

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER
Regular meeting of the Social Planning Advisory Committee
Held in City Hall, Conference Room 'A'
On Wednesday, October 22nd, 2014 at 7:00pm

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Antje Wilson, Chair
Cassandra Buckley
Nick Bryant
Tomoko Ito
Ray Moore
Maria Sponza
Steve Tornes
Mary Tasi, Vice Chair
Donna Zwickel

ABSENT:

Rod Clark, Councillor

STAFF:

Paul Penner, Community Planner
Edytha Barker, Committee Clerk

GUESTS:

David Newberry, Community Liaison
Dave Suttie, Program Site Manager
Shayne Williams, Executive Director, Lookout Society
North Shore Housing Centre & Shelter

Annie Dempster, Planning Technician

9 members – quorum = 5

1 Councillor (non-voting) 2 staff (non-voting)

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of September 24, 2014 were adopted as circulated.

3. GUEST SPEAKERS

David Newberry, Dave Suttie, Shayne Williams
North Shore Housing Centre & Shelter _____

The speakers presented a PowerPoint presentation.

Key points included:

- The 2014 Homeless Count reflected 119 on the North Shore; this is widely understood to be an undercount.
- The main difference between homeless on the North Shore and in other areas is invisibility. More space on the North Shore allows for the homeless to be out of sight of the general public.
- The #1 reason for homelessness in Canada is poverty but there are many reasons people become homeless.

- The North Shore Homelessness Task Force was established in 1998; it includes municipal government representatives, agencies, housing providers, etc. Lookout is a core participant.
- Lookout began in 1971, originally in the Downtown Eastside; has now expanded to central Vancouver, the North Shore, New Westminster, Burnaby and soon, Surrey.
- Lookout has onsite staff 24/7 to assist shelter tenants or users; the focus is on helping people move to stability.
- The North Shore Housing Centre opened in 2005 in partnership with three municipalities, provincial and federal governments and the health authority; its 45 bed shelter is the only shelter for adult men and women on the North Shore. They also have 25 units of transitional housing and 20 mats which are available during Extreme Weather Response.
- The average length of stay at the North Shore Housing Centre is the highest of Lookout's four shelters; this is indicative of the lack of affordable housing on the North Shore.
- Needs that have been identified on the North Shore include affordable/accessible/appropriate housing, mobile mental health services, drop in services, more access to food and meals, rent bank, more outreach services and long term recovery housing for those in post detox / treatment.

Questions/Comments from SPAC:

- Is there somewhere we can send youth that appear to be homeless or may need assistance?
 - Anyone can call Lookout's outreach number 24/7 and get a referral.
- You mentioned a lot of homeless people are in the age demographic of late 40's, early 50's. Do you know why that is?
 - Some mental health issues do not show up until that age; other factors include divorce or job displacement.
- Do you give job search assistance or job coaching?
 - Historically, Lookout has not given job assistance but we have a few pilot projects going on now and we hope to do this more pro-actively in future.
- What is your relationship with Hollyburn Family Services?
 - We have many joint ventures with Hollyburn; they have more targeted youth and seniors outreach workers and they communicate with Lookout staff on a consistent basis. We have an informal but fluid relationship.
- Does Lookout own the buildings they use?
 - Some are owned, some are owned in joint partnership, some are on municipal land; we also have partnerships with some market landlords.

4. UPDATES

a. Staff

- The Child, Youth and Family Friendly (CNV4ME) strategy report will be going to Council Monday, October 27. Staff will be seeking Council's endorsement on the strategy.
- CNV, in partnership with the District of North Vancouver and School District 44, are sponsoring a free event at Centennial Theatre on Tuesday, October 28, "Growing Absolutely Fantastic Teens". The speaker will be Dr. Elizabeth Saewyc and the focus is on how families,

schools and communities can support positive mental health amount young people.

- The Studio in the City 7 art project, Momen7um, was launched in Civic Plaza on Thursday, October 9th.
- CNV is engaging in a program to encourage youth to vote in the municipal election.
- The City, in collaboration with Lionsview Seniors Planning Society, will be submitting a funding application to the province to conduct an age-friendly project. The City and District will be applying to the province for Age-friendly Community Recognition in advance of, or at, the 55+ games to be held in North Vancouver in the summer of 2015.
- The City's preliminary 2015 Financial Plan is under consideration. It includes funds to look at how the design stairwells, outdoor space, amenity rooms, etc. of apartments can influence active living and social interaction.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Lower Lonsdale Legacy Fund Round 2 Initial Discussion

The committee had an initial discussion on recommendations for the 8 applications for Round 2 of the Lower Lonsdale Legacy Fund. A few questions were identified and P. Penner will contact the applicants and report back to the committee at November's meeting. The committee will endeavour to finalize the grant recommendations at its November meeting.

M. Tasi left the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

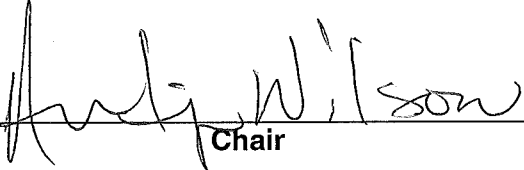
b. CityShaping Update

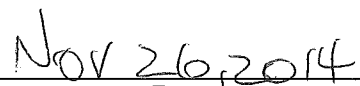
At the Public Hearing on September 29, 2014, there were 26 speakers. Council voted to defeat the Official Community Plan at 3rd reading. The current 2002 OCP is still in effect. The future of the OCP now at 2nd reading has yet to be determined, but may be decided by the new Council in January.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – November 26, 2014


Chair


Date

