



COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

**Tuesday December 5, 2017 – 5:30 p.m.
City Hall, Meeting Room #1**

MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Jaime McEvoy	- Chair, City Council Member
Norah Andrew	- Community Member
Dee Beattie	- Community Member
Tasha Henderson	- Community Member
John Hooker	- Community Member
Sukhdeep Jassar	- Fraser Health Representative (arrived at 5:32 pm)
Nadine Nakagawa	- Community Member
Pam Ralston	- Community Member

VOTING MEMBERS REGRETS:

Meredith Haaf	- Community Member
Giuliana Graves	- Community Member
Alex McGowan	- Community Member

GUESTS:

Milica Pavlovic	- The Purpose Society
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STAFF PRESENT:

Claudia Freire	- Social and Housing Planner
Debbie Johnstone	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS/ DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions.

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of October 3, 2017

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the October 3, 2017 Community and Social Issues Committee meeting minutes be adopted.

CARRIED.

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

There were no items.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Rental Replacement / Inclusionary Zoning Policy (Workplan update)

Claudia Freire, Housing / Social Planner, provided the following update:

- The existing rental supply in New Westminster is currently being examined to better understand how the policy can fit the needs of the community;
- Case studies of similar policies in Vancouver, Richmond, Burnaby and the City of North Vancouver show variation in terms of circumstance;
- Work on an inclusionary housing policy is also underway to examine the potential for the inclusion of below market rental units in new multi-family development (strata and rental); and,
- A draft policy is currently being developed, an update will be presented at the next meeting for Committee feedback.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Zoning Amendment Bylaw: Accommodation for Youth in Foster Care and Youth Aging out of Foster Care

Claudia Freire, Social and Housing Planner, summarized the Council report dated October 16, 2017 regarding a Zoning Bylaw Amendment which would allow for a greater number of youth in foster care for a single detached dwelling.

In response to questions from the Committee, Ms. Freire provided the following information:

- The property could reapply for further rezoning in the future; and,
- In order to be eligible for this amendment the facility would need to be attached to a program with the Ministry.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee agreed that providing youth members with an opportunity to remain in foster care longer could reduce the numbers of homelessness throughout the city.

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

6.1 CSI Representative on Healthier Community Partnership Committee

Claudia Freire, Social and Housing Planner, reported that Tasha Henderson had volunteered to serve as the CSI representative for the Healthier Community Partnership Committee. The Committee is currently working on a draft strategic plan, which would be shared with the Community and Social Issues Committee upon completion.

Procedural note: This item was addressed prior to item 4.1

6.2 Rent Bank Update / Social Development Partnership Opportunities

Milica Pavlovic, Purpose Society, provided a PowerPoint Presentation regarding the Rent Bank program.

Following questions from the Committee, Ms. Pavlovick provided the following information:

- Loan applications are reviewed on the first and third Tuesday of each month;
- Turnaround time for the process is typically one to two weeks, however urgent requests could be accommodated;
- With the launch of the Rent Bank website it is anticipated that more applications, and a different demographic of applicants, could apply;
- Additional funding from the Provincial Government could be beneficial; and,
- Short-term funding solutions through private funders, developers in the community, or grant opportunities could also be considered.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee expressed their support of the program.

6.3 New Westminster Food Security Summit and Action Plan

Claudia Freire, Social and Housing Planner, reported the following information:

- The City applied for funding from the Vancouver Foundation and were successful in receiving a grant for the new Westminster Food Security Summit on November 25th;
- The summit had over 30 participants, including representatives from all food organizations in New Westminster;
- Through the exchange of information between agencies it became apparent that no programs in the city offer food delivery after 4pm, or on Sundays;
- Recognizing these gaps could lead to the development of a coordinated plan and sustainability framework; and,
- The next step would be to develop a food security action plan and sustainability framework, which could include review of food security models from other municipalities.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee provided the following comments:

- It was suggested that altering food delivery times to target evenings and weekends could be a struggle for non-profit agencies;
- Including individuals receiving food deliveries should be considered to better understand their wants and needs; and,
- A survey through the food bank could be considered as a way to obtain feedback from those using food delivery services.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

TBA

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Certified Correct,

ORIGINAL SIGNED
Councillor Jaime McEvoy
Chair

ORIGINAL SIGNED
Debbie Johnstone
Committee Clerk