

Community Living BC – Simon Fraser Region
400-205 Newport Drive, Port Moody

Council Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2015, 5:30 pm

Present: Sue Mann, Lynne Kennie, Linda Wu, Vera Anderson, Deb Appleby, Maxine Wilson, Bob Kashyap, Courtney Dinahan, Barb Paciejewski, Laurie Geschke, Carol Broomhall

Regrets: Ed Kushner

CLBC Staff Present: Victoria Naisbitt, Soheila Ghodsieh, Jule Hopkins, Shane Bolding

1. Introductions

- Welcome to Vera and Deb, returning Council Members, and new member Linda.

2. Adoption of Agenda

M/S/C To adopt the Agenda as amended.

3. Adoption of Minutes from March 30, 2015

M/S/C To adopt the confidential Minutes as presented.

4. CLBC Update – Soheila Ghodsieh

- Thank everyone for coming to the meeting, and for Jule for facilitating.
- Had 3 events over the past month:
 - Self advocate conference in this region – over 110 advocates participate. Next year will extend to Vancouver self advocates as well.
 - Had 2 Transition Fairs – in Burnaby & Maple Ridge. Both were very successful.
- Have hired 4 Directors, and now 3 Management positions open.
- Bob Youseff is the new Director for this Region.
- Simon Fraser Region has been divided into 2 – Van Coastal & Upper Fraser.
- Bob Youseff will come to an upcoming meeting if we're interested in having him there.
- Ryan Jamieson Is the Analyst Manager. He can also come to one of the Council meetings to give an overview of the budget.
- Wanted to re-iterate that the Council is in control over its direction, and CLBC staff are only there to support us – not to direct us what to do.
- The Council is in the driver's seat.

5. Housing Sub-Committee Update – Vera Anderson

- Will arrange a time to meet with Richard Faucher in mid-May
- Maxine is part of the Inner Circle of YMCA and has a good contact there – Andy Hiscox – who is interested in meeting with us.
- Will also have more discussions with L’Arche
- The Housing Committee will meet and decide how to move forward.

6. Provincial Advisory Committee (PAC) Update – Barb Paciejewski

- Cheryl Fisher & Eugene were elected as Co-Chairs
- Their motto is: “Nothing about us without us”
- Randy Schmidt, Director of Communications, talked about the support they could give Councils.
- Council websites are being updated to be more dynamic.
- Questioned the role of CLBC Managers with Community Councils. Their role is to help the Councils feel supported.
- Jack Styan, VP, Strategic Initiatives, spoke about the CLBC Strategic Plan.
- 600 transitioning youth, and 200 older, but still transitioning in. The challenge is supporting them with existing resources.
- Huge interest in housing everywhere. Richmond has a Task Force on housing that includes one Community Council member.
- Transitioning youth committees – hosting dances, photo contests, video contests, and doing a Pecha Kutcha on inclusion – 20 slides that are 20 seconds each. Some celebrating inclusive employers, hosting housing forums.

7. Strategic Planning – Jule Hopkins

- CLBC structure – a Crown Corporation that reports directly to the Minister of Social Development & Innovation.
- The CLBC Board is made up of professionals, family members and individuals.
- The Board composition is increasingly professional, as CLBC is a multi-billion dollar organization.
- The CEO is supported by a team of Regional Directors
- The Executive is made up of VP’s who directly support the work of the Board
- All Regional Offices have Managers of Quality Services & Managers of Community Planning & Development
- Under that are the Analysts, Facilitators & Admin staff who meet directly with the people we support.
- At HO, there are support staff around the budget and other portfolios.
- Some of the most important work is generated by the direct service agreements.
- Waitlists aren’t addressed according to length of time on the list, but rather how the needs of the people on the list fit within policies/parameters.
- Want to walk away today with a list of realistic projects that are important to the Council, along with names of people who will take the lead.
- What we do does have to be within the framework of what a Community Council is.
- The Council is a committee of CLBC – not an external advocacy committee.
- It is a convener to explore issues, a catalyst to make things happen, a place to share resources, a connector linking others in community to support a common cause, an advisor to share perspectives or insight to help something be achieved.

- Importance of having the Councils as a conduit – to give info to CLBC and to share info relating to CLBC back to the community.
- This is not an advocacy group. We can share what we don't like, but the role of this Council is not to advocate for change, unless it works within the framework of the Council.
- Reflective Questions: Why did you want to join the Council in the first place? What are some challenges to you achieving your goal?
- To learn about the Council and support what was going on. Engaging with community may be a challenge – hadn't done much of that in the past. A mentor to help with that could be valuable.
- To reclaim the village – where everyone contributes, everyone has needs and we all support each other. Invert the hierarchy – driven from the ground-up. Challenge is that it is still very top-down as a Crown corporation.
- Another way to help better support families with factual information. Challenge was convincing families that their views are important and that they are being listened to.
- Another challenge is continuity of information/effort as members of the PAC and the Councils turn over.
- Want to make life better for others. Sees a lot of situations that bother her, and a lot of people come to talk to her. Want to offer support and be that ear to listen, and to help facilitate change. The outcomes may not be immediate, but if the information is passed on to CLBC there may be eventual impact. Challenge is having the time to spend to further the goal.
- Another challenge is that the internal communication within this community is strong. The next step is to fan out to engage the broader community.
- The Regional boundaries have changed – now we're not as big, but we have Vancouver Coastal Health Authority to work with as well.
- Brainstorming – no suggestion is wrong; don't sweat the details.
- Over the next 2 years, understanding our reasons for joining – and within the terms of the role of the Community Council – what would we like to accomplish?
- Ideas:
 - Creating welcoming homes – think not about segregated housing, but about talking with cities, developers, etc, to integrate homes for people with disabilities into new developments.
 - Employment – paid work – (need to be more specific)
 - Plain Language information for families & individuals – inside & outside CLBC
 - Transportation – i.e. what does HandyDart need to do differently? (need to be more specific)
 - Making community connections (need to be more specific) – alternative learning opportunities through Kudoz initiative (i.e. New Westminster now a City of Learning)
 - Once choose topics, can create sub-committees with other community members.
 - Don't have to solve all of the problems – choose realistic goals that we can achieve.
 - Need flexible approaches to services & initiatives – (requests for things to be done in ways that accommodate people with disabilities and their individual needs)

- Dental Care
 - Equal opportunity around resources – need to understand the GSA and how that works
 - Is fundraising an option to support more Council initiatives/
 - Showcasing people's talents/skills/abilities -- showing the value of people with developmental disabilities – could have people with disabilities as speakers
 - Public education – educating people more about persons with disabilities
 - Circle of friends – offer a wider variety of opportunities for youth to connect and develop friendships – i.e. Douglas College in New West has a great community support program. See if we can lobby them to create curriculum to help people create friendships.
 - Promoting volunteerism
- Suggest when the Council picks what it wants to do in detail, have Ryan Jamieson come to the next Council meeting and explain in detail how CLBC money will be allocated this fiscal year.
 - Will arrange for that to happen.
 - Some initiatives will be dictated by budget.
 - Our council has a \$5,000 annual budget.
 - Many of the ideas can be combined – i.e. community connections with showcasing, learning opportunities.
 - Will take this list and at the next meeting see where they might merge into 2 – 3 topics to address over the next 2 years.
 - Jule will come back and facilitate the narrowing focus process.
 - Jule will circulate a process to help us with distilling the information down.
 - Carol will circulate the minutes tomorrow.
 - All ideas are within the framework of what the Community Council could do.

8. Confirmation of next meeting date – Monday, May 25 @ 5:30 pm.

Meeting ended at 7:50 pm