

City of Maple Ridge

SOCIAL POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Social Planning Advisory Committee, held in the Blaney Room, at Maple Ridge City Hall, 11995 Haney Place, Maple Ridge, British Columbia, on Wednesday, March 2, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Annette Morgan	Seniors Network
Vicki Kipps, Chair	Community Network
Councillor Bob Masse	Council Liaison
Const. Brenda Gresik	RCMP
Candace Gordon	Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows-Katzie Community Network
Susan Carr	School District #42 Trustee
Kathy Doull	Fraser Health

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Sunny Schiller	Committee Clerk
Shawn Matthewson	Staff Liaison / Director of Recreation

REGRETS/ABSENTS

Delaram Farshad	Fraser Health
Pierre Welbedagt, Vice-Chair	Member at Large
Mike Murray	School District #42 Trustee
Ineke Boekhorst	Downtown BIA / Friends in Need

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

There being a quorum present, the Staff Liaison called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm and introductions were made.

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

R16-005

It was moved and seconded

That the Agenda be amended to add Item 5.6 Advisory Committee Recruitment and Item 5.7 Agenda Items Procedure and be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

3. MINUTE ADOPTION

R16-006

It was moved and seconded

That the Minutes of January 13, 2016 be adopted.

CARRIED

4. DELEGATIONS - Nil

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Draft Affordable Housing Strategy Response

The Staff Liaison reported the Metro Vancouver Draft Affordable Housing Strategy was previously reviewed by municipal governments. The Strategy covers topics such as rental housing supply and factors (such as addiction and mental illness) that contribute to homelessness. The Strategy has been revised based on the feedback received from municipal governments. The Committee discussed the Strategy and how it affects local planning. The Staff Liaison reported that recommendations from the Maple Ridge Housing Action Plan are moving forward, with some items coming through Planning in April.

Annette Morgan provided an update on recent Senior's Network housing related meetings and grant applications.

5.2 Raincity Temporary Winter Shelter - Exit Strategy

The Staff Liaison reported the interim shelter is scheduled to close March 31, 2016. Beds are being removed as people are being housed. There are concerns that not everyone currently at the shelter will be housed by March 31st and community service providers and the City continue to seek additional housing. The Resilience Initiative is making an effort to keep the neighborhood updated. Communication strategies regarding the issue were discussed. Raincity and the RCMP were praised for their work over the last few months. Sgt. Brenda Gresiuk reported on some of the initiatives local members are currently working on. Vicki Kipps reported that the Community Network has gained some valuable insights from discussions with Raincity around the exit strategy. It was suggested that community service providers participate in a debrief once the shelter is closed to share lessons learned.

5.3 "How Many is Too Many for BC Youth"

Councillor Masse shared his thoughts on the report on youth alcohol use by the McCreary Centre Society. The report can be found at: http://www.mcs.bc.ca/pdf/how_many_is_too_many.pdf

5.4 Community Resource Fair - Request for Funding

Letter received January 11th requesting \$2500 to support the 2016 Community Resource Fair which provides an opportunity for service providers to share the work they do with each other and with members of the public.

R16-007

It was moved and seconded

That \$2500 be allocated from the SPAC budget for the Community Resource Fair.

CARRIED

The Staff Liaison will contact Sharon Sargent, Community Resource Fair Chair. A request was made to receive a copy of the overall budget for the Fair.

5.5 Budget Update

It was suggested that changes to the SPAC budget being implemented next year should be communicated to groups that have been supported in the past. Budget figures will be confirmed at the next meeting.

It was agreed that the committee will meet monthly until the new structure is finalized.

5.6 Advisory Committee Recruitment Update

The Committee Clerk provided an update on the recruitment process for SPAC.

5.7 Agenda Items Procedure

The Committee Clerk reminded the committee of the process for requesting the addition of items to the agenda.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1 Update on the Maple Ridge Resilience Initiative

Susan Carr reminded the committee of the Strong Kids forum coming up on March 7th. Service providers will be making presentations and sharing what services they provide. Topics covered will include youth mental health, stress, substance abuse, social media. Tips will be provided for parents and caregivers on how to recognize if there is a problem with youth in their care.

Sgt. Brenda Gresiuk shared some websites that contain youth related information:

Canadian Red Cross – Youth Relationship Skills

<http://www.redcross.ca/how-we-help/violence-bullying-and-abuse-prevention/educators/healthy-youth-dating-relationships>

Stats Can - Youth at Risk and Youth Offending Statistics

<https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/rsrscs/pblctns/ststclsnpsht-yth/index-en.aspx>

Bully Stop Hackathon – The Canadian Safe Schools Network

<https://canadiansafeschools.com/events/bullystop>

6.2 Update on the Youth Strategy – Deferred

Meghan MacMillan, Youth Programmer will provide a full update at an upcoming meeting.

7. COMMITTEE UPDATES

7.1 Community Network

The Chair provided an update on the Community Superheroes campaign. The Community Network may hire a summer student to aid with their communications. Youth related initiatives were shared. Community service providers will work together to coordinate and communicate the initiatives.

7.2 Neighbourhood Development

The Staff Liaison reported that Port Haney and Cliff Avenue are areas of focus this year for the Neighbourhood Development team. Sgt. Brenda Gresiuk related some of the benefits of increased community ownership of public spaces. It was suggested that Dave Speers, Recreation Coordinator, be invited to make a presentation on community development at an upcoming meeting.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 Community Resource Fair

Letter requesting funding previously dealt with - Item 5.4.

9. QUESTION PERIOD

10. ROUNDTABLE

Susan Carr reported that School District #42 is partnering with the City to make a proposal to the provincial Ministry of Education for a school and community centre in Albion. Some concept drawings have been created based on the feedback received. A second online survey seeking feedback on the proposal is still available.

Annette Morgan reported Fraser Health and the Seniors Network (with support from Recreation and Leisure Services) continue to work on the Age-friendly Initiative. An action plan will be presented to Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows Councils this month. If the action plan is approved at the municipal level an application will be made to the province for the Age-friendly designation.

The Senior's Network has secured funding until the end of May 2016. A \$10,000 grant has been obtained by the Community Network to support the design of services for seniors. The Senior's Network meets next on Thursday March 31st in the Hilton Hader room.

Kathy Doull provided an update on Fraser Health, which is increasing their focus on community based initiatives. The goal is less acute care, more home care. Fraser Health is adding home health supports for the most frail population and looking for innovative ways to support people staying at home for as long as possible. Community forums will be held soon on home care and dementia care. Fraser Health is launching a new initiative called CARES with the goal of identifying pre-frail seniors. CARES will include GPs and peer coaches and work to delay the onset of frailty. Fraser Health is working with the Division of Family Practice to recruit physicians for this program. Vicki Kipps outlined a program that the Community Network provides which also supports keeping seniors at home. Ms. Kipps will provide contact information regarding the CN program to Kathy Doull.

Sgt. Brenda Gresniuk reported the Victim Services program is being modernized as part of the Ridge Meadows RCMP work plan for 2016. The RCMP Auxiliary Constable program has recently undergone some changes nationally, including the removal of the ride along component.

Candace Gordon reported that Golden Ears Feast has received a grant from the public health authority which will allow a food security inventory to be done. Data will be collected in such a way that an asset map can be created. The Senior's Network recently held a very successful pub night fundraiser which will allow the addition of ten seniors to the food coupon program with the Haney Farmers Market.

Councillor Masse reported that Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows Councils recently had a successful meeting. Councillor Masse provided an update from the Metro Vancouver Environmental table. Councillor Masse raised some recent headlines regarding homelessness and shared how that might affect municipalities.

The Staff Liaison reported she recently attended a provincial Substance Use conference. This was a very positive conference where interesting ideas were shared. Ms. Matthewson recently toured some low barrier housing in local communities. She had the opportunity to see many positive features of the housing and remarked on the high number of accomplished artists encountered.

11. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 9:06 pm.

Chair

/ss