

## MINUTES

OPEN COMMUNITY VITALITY COMMITTEE MEETING  
BOARD ROOM, SERVICE AND RESOURCE CENTRE  
411 DUNSMUIR STREET, NANAIMO, BC  
WEDNESDAY, 2017-SEP-06, AT 4:30 P.M.

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PRESENT: Members: Dennis McMahon, Vice Chair  
Councillor M.D. Brennan  
Erin Hemmens  
Rob McGregor  
Ingrid Sly  
Paula Waatainen

Absent: Councillor G. W. Fuller, Chair  
Councillor J. Hong

Staff: Bruce Anderson, Manager, Community and Cultural Planning  
Karin Kronstal, Social Planner  
Chris Barfoot, Culture & Heritage Coordinator  
Rebecca Buckler, Recording Secretary

1. CALL THE COMMUNITY VITALITY COMMITTEE MEETING TO ORDER:

The Open Community Vitality Committee Meeting was called to order at 4:38 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

- (a) D. McMahon advised that he would be bringing forward an item under Agenda Item 6 c) Other Business regarding the addition of agenda items.
- (b) D. McMahon advised that he would be bringing forward an item under Agenda Item 6 d) Other Business regarding the Health and Social Network formed by the previous Social Planning Advisory Committee.
- (c) D. McMahon advised that he would be bringing forward an item under Agenda Item 6 e) Other Business regarding clarification on the Community Vitality Committee strategic directions / scope of work.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

It was moved and seconded that the Agenda, as amended, be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Regular Open Meeting of the Community Vitality Committee held in the Board Room, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Wednesday, 2017-JUL-05 at 4:30 p.m. be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

(a) Appointment of Member to Affordable Housing Strategy Steering Committee

Recommendation: That the Committee appoint one (1) member to the Affordable Housing Strategy Steering Committee.

It was requested that one member of the Community Vitality Committee volunteer to sit on the Steering Committee. The purpose of the strategy is to develop a plan on how to best invest in housing affordability over the next ten years. The strategy will identify top priorities, and set a clear vision over the next ten years as how to best leverage those priorities.

It was moved and seconded that R. McGregor represent the Community Vitality Committee on the Affordable Housing Strategy Steering Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

(b) Cultural Gathering 2017

Purpose: To provide information on the upcoming Cultural Gathering 2017 event, to be held on Thursday, 2017-SEP-28.

The event will be held on Thursday, September 28, 2017 at the Nanaimo Museum from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. RSVP is required. The purpose of the event is to bring together the arts and culture sector to learn, network, identify needs and potential opportunities.

A representative from BC Alliance for Arts & Culture will give a short presentation on "Spacefinder BC". The presentation will be followed by roundtable discussions with those in attendance to identify current sector needs and seek opportunity for collaboration.

(c) PlanH Grant – Come to the Table: Strengthening Neighbourhood Connections Project

Purpose: To provide information on the PlanH Grant awarded to the City of Nanaimo by the BC Healthy Communities Society in the amount of \$14,500 for the "Come to the Table: Strengthening Neighbourhood Connections" project.

The City was successful in receiving the grant in order to facilitate the "Come to the Table" project, aimed at assisting isolated individuals. The funds will go toward hosting three "pop-up meals" on three different streets across the city, for nine events in total. The streets selected will be streets identified as having citizens at high risk of isolation, such seniors. The goal is for the isolated individuals to meet their neighbours and possibly identify a community project in which they could work together (art project, seed planting, etc.). Costs for potential community projects would be covered by the remaining grant funds.

6. OTHER BUSINESS:

(a) Council Amendment to the Cultural Plan

On 2017-JUL-10, Council approved the motion made at the 2017-JUN-07 Community Vitality meeting to amend *A Cultural Plan for a Creative Nanaimo 2014-2020, Section 5.5 – “Cultural Asset Priority Plan”* to include the following item: To support multi-use community arts space.

Request from D. McMahon: “That a subcommittee be formed with the purpose to determine the needs of the Nanaimo arts community”.

The Cultural Gathering (as discussed above) on 2017-SEP-28 will act as the starting point for a needs assessment for arts and cultural organizations. Information gathered at the event will be presented to the Committee. The potential of forming a subcommittee could be explored to consider further opportunities.

Committee members seemed enthusiastic about participating in the event. Staff noted that the roundtable discussions would be a good opportunity for them to spread themselves amongst the groups to assist with facilitation and to educate themselves on what is happening in the sector.

(b) Committee Member Resignation – Michele Green

Legislative Services will advertise to fill the vacant position in November. The Committee requested that a letter be sent to M. Greene thanking her for her participation.

(c) Adding Items to the Agenda

D. McMahon requested clarification as to the process in which members can have an item added to an agenda. Staff noted that according to policy, staff are to work in conjunction with the Chair to create the agenda, and that additions to the agenda should be requested through the Chair.

(d) Update on the Health and Social Network

D. McMahon noted that the previous Social Planning Advisory Committee (SPAC), in response to the 2012-2015 Strategic Plan, recommended that a Health and Social Network be formed. Staff noted that a forum was held in 2013, and a publication was created (City of Nanaimo Health and Social Forums – Findings & Recommendations). Staff will provide an update on the initiative at a future Committee meeting.

(e) Community Vitality Committee Strategic Directions / Scope of Work

D. McMahon requested clarification on the Committee’s Strategic Directions and scope of work. Staff explained that Council sets Strategic Directions for each Committee on an annual basis. The directions to act as a framework for topics that can be addressed by the Committee over the coming year. The Committee may not necessarily address every single item listed, but has the ability address items that fall within that scope.

On occasion, a Committee may request input or recommendation(s) from the Community Vitality Committee on a topic that falls within the other Committee's scope (for instance, the Community Planning & Development Committee may request input from the Community Vitality Committee on an Area Plan). If the Committee is particularly interested in an item that does not necessarily fit into their scope, information can be provided by Staff.

7. QUESTION PERIOD:

No one in attendance wished to ask questions.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 5:35 p.m. that the meeting terminate. The motion carried unanimously.

  
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VICE-CHAIR

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

  
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CORPORATE OFFICER