

City of Maple Ridge

SOCIAL POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Social Policy Advisory Committee, held in the Blaney Room, at Maple Ridge City Hall, 11995 Haney Place, Maple Ridge, British Columbia, on Wednesday, September 7, 2016 at 7:00 pm

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Delaram Farshad	Fraser Health
Councillor Bob Masse	Council Liaison
Annette Morgan	Seniors Network
Tarel Swansky	Member at Large
Ineke Boekhorst	Downtown BIA / Friends in Need
Kathy Doull	Fraser Health
Mike Murray	School District #42 Trustee
Susan Carr	School District #42 Trustee (Alternate)
Vicki Kipps, Chair	Community Network
Candace Gordon	Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows-Katzie Community Network
Laura Butler	Member at Large

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Sunny Schiller	Committee Clerk
Shawn Matthewson	Staff Liaison / Social Planning Analyst
Meghan MacMillan	Youth Programmer
Tony Cotroneo	Recreation Manager Youth, Seniors & Neighbourhood Services

GUESTS

Laurel Cowan	Modus
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REGRETS/ABSENTS

Matt Williams	Member at Large
Sgt. Brenda Gresik	RCMP
Dr. Helena Swinkels	Fraser Health

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

There being a quorum present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm and introductions were made.

Note: Ineke Boekhorst entered at 7:06 pm.

2. AGENDA ADOPTION

R16-020

It was moved and seconded

That the Agenda dated September 7, 2016 be amended to move Item 7.1 Community Dialogue on Homelessness Subcommittee Update, Item 5.5 Temporary, Interim and Permanent Shelters Update and Item 9. Question Period to the beginning of the agenda and be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

3. MINUTE APPROVAL

R16-021

It was moved and seconded

That the Minutes dated July 6, 2016 be approved.

CARRIED

7.1 Community Dialogue on Homelessness Subcommittee Update

The Chair, the Staff Liaison and the Council Liaison provided an update on the work of the Dialogue on Homelessness subcommittee. Potential topics and forum design were discussed. It was suggested the forums be recorded and live streamed. Ways to communicate the forums and capture feedback from the public were discussed. In response to a request from the Community Dialogue on Homelessness Subcommittee

R16-022

It was moved and seconded

That the Community Dialogue on Homelessness Subcommittee Terms of Reference be amended to allow the subcommittee to plan between three and five public forums.

CARRIED

5.5 Temporary, Interim and Permanent Shelters Update

The Staff Liaison and Council Liaison provided an overview of the phases for the approval of a potential permanent purpose built facility. A report on this topic was presented to Council Workshop on July 11, 2016. Different opportunities for community participation during the process were explained.

It was confirmed the lease of the temporary shelter has been extended.

Note: Laura Butler entered the meeting at 7:31 pm.

9. QUESTION PERIOD

Grover Telford - asked about the purpose of the dialogue forums and if public input would be considered when making decisions on this issue. Mr. Telford suggested a referendum be held on the issue. Councillor Masse outlined the process for decision making in regards to the potential permanent purpose built facility and addressed comments made.

Jody Johnson - asked why laws are not being enforced in regards to bike helmets and open drug use.

Lindsay Zepeski – asked if there were statistics available on the current homeless population and changes in the population numbers since Cliff Avenue.

Christine Bickel – asked about different groups working on the homelessness issue and if the forums would be held prior to the rezoning hearing. It was suggested that questions be accepted from the public prior to the forums to increase engagement.

Question Period was ended after approximately fifteen minutes. Members of the public were encouraged to submit further questions or comments to the Staff Liaison.

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Youth Strategy Draft Report

The Staff Liaison provided an overview of the development of the youth strategy. Youth Programmer Meghan MacMillan and Laurel Cowan from Modus shared recommendations from the strategy. Youth member Mikayla Clayton explained that the youth group has been part of the creation of a Youth Development Wheel to provide information about different stages and needs of youth development. Next steps include presenting to Council and a website launch.

Note: Meghan Macmillan and Laurel Cowan left the meeting at 8:43 pm.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Business Planning 2017

The Staff Liaison provided a draft of the 2017 SPAC Business Plan which includes plans for Social Engagement Workshops.

5.2 Federal Government's Affordable and Social Housing Announcements

Deferred.

5.3 Homelessness Partnering Strategy Funding Update

The Staff Liaison reported that the application by the City for HPS funding was unsuccessful. Some funding was approved for community partners

5.4 Topic Areas for Social Policy Engagement Workshops

Members were encouraged to brainstorm potential topics for upcoming workshops.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1 Update on the Youth Strategy

Previously handled under Item 4.1.

6.2 Update on the BC Bus Pass Program for People with Disabilities

Deferred.

6.3 Update on RM Child Youth Wellness Centre

The Chair announced the Youth Wellness Centre is now up and running and outlined programs offered. A presentation on the Youth Wellness Centre will be made in the future.

7. COMMITTEE UPDATES

7.2 Community Network

The Chair reported the Super Hero campaign is in full swing. The Community Chest 2.0 pilot project is underway. The Community Resource Fair is coming up October 15th.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

10. ROUNDTABLE

Annette Morgan reported a grant from the federal government has been received to develop an emergency preparation guide for seniors and other vulnerable citizens. A meeting will be held September 13th at the Senior's Centre to help develop the guide. A Community Action Initiative Grant has allowed a seniors outreach worker to be hired for eighteen months.

Mikayla Clayton asked about Council Workshop meeting procedures. The Staff Liaison will provide further information. Ms. Clayton was thanked for her work on the youth strategy.

Kathy Doull reported Fraser Health has formed a committee to look at the community health response to opioids. Committee members include BC Ambulance, RCMP, Alouette Addictions. Fraser Health has launched a new public campaign around overdoses. More information is available on the Fraser Health website.

Delaram Farshad provided updates on local health related initiatives she has been working on.

Candace Gordon reported on the food mapping project. The coupon program at the Farmer's Market has been fully subscribed this season, providing vouchers to seniors and families.

Susan Carr attended a Naloxone training session provided by Fraser Health.

Councillor Masse mentioned that Cobbs Bakery shares unsold food at the end of the day.

Member of the public Elizabeth Taylor made a comment highlighting the lack of transportation in the Albion area. Ms. Taylor feels this has a negative impact on youth in the area, as does the loss of Albion Hall as a community resource.

11. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 9:14 pm.

Chair

/ss