

SUPPORTING SOCIAL PLANNING and ACTION in REVELSTOKE

Social Development Committee Meeting Minutes 8:30 a.m. Wednesday November 25, 2009

Present: Nelli Richardson, John Yakielashek, Tony Scarcella, Mary Kline, Melissa Klages, Antoinette Halberstadt, Jane McNab, Lory Borges, Susan Knight and Cathie Thacker
Staff: Jill Zacharias, Debra Wozniak
Regrets: Melodie Kindret, Alan Mason, Steve Bailey, Linda Chell, Cathy Girling, Anne Cooper, and Brian Sumner

1. **Call to order** – Chair Nelli Richardson called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

The Agenda was approved noting that as both Linda Chell and Anne Cooper are absent that item 6 a) EDI Update be tabled for discussion at the next meeting.

3. **Approval of October 28, 2009 Meeting Minutes**

Noted that the wording in item 6 - Recommendation to City Council: does not match the memorandum issued on November 3, 2009.

Motion

Moved by John Yakielashek and seconded by Melodie Kindret that the Minutes of October 28, 2009 be approved with correction to item 6 Recommendation. **Carried**

Business Arising from the Minutes:

- Jill advised that the memorandum attached to the meeting package is the format to be used to forward time-sensitive action items to City Council.
- Health Care Advisory Committee – First meeting this Friday Nov 27th. Antoinette asked if other committee members had heard anything about reductions to daycare operations at Moberly Manor. Nelli will raise this issue with the advisory committee and will provide an update on the health care advisory committee activity at our meetings. As well, it was noted that there are still 2 committee positions vacant – the committee was urged to encourage suitable candidates to apply.
- Sexual Assault Protocol – A very large protocol document is being drafted – expect to be completed by end of March 2010.
- Support for Single Men – John reported that he brought this forward with the Early Childhood Development Committee to get some of their input to the process. Next meeting will be in January 2010.
- Housing Society Minutes – Noted that minutes have still not been forwarded. Antoinette to advise Debra when they have been presented to Council and then Debra will forward to Social Development Committee members. Nelli will ask Housing Society Chair to have the 4 previous months meeting minutes forwarded to the Social Development Committee for information.

4. **Coordinator's Report** – Jill Zacharias reviewed the Coordinator's report.

- Transportation – Jill noted that the transit committee will be having a planning session soon to review 2 options i) providing paratransit services within the current \$50,000 dedicated to the taxi supplement and ii) what would be the best possible overall public transit system for the community.

- Substance Use Strategy – It was noted that enforcement is an important component of the strategy and the situation in Revelstoke will be researched to see if there are any actions that can be implemented at the local level. Antoinette will take provincial enforcement resource information that Council received at UBCM to the Substance Use Committee. Discussion followed regarding further community consultation activities. Cathie Thacker noted that OC would be willing to post upcoming community forum information on their website.
- Jill will be moving her office across the hall from her current office. This is a larger space with a window and she can now have small meetings in her own office.

6. New Business:

- EDI Update – tabled until the next meeting.
- Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, January 27, 2010 at 8:30 am.

7. Round table

Cathie Thacker – OC is very busy with lots of people from a variety of origins. The new Dean – Jim Barmby (replacing Linda Wilson) is very interested in making changes and raising OC's profile in Revelstoke.

Tony Scarcella – wished everyone a Merry Christmas – he will be away for about a month.

Lory Borges – as an Interior Health employee has been helping with the H1N1 vaccinations. They are hoping to have 70% of the population vaccinated.

John Yakeilashek – expressed concern over the development fees the City charges on social housing projects (ie: \$180 for a wheel chair ramp) and wondered if there was a process to waive fees for low income residents.

Antoinette Halberstadt – The housing society will be hosting a forum on rental accommodation development, secondary suites, etc. on Dec 1st from 7 to 9 pm.

- CUPE BC might be going out on a general strike in response to the government's handling of the paramedics collective bargaining process.

Susan Knight – Attended the Substance Use public forum and very supportive of the issues discussed.

- Reported that Canada Post will be withdrawing its support in the form of reduced postage fees for the inter-library loans system. This program is highly utilized in our community by the senior population.

Jane McNab – The next CBT Social Sector Advisory Committee meeting will be held in Revelstoke on January 23, 2010.

Nelli Richardson – Thanked everyone for their participation and good work during the year and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

8. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 am.

Nelli Richardson, Chair

Revelstoke Community Social Development Committee Coordinator's Report – November 25th, 2009

1. Communication, support and coordination

- **Website:** Home page updated this week with new 'Celebration of Achievements', including ECD recognition in the legislature, and Neighbourhoods of Learning announcements.
- **Support:** Assisted Kristal Bradshaw, Community Connections, to give a delegation to City Council regarding Infant Development and Supported Child Development regional office cuts.
- **Contacts:**
 - Oct 29th – Lory Borges/Mauro Morrone
 - Oct 30th – Transit Committee
 - Nov 2nd, 4th – Seniors' Association (New Horizons grant)
 - Nov 3rd – Kristal Bradshaw, Community Connections
 - Nov 5th – Regional teleconference presentation on Age-Friendly Plan
 - Nov 5th – OCP implementation committee
 - Nov 5th – CFDC
 - Nov 9th – Whitney Kendrick, Occupational Therapist (Seniors speaker series)
 - Nov 9th – Seniors' Planning Committee
 - Nov 10th – City Council meeting (support for delegation)
 - Nov 12th – David Rooney, Revelstoke Current interview
 - Nov 12th – Lory Borges
 - Nov 13th – Alex Cooper, Revelstoke Times Review interview
 - Nov 13th – Brian Mallet, Director of Public Works
 - Nov 16th – Substance Use Strategy Steering Committee meeting
 - Nov 18th – Transit Committee meeting
 - Nov 18th – Chamber of Commerce presentation (Age-Friendly business)
 - Nov 18th – Seniors' Centre presentation
 - Nov 19th – Anti-discrimination all day workshop at Okanagan College
 - Nov 19th – Substance use strategy public forum
 - Nov 23rd – ECD Committee meeting

2. Supporting our Seniors

- The Seniors Planning committee met for the last time and agreed to dissolve the committee as both the Age-Friendly Plan and 'Supporting our Seniors' projects are completed. It was agreed that the group, along with the stakeholders that met initially to review seniors' needs, would be called back together in the spring to review progress on implementation of the Age-Friendly Plan.
- I will continue to support the Revelstoke Seniors' Association as needed. This month, I assisted them to apply for a New Horizons Capital Grant to replace aging kitchen equipment. The speaker series at the Centre continued this month with Whitney Kendrick, OT, speaking on Falls Prevention. 60 people attended.
- On Nov 5th, I presented Revelstoke's Age-Friendly Planning experience as part of the BC Injury Research and Prevention Institute teleconference series; on Nov 13th I met with Brian Mallet (Public Works) to discuss their role in implementation of the plan; on Nov 18th I spoke to the Chamber of Commerce about what constitutes an 'Age-Friendly' business.

3. Transportation

- The transit committee met with Richard Weiner, a consultant hired by BC Transit to review the paratransit system in 20 communities across BC. We subsequently met again with Steve Harvard,

our BC Transit regional rep on Nov 18th. The primary goal is to improve the paratransit system in Revelstoke. However, there is no operational funding for Handydart and limited funding for the taxi supplement in our community. One goal is to make changes within our existing budget that would support part-time operation of the Handydart bus, with diminished availability of the taxi supplement.

- However, once additional information is available from both Weiner and the Transportation Master Plan consultants, in mid-December or early January, a planning session will take place to review the entire public transit system & come up with recommendations for potential improvements and alternative funding sources.
- **Transportation plan open house is November 25 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

4. Substance Use Strategy

- The community consultation phase is moving along. Although excellent information and feedback has been received so far from the surveys and focus groups at AA/NA and the high school students, it has been very challenging to get participants out to further focus groups. As well, attendance at the public forum was disappointing – although input from participants who attended was valuable. It is interesting to note that some stores refused to put up posters advertising the forum. As a result, in addition to 2 scheduled focus groups in January, we will be conducting a series of personal interviews in order to delve deeper into the situation in Revelstoke. The target is to wrap up community consultation by the end of January.

5. Holidays

- I will be away from my desk for 2 weeks from Monday December 21st, returning Monday January 4th.