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Other agencies, service providers and businesses that could be involved
- Communicate the action plan and project with senior management and co-workers to achieve buy-in or participation

- The Health and Housing meeting on 2020-OCT-27 will include discussion regarding additional agencies and resources to share the plan with

7. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 4:56 p.m. that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

C H A I R

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

CORPORATE OFFICER