

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

Council Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2013, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Present: Debra Appleby, Vera Anderson, Maxine Wilson, Barbara Thomas, Sue Mann, Jacqueline Jordon, Diane Bruneau, Carol Broomhall (Minute taker)

CLBC Staff Present: Soheila Ghodsieh, Meaghen Taylor-Reid

Regrets: Jim Wong, Ed Kushner

1. Introductions

2. Adoption of Agenda – Moved/Approved

3. Adoption of Previous Minutes

- March 27, 2013 Meeting Minutes – Moved/Approved

Business Arising

- None

4. CLBC Updates

Presentation from Sandy Rogers, UBC MSW Practicum Student

- Presentation on Housing for People with Developmental Disabilities
- Started project in November 2012
- Created a resource binder for Facilitators – listing all non-profit societies by Region, to show all housing options
- Generally a wait list for most housing that is available
- Currently creating a Memo of Understanding – a partnership between BC Housing & CLBC.
- Now 7 individuals in BC Housing suites from Fraser Region – through Spectrum Society
- Recognized there were several individuals with developmental disabilities already living in BC Housing units, but BC Housing may not have known that the people were eligible for CLBC support/funding.
- **Soheila or Meaghen will email the Report to all members of the Council.**
- Suggest possible partnerships for density bonuses from developers like Bosa, Polygon, etc. Opportunity for rapid growth along Evergreen Line and other areas in Tri-Cities.
- Bosa has a foundation that will fund certain initiatives.
- Suggest housing and employment are 2 key areas.
- People are moving further and further away from Vancouver because of rental costs.
- Springboard mortgages and rent banks are other options to explore.
- A great number of transitioning youth are wanting the same life trajectory as other youth – renting or owning their own home.
- The families have a real role to encourage CLBC/Service Providers & Cities to explore creating more housing

- Note: there are instances where some low-income families do not want more independent housing for their children because they may need the income (to support their child) for their family.

Meaghen Taylor-Reid

- Has done community engagement for the last 2 years.
- Clarify: community engagement explores ways that individuals can be supported to be engaged to the community outside of the community living sector.
- The first year was assessing what community engagement would mean for the region. Focused on capacity-building for Facilitators, families and community members.
- Looked at communications strategies.
- Have collected over 400 pieces of information for community mapping in the area. Excited about that.
- Have mentored Facilitators to better understand community building
- Did a needs assessment/visioning recently with Facilitators. Areas of concern highlighted are:
 - Health and well-being – obesity, healthy eating, working out
 - Mental health – for people transitioning with a disability or dual diagnosis
 - Friendships – people feeling isolated
 - Recreation – Day supports (drama, arts, theatre, sports, etc)
 - Counseling – specifically listed as a stand-alone from mental health and health/well-being
- Work is about building new partnerships, increasing current understanding, sharing information of current work going on
- Looking at other government ministries – health, education, justice, aboriginal affairs, pension funds, etc.
- Last year there was a real spike in youth with FASD
- Compiling an inventory of external partners for service providers and home share providers to connect with
- A few Facilitators are starting to maintain some external partnerships
- Transitioning youth -- connections based on intense interests
- Communications – have a newsletter with 16,000 circulation
- Social media
- Awards to recognize partnerships
- Employment not on the list --- think that's partly because of the good work John Bergman is doing in that area with people entering and exiting employment programs. Also good relationship with WorkBC
- Aging – framework has recently been completed and adopted
- Home sharing – people are more independent with more connections in community
- Personal Supports Initiative (PSI) has been interesting
- 3 individuals with PSI designation are graduating from SFU
- So much happening in community
- Question about Navigator position. The challenge is that that role has to have sufficient authority in all of the participating ministries (MCFD, MSD, Health, Education, Justice, etc)
- Comment: Families are doing the best they can, based on what services/supports they are aware of
- Need to encourage community to make a difference person by person

- Comment: We see a lot of reports and research. We want to see end results where things improve – innovative programs developed, or more funding for individuals.
- Comment: Need to grow the voting block to advocate for more supports for people with disabilities and their families.

Soheila Ghodsieh

- **Jai Birdie, John Bergman and Brian Saltzman will be at the next Council meeting.**
- Council had asked that Jules Hopkins and Joanne Granek come to this meeting, but Soheila was away for that meeting and not aware that was requested.
- This region is going to receive 1 full-time staff to operationalize the Employment Action Plan (EAP).
- Goal is to have an additional 1200 individuals employed in BC over the next 3 years.
- Hope to employ 150 individuals in our region.
- 2 positions open in the CLBC employment initiative. Barb Penner is retiring and the one additional position for the EAP.
- Are still creating a skill-based employment-focused program in Maple Ridge.
- posAbilities won the RFP. They gave a great presentation.
- Family connections are a key piece for helping individuals find work.
- Similar program will be developed in New West.
- Coquitlam School District is the 3rd largest in the province.
- Transition Fair in Burnaby on May 7, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm at Burnaby Central High School, 6011 Deer Lake Parkway.

5. Update from the Chair – M. Wilson

- Want the Council to focus more on Strategic Plan development.
- Most Councils are struggling for membership.
- All Council Chairs will get together next week – meeting with Brian Salisbury and Joanne Granek. It will be a brainstorming and planning meeting for Councils.
- How we attract people as members is how we engage them and give membership.
- Need to explore how we evolve and how can we contribute.
- Need to better orientate new members.
- Need to make it clear to new members what our goal is.
- Handed out new flyers produced by CLBC, “Join your local Community Council.”
- **Carol will scan flyers and email to Council.**
- **Need to set a session for the Council’s goal-setting.**
- Inclusion in the education system is more challenging, as cuts to education mean low SEA staff levels. Don’t have supports for children with higher needs to be in the classroom (not in the Resource Room).
- Suggestion: We start engaging more with church community.
- Need to decide if we want to run with the 2 goals previously chosen – i.e. Inclusion & Innovation
- Point of clarification – it is staff that supports the actualization of the Council’s goals.
- Suggestion: We compile lists of who we know in community – community mapping.
- We likely have a list from the Maple Ridge Fair that we could reach out to.

- Think that we should focus on employment (economic inclusion) as previously decided.
- There is a good list of parents that would like to set goals together.
- **Carol will ask if Kevin Lusignan would facilitate Council goal-setting session.**
- Find out which dates/Weds work for everyone. Carol will email.
 - Possibly May 22nd?

6. Action Items - Update

- All action items were completed except for work around finding more Council members, Draft Strategic Plan, and need input on the Council's Annual Report (# meetings, # new members, # events). Meaghen can support us with that info.
- Outgoing Chair will work on Annual Report with Meaghen & Soheila.
- **Jacque will attend InclusionBC Conference on May 23 – 25.**
- If Council members would like any info from that conference, let Jacque know.
- **Would also like CLBC to create business cards**

7. New Business

- **cards for all Council members – with their name and contact information (phone, email)**
- **Need to develop a facilitated orientation session for new Council members.**
- None.

8. Confirmation of next meeting date:

Wednesday, May 29, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm, 400-205 Newport Drive, Port Moody.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.