

**Mount Waddington Health Network  
Steering Committee Meeting  
October 22, 2014  
Regional District Office  
Port McNeill  
9:00 to 12:00  
Teleconference: 1 877-577-7710 ID 9496234#**

**M I N U T E S**

**Welcome & Introductions:**

|                                  |                        |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Alyson Hagen Johnson (co-Chair)  | Val Eyford             |
| Heidi Soltau                     | Brenda Loerke          |
| Shirley Ackland (recorder)       | Althea Vermaas (phone) |
| Gail Neely                       | Jamuga Cook            |
| Helen Gurney                     |                        |
| Sandra Waarne                    | Regrets:               |
| Angelika Starr (for A. Mitchell) | Kelly Amodeo           |
| Barb Park (coordinator)          |                        |

**Agenda Approved by – J. Tidbury / S. Ackland CARRIED**

**Minutes of September 24, 2014 Approved with corrections: S. Waarne / G. Neely CARRIED**

Remove last line under **5.2 / Amend 5.6** to read:

Addiction Services – Sandra Waarne

She will be attending a BC Housing meeting in November in Richmond to try to get the ear of BC Housing.

Remove name Pat Horgan under **7.0** New Business – he was not in attendance

**Public Delegation**

Nimfa Casson – Teacher of Social Justice 12 at NISS has planned a Social Justice Expo with her class. This year the Expo will be in January 2015 and she hopes that some of us might also participate so that students learn about services and the social issues within Mount Waddington. She would also like anyone at this HN table to identify if they would be mentors to partner with her students and help the students carry out their action plans.

**Business Arising from the Minutes:**

1. Quarterly Report on MWHN – K. Berzeron – monies for HN will be in VIHA budget contract for one year is expected in a month's time.
2. Update on Forum planning – All is rolling along. Panelists booked. Transit with NICS. If VIHA can speak to "*single point of access system*" would be great. Seniors' advocate is booked and she is travelling throughout PH, PA, PMc, and AB. Set up with sound is planned – any help to set up would be appreciated.

**S. Ackland / G. Neely approve Purchase Order for Setos (lowest bid) to pay for the catering for the November forum CARRIED**

3. Aboriginal Co-Chair Search – Letters have been drafted that will go out to various bands in the region. There have been four people nominated and the letter will ask for further nominations to be considered for co-chair. It is also a good opportunity to encourage the bands to participate in the steering committee – they have a seat at this table.

4. Dinner with the Health Board – Reports on the experience of meeting with the VIHA Board at Seven Hills for dinner. Different format. One comment - Nurse Practitioners are such a cohesive group here in the North Island that they are taking on students. FN Health has approved the Maternal and Child care physician for our region. It might be possible to invite the VIHA Board to meet us in another venue in the MW region. It gives a better perspective on the vastness of the region.

Hospice is another area that we need to get going. There is a group of retired nurses that wants to start hospice in the region. There is money that is being held for this program. NICCCS said that currently it is being done off the sides of people's desks. It needs to be properly funded if it is to move forward in the region. VIHA has allocated one hospice bed in MW (2015-2019). There are beds in each of the hospital facilities designated for those who are near end of life.

### **New Business**

1. Small Grant Approval – NICCCS Housing First – Althea spoke to the proposal for matching funds from the MWHN (\$5 000) to hire a person to prepare the operational plan. We need to clarify who is to fill out the application. (person/agency)

**S. Waarne / B. Loerke approve the Housing First Program Proposal for \$ 5000 submitted  
CARRIED**

### **Committee Reports:**

1. Island Health
2. Coordinator's Report
3. Seniors/Elders Better Living Advisory Committee
4. Addictions Services Planning
5. Children & Youth
6. Executive
7. Housing & Homelessness

### **1 *Island Health - Angelika Starr***

Will be joining the committee for the next couple of months. Going to a regional model. MW has been the poster child for a regional model. The reporting will be a bit different. Program direction will be geographically managed. Geography 1 – Comox North new Executive Medical Director being hired. Dr. Armogam reported staffing shortages in all areas. The doctors are looking at a new model. Down to two physicians in Port McNeill and two in Port Hardy. Three in Alert Bay and two in Port Alice. The two positions in PH and PMc are billing positions the others are salaried positions. Hopefully that we be discussed. It might help with recruitment. There have been three physicians toured around the region recently. Many vacant nursing positions. VIHA is very quick at contacting anyone who has the qualifications for any health jobs. The recruit must come up and do a site visit. We are being designated again for some money as we have serious health issues and very poor health outcomes. Brief three or four days with an ultrasound technician coming up – no one permanent yet.

Shifting out of acute care and into community into preventative care. More of that shift happening. The doors to the new primary health care facility in Port Hardy will be open in January.

Any way there could be a tour of the new facility for our Health Forum for November 05 or 06? It will be a very busy day. (perhaps after the meeting)

Local Working Group is going through some changes. Plan is to join with the rural division of family practice. Same group meeting for both committees. Community engagement process is coming up at the end of November or early December. Sointula has its community engagement November 20.

Aboriginal Liaison Nurse position has been vacant for a year, interviews next week. Providing the LPN to provide assessment at the Emergency Weather Shelter last year worked exceptionally well and it is set again for this year. That program usually begins in November, when the cold weather begins and people who are at risk may need a place to get out of the bad weather.

**2 Coordinator's Report – Barb Park**

Covered the progress for the forum. Committees can submit reports or minutes if they wish them to be in the package at the forum. Check out the website as there are new links and current committee information. Shared information about what will be needed to host the theatre event in February. The quarterly financial report was updated but none of the committees have used any funds so far the fall – any expenditure from those committees will be updated at the next meeting. Currently the lunch for the HN, the forum, and the website update are the only expenditures to date.

**3 Seniors/ Elders Better Living Advisory – Gail Neely**

Copy of the report and the minutes included with agenda. Alyson will be attending the next SEBLAC meeting. It would be great to see more representation from First Nations at the seniors' meetings. Seniors share their concerns and there is a great exchange of information at the meetings. The new seniors' worker in Alert Bay is Christina Cook.

**4 Addictions Recovery Planning Services – Shirley Ackland**

There will be a joint MWARSPC & H/H Committee meeting on November 21. We are planning a performance for February 04 at the PH Civic Centre called Maladjusted. This performance fee is \$2000 and we are hoping that this event will take the place of our annual dinner we usually hold in Mental Health and Addictions Awareness week (2<sup>nd</sup> week in November). This November we are in the midst of civic elections and our joint groups H&H and MWARSP decided to host this theatre event rather than a community dinner. Cormorant Island Healthy Communities is also hosting this event on February 05. So this event will be in two venues in our region.

**5 Children & Youth Committee – Kelly Amodeo**

Kelly sends her regrets. The meeting that was to take place just occurred and she will report at our next HN meeting.

**6 Executive Committee – Alyson Hagen-Johnson**

We have not had quorum for our last two meetings. Helen and Alyson worked to get the forum ready.

**7 Housing & Homelessness – Althea Vermaas**

Slowly making progress. We are meeting with MWARSPC on November 21. Thanks to VIHA for some clerical help. Salvation Army agreed to be the lead for the Ready to Rent program and they don't have the capacity now. NICCCS is going to take it on as Ready to Rent is a small program. This again speaks to some great ideas to help the community of Mount Waddington but the agencies that would take on the work are so tapped out. It was suggested that a society could be created to run some of these programs. Regardless of whether it is an agency or a society, it is the same people. We need to consider ways to build people's skill sets into running some of these programs and to ensure we have money for staffing these programs.

As the Chair of H&H I applied for the Ready to Rent program – there needs to be clarity on who is applying for the funding. All of the work is coming through the H&H committee but it will be an agency who takes on the program.

**Motion to Accept All Reports (1 –7) – G. Neely/ H. Soltau CARRIED**

## Correspondence

Barb circulated the correspondence folder

The next HN Steering committee meeting is scheduled for **9 a.m. on Wednesday, November 26, 2014.**

**Meeting Adjourned at 12:15 p.m. H. Soltau / G. Neely CARRIED**

*S Ackland*

(Recorder)

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(HN Chair)