

SUPPORTING SOCIAL PLANNING and ACTION in REVELSTOKE

Social Development Committee Meeting Minutes 8:30 a.m. Wednesday February 23, 2011

Present: Nelli Richardson, Jane McNab, Anne Cooper, Tony Scarcella, Antoinette Halberstadt, Mary Kline, Susan Knight, Cathie Thacker, Shirley Berg, Linda Chell and Cathy Girling
Staff: Jill Zacharias, Debra Wozniak
Regrets: Alan Mason, Ann-Marie Gill, Melissa Klages, Melody Kindret, Steve Bailey and John Yakielashek

1. **Call to order** – Chair Nelli Richardson called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion:

Moved by Cathy Girling and seconded by Antoinette Halberstadt to adopt the agenda.

Carried

3. **Approval of January 26, 2011 Meeting Minutes**

The Minutes of the January 26, 2011 meeting were approved by all in attendance utilizing the Doodle poll.

Business Arising from the January 26, 2011 Minutes:

- Service Canada Remote Access Office – Cathy Girling reported that the process for requesting a scheduled outreach site is to approach our Member of Parliament. She also noted that applications for Income Assistance and other services now require producing the Social Insurance Number card . Discussion followed regarding partnership options to help work out a suitable solution for having remote access to Service Canada services. Jill will prepare a backgrounder for Council’s information.

Motion

Moved by Anne Cooper and seconded by Jane McNab

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS to City Council that a written submission be forwarded to our Member of Parliament requesting that a Scheduled Outreach Site be established in Revelstoke for remote access to Service Canada services.

Carried

- Expedited Excerpts – Antoinette reported that City Staff will process items requiring immediate attention in the form of a memo prepared by the department coordinator and a motion in the minutes requesting that the coordinator send a memo to council requesting the activity. Discussion followed and agreed to continue utilizing the doodle poll to approve minutes so they can go to Council in a timely manner.
- Funding – Antoinette advised that the Social Coordinator position is being budgeted with \$25,000 committed from municipal funds, \$20,000 to be accessed from gas tax revenues and \$5,000 from other funding sources.

Motion

Moved by Linda Chell and seconded by Jane McNab that the application to the CBT Community Initiative program be amended to request \$5,000. **Carried**

- 4. Coordinator's Report** – Jill Zacharias reviewed the Coordinator's report for February 2011 and noted the following:
- The Youth Action Plan survey will be added as a link on the Social Development website.
 - Seeing excellent capacity-building at the Seniors Centre, which has been the goal all along.
 - Had an interview with Rosemary Lawrence, Age-friendly Communities Project Analyst with the Seniors' Healthy Living Secretariat Ministry of Health Services. In December 2010, the province's Age-Friendly Communities Implementation Team published an evaluation report. In this report they identified eight key factors that contributed to communities becoming successfully age-friendly. During the interview Rosemary found that Revelstoke had almost all of these key factors in place, with the exception of the last one (at the time I felt we didn't need external support). They are:
 1. Having the strong support of local government.
 2. Having a champion in the community.
 3. Appointing a dedicated staff person to work on the initiative.
 4. Having strong local partnerships that are inclusive of seniors and other stakeholders.
 5. Obtaining a small grant to get started and using that to leverage additional money and resources.
 6. Introducing small changes at the outset of the project.
 7. Cultivating a good relationship with the local media.
 8. Taking full advantage of the services offered by the AFCIT.
 - Since the Community Development Action Plan Review session held February 10, Jill has added a goal of developing a poverty reduction strategy & would like to add this to her work plan, with approval of the committee. Cathy Girling will circulate a copy of report on poverty income levels.
 - Training workshop for service providers on serving clients with Mental Health and/or Substance Use challenges is set for May 6 and 7.
- 5. New Business:**
- a) Report from Council – Antoinette reported:
- Website – social links will be added and consultation with the sector to take place on the next website update process.
 - Courthouse access improvements – funding opportunity requires a 25% municipal contribution, a rough project estimate is \$500,000 which would require \$125,000 from the City. Given the current budget restrictions, no funding would be available this year for improvements. Antoinette will forward report on actions taken by the City to address access barriers in the community.
 - Snow clearing for sidewalk mobility has been an issue this winter. Jill will discuss with Brian Mallett.
 - Beruschi Park washrooms are not in the budget for this year.
 - Healthy Food & Beverage Policy has been developed and implemented in municipal buildings.
 - Citizen nomination opportunities to be circulated by Jill.

- Recreation Passes for Low Income Families – Kerry Dawson in attendance to discuss the program and public perception of pass misuse/abuse. Agreed that Jill prepare a media release regarding the recreational pass program for low income families and in particular acknowledging that the program is reviewed annually.

b) Next Meeting Date is 8:30 am. Wednesday, April 27, 2011.

6. Roundtable

Linda Chell – English as a Second Language in Early Childhood Education presentation April 2.

Cathie Thacker – Effective April 1 there will be a reduced budget for the Revelstoke Employment Services Centre and will be losing staff and youth services.

Anne Cooper:

- Francophone School for K- 2 is proceeding with 15 students registered. They are seeking a location for classrooms. The school district is unable to provide classrooms for their use in the 2011-12 year. They have expressed interest in accessing space in a school for the 2012-13 year.
- Grade 4 students survey completed.
- Anticipating declining enrolment for 2011-12, but working with School District #6 to enrol a small number of international students in the high school.
- Both the Times Review and the Current had excellent articles updating the progress of the new Schools construction.
- Youth space in the new high school will consist of 3 office sized rooms for therapy/conferencing/support scheduled or booked for service delivery.

Cathy Girling – Community Connections is experiencing the usual February pressures on service delivery

Susan Knight – It is Heather Duchman's last day at the Community Centre on Friday. There is an open house and presentation at 2:00 pm.

Mary Kline – Okanagan College has launched the youth survey for youth 15 -30 and has focus groups for youth planned in the community. This information will inform the Youth Action Plan..

Debra Wozniak – The CBT Community Initiatives public presentation evening is Tuesday, March 1.

Nelli Richardson – The SAFER Clinic would like to explore the possibility of providing services in the youth space at the new high school.

7. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 10:42 am.

Nelli Richardson, Chair

Revelstoke Community Social Development Committee

Coordinator's Report – February 23rd, 2011

1. Communication, support and coordination

- **Website** – Added 'Revelstoke Reads' newsletter to 'Celebration of Achievements'
- **Communication** – Presentation to SD#19 Board of Education re: Children & Youth and the Substance Use Strategy
- **Regional/provincial contacts** –
 - o Ann Goddris, Community Education & Outreach, WINS Transition House, Trail BC (re: need for a social dev coordinator in Trail);
 - o Rosemary Lawrence, Age-friendly Communities Project Analyst, Seniors' Healthy Living Secretariat Ministry of Health Services (re: request to use Revelstoke material in provincial orientation guide);
 - o Caitlin Etherington, SPARC BC, CBT, IH Supporting Social Planning Working Group (re: interview for research on a regional social planning needs assessment).

Contacts:

- Jan 27th – CFDC (volunteer)
- Jan 28th – Seniors Association Executive meeting
- Jan 28th – John Yakeilashek, MCFD & Trish Smillie, SD#19
- Feb 1st – BCAS Open House
- Feb 3rd – YAPlan Youth Focus Group
- Feb 4th – Ruth Boettger
- Feb 5th – Carousel of Nations (on my own time)
- Feb 8th – Volunteer Coordinator Steering Committee
- Feb 9th – Board of Education presentation
- Feb 10th – CDAP Planning Session at the Hillcrest
- Feb 15th – Mary Kline, BR Whalen, OC – Newcomer's Website
- Feb 15th – Megan Shandro, Mike Brown, OC – YAPlan survey
- Feb 15th – CDFC executive (volunteer)
- Feb 16th – Telephone interview with Rosemary Lawrence, Seniors' Healthy Living Secretariat
- Feb 17th – Jane McNab, CDAP review
- Feb 21st – Mary Kline, OC, Substance use training proposal review
- Feb 21st – Mary Kline, BR Whalen, Shane McCallum – Newcomer's website

2. Supporting our Seniors

- Volunteer Coordinator programs: *Transportation* – Now has 19 clients and 7 drivers registered with the program. Only one in-town drive but out-of-town drives are picking up. *Good Morning Program* – 2 clients registered who would like regular calls..
Computer Classes – going full steam ahead – still looking for more tutors.
 - o We received an extension from UBCM until the end of June & will do this by reducing the coordinator's hours, with agreement of the coordinator. The Seniors Association membership voted to support the coordinator position for another year & will take over contract management. I have written two grant applications to assist with finances & will continue to sit on the steering committee.
- Grit Box Pilot Project: Developed a survey & received 59 responses from seniors plus a letter and thanks & support from Mt. Begbie Manor manager. Very positive input. Final report due at the end of March & will also include input from public works in the pilot project analysis.

- Interview with Rosemary Lawrence, Seniors Healthy Living Secretariat, focused on a review of the recommended actions in the Age-Friendly Plan and how far we have come in terms of implementation and why.

3. Substance Use Strategy

- Harm Reduction Strategy – I have written a thank you letter to the Community Health Foundation for their generous contribution to this project, which is going ahead in partnership with public works.
- SD#19 Board of Education presentation.
- Searched far & wide and received three proposals to do the training for service providers in early May – registration packages should be going out in early March.

4. Youth Initiative

- Youth Engagement Workshop final report sent off to CBT Sponsorship program – this was due at the end of February.
- Youth Action Plan – survey going out to high school students and other youth – four main categories or themes: education, training & employment; entertainment, recreation & culture; home, health & safety; and connectivity, citizenship & engagement.

5. WICWP – Phase 2 funding

- The Welcome to Revelstoke Guide still at the publishers. Also OC is working on getting it translated into Basic Chinese, Korean, and French. We just started putting together content for the Newcomer’s website and met with a local web designer to discuss design, content, and cost.

6. CDAP Update

- The Draft went out for review on January 28th. The strategic planning session on February 10th, was attended by 28 participants including 2 city councilors, and reps from the Chamber, CFDC, NCES, School Board & SD#19, Environmental Committee, OC, RESC, IH, CBAL, various City departments including CED, Parks & Rec, and Planning, ECD, Community Connections, Seniors, CRN/Women’s Shelter, etc. It was an intensive information session, but participants were engaged, and the strategic planning portion of the event generated lots of discussion.
- The final report is due by the end of February and will be distributed far & wide.

7. Other

- I will be attending the Clear Language Workshop hosted by CBAL on March 3rd.
- I will be taking Spring Break off the week of March 21st.
- I will be co-hosting/attending a Social Media Workshop on March 28th, put on by the Kootenay Services Coop.
- I am also co-hosting the Enterprising Non-Profits Workshop on April 20th.