

SUPPORTING SOCIAL PLANNING and ACTION in REVELSTOKE

Social Development Committee Meeting Minutes October 22, 2008

PRESENT: Nelli Richardson, Steve Bailey, Anne Cooper, Cathy Girling, Lory Borges, Jane McNab, Bill MacFarlane, Mary Kline, Linda Chell, John Yakielachek, Brian Sumner

STAFF: Jill Zacharias, Contract Coordinator
Alan Mason, Director of Community Economic Development
Margaret Pacaud, Recording Secretary

REGRETS: Garry Pendergast, Elmer Shoji, Melodie Kindret

1. Call to order – Chair Nelli Richardson called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.
2. Welcome to new member – Nellie Richardson welcomed Linda Chell to the Committee.
3. Approve Agenda
Motion
Moved by Jane McNab and seconded by Anne Cooper to approve the agenda.
Carried
4. Approval of July 8, 2008 Meeting Minutes & Review of Action Items
 - Seniors' Planning Session – Cathy Girling and Jill Zacharias met to discuss the setting up of a meeting with the seniors which has now been scheduled for November 4. Representatives from key organizations have been invited for a social planning session specific to seniors. Among those attending will be Cathy Girling, Jill Zacharias, Alan Chell, Tulikki Tennant, Karen Herbert, Jennifer Neubeck (CRN), Wayne Heinrichs, Mary Chell (Literacy), Nelli Richardson, Patti Larson, Bev Wiege, George Hannah, Merv Krywa and hopefully representatives from BC Housing. The goal is to review existing services, ascertain needs, identify gaps and prioritize short and long-term actions that will enable seniors to access services.
 - Substance Abuse Research – Jill has been collecting data on substance abuse but it has proven to be quite problematic. Counselors and mental health workers have said that it is quite difficult for them to provide data as substance abuse is not always the primary reason they are dealing with clients. Jill has received some data from the Crisis Line and from Bertha Stone. Jill has spoken to the RCMP and they will try to get data but it will take time. The goal of collecting the data is to give a sense of what is going on in the community and to develop a base line to help develop strategies to address the issue. Discussion was held. The Alcohol and Drug Abuse Task Force seems quite responsive to Jill moving ahead with this.
 - Presentation to Council - Jill will make a 10-15 minute PowerPoint presentation to the new City Council on December 15. The presentation will include a general review of the Social Development planning process and a description of the social sector. This presentation will be used to take to other groups i.e., Chamber, Rotary, School District, CFDC etc. Discussion was held. It was suggested that a one page summary handout be

given to Council and other groups when the presentation is given. Jill will incorporate this into the presentation.

- Website - The website is in development and the address will be www.revelstokesocialdevelopment.org. The website will contain:
 - A compilation of funding and social agencies.
 - It will be linked to the City's website and other organizations as they request.
 - The website should be up and running within two weeks and Jill will notify the committee members when it is ready.
 - The Directory will be hosted on the website.
 - As names of agency personnel change, it is important to keep this up to date.
 - Debra Wozniak will be asked to assist in updating the website.
- Directory – The Directory has been updated and will be sent out electronically to each of the community agencies listed requesting prompt notification of any changes. Any updates should be sent to Jill Zacharias for information and Debra Wozniak to update in order to let Jill free up some of her time. Discussion was held and comments were:
 - At least 50 hard copies should be printed; this would let people who do not have electronic access to have the information.
 - As the Directory is updated the date of the update should be on the front cover.
 - The website address should also be on the front cover.
 - Jill will write a press release for the newspaper when the website is up and running.
- Recommendation to Council – Nelli Richardson reported that the recommendation to Council to forward a letter to Julie Lowes requesting that a long term plan be prepared for Revelstoke taking the resort development into consideration was amended prior to being approved to include all new developments in Revelstoke.

4. Coordinator Report – Jill Zacharias reviewed her coordinator's report (attached to these minutes):

- Continuing to meet with a lot of people.
- Will be attending the Health and Wellness Fair on October 26th.
- First Quarter Hours (attached to these minutes) – Jill reviewed her first quarter's workplan and hours spent on each task.
- Workplan – Jill reviewed changes to the workplan (attached to these minutes). Discussion was held.
 - It was agreed that Jill does not need to attend all monthly meetings of the social sector organizations but should attend on an as needed basis.
 - It was suggested that perhaps Jill should attend individual organizations staff meetings to gain insight into what they are working on.

Jill will make changes to the workplan as indicated by the Committee.

5. New business:

- Logo – Discussion was held as to the need for a logo for the Committee. It was agreed that if possible the City logo should be used at this time. Alan Mason will enquire from the City if this is possible and let Jill know.
- Welcoming new residents – Jill Zacharias would like to develop a booklet to welcome new residents. This would not be specific to business or Chamber of Commerce advertising but more generic and anecdotal. There was something similar done in the

Gulf Islands but cannot find it on the web. If anyone knows where it was can they get the information to her.

6. Round table –

Steve Bailey, RMR –

- Will link the Social Development Website to the Chamber website.
- Working on the local transportation issue which when in effect will run seven days per week. There will be two – 35 passenger buses. The City will lease the buses to RMR who will be responsible for all operation and maintenance costs. Funding for the buses was received by the City from the additional 2% Hotel Tax Tourism Infrastructure Program which can only be used for Tourism Infrastructure. This service is not being funded from tax payer dollars.
- The gondola at the resort is completed and the new chair lift will be installed prior to Christmas.
- There seems to be no housing problems for staff at the hill at the present time.

Alan Mason - Alan Mason reviewed the Tourism Infrastructure Funding and the Promotion Marketing Funding which came into being through the additional 2% hotel tax voted on by the accommodation operators in Revelstoke.

Bill MacFarlane –

- City Council has passed the Inclusionary Policy Amendment and Bylaw.
- The Bridge Creek properties are moving ahead. The OCP amendment and bylaw will go to Council and public hearing on November 24. There is an environmental issue on the property and the Society will have to spend some money to look at this.
- The Housing Society met recently and Brian Sumner and Corin Flood have been requested to develop an agenda and set a date for a stakeholders meeting to discuss possibilities for addressing the housing shortage with additional mobile home locations.

Cathy Girling – Community Connections has signed a contract with BC Housing for a front line homeless outreach worker for the community. The worker will look to address only the visibly homeless and will not be involved in coordinating housing issues. The deadline for submission of applications for the position closes on Thursday 23rd of October but will probably be extended. This is a difficult position to fill and if there is not a successful applicant locally will have to go outside the community to fill the position.

Mary Kline – Will be starting to work for Okanagan College shortly and will be representing them on the social committee.

Jane McNab – Has been meeting with representatives from Columbia Basin Trust regarding sitting on the Social Sector Advisory Committee.

Linda Chell –

- The Child Care Society has just completed the creation of eight new infant and toddler spaces at the Farwell Centre. These spaces are all full but there are other spaces in the community.
- Will be attending a meeting in Vancouver on Friday morning regarding all day kindergarden for five year olds and the viability of a pre-kindergarden for 3-4 year olds.

Nelli Richardson –

- Enquiries are being received on the crisis line at the Women's shelter from men looking for housing. Need to get an Emergency Housing Committee meeting together.
- Working on the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Committee.

Jill Zacharias –

- Attended the CFDC Conference in Prince George at the end of September and the session on Strategic Planning was very helpful.
- Working on the CFDC Volunteer Committee and has done articles for the newspaper. This committee is working to try to encourage new residents to volunteer in the community. There will be another article in the newspaper next week on the Search and Rescue Society.
- Cathy Burke works at the Employment Centre and finds that there is a real need for a Housing Resource Centre.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m. The next meeting will be 8:30 a.m. November 26, 2008.

Nelli Richardson, Chair

Revelstoke Community Social Development Committee
October 22, 2008
Coordinator's Report

1. Action items arising from the minutes
 - a. Seniors' planning session – November 4th
 - b. Substance abuse research – underway
 - c. Presentation to new Council – December 15th
 - d. Website – well underway
 - e. Directory – completed (enclosed)

2. Communications
 - a. Newspaper article introducing role Sept 24th (action item from July)
 - b. Met with:
 - Literacy Action Committee
 - Substance Abuse Task Force
 - Homelessness Committee
 - Roberta Bobicki, Revelstoke Crimestoppers
 - Doug Egan, Clinical Supervisor at Community Connections
 - Norm MacDonald MLA
 - Anita Cote, Facilitator, Community Living BC
 - Mengia Nicholson, Community Response Network
 - Corin Flood, Housing Society
 - c. Also have been contacted by Dawn Dunlop-Pugh, Canadian Mental Health Association, and Chris Rae, Community Living BC
 - d. I will be participating in Community Connections Health and Wellness Fair on October 26th. This will be a good opportunity to connect with other service providers as well as members of the community. I will be promoting the website, the directory and providing information about the committee & its mandate.

3. First quarter hours & Work Plan (enclosed)