

Minutes

Mount Waddington Health Network Steering Committee

24 April, 2013

Regional District offices

Present

Alyson Hagan-Johnson (Chair)
Shirley Ackland (Councillor, Port McNeill)
Michele Dorsey (Youth Emergency Housing Co-ordinator, NI
Community Services)
Gail Franklin (Co-ordinator)
Gail Neely (Port Alice; chair Seniors/Elders committee)
Heidi Soltau (Director, Area A, MW Regional District)
John Tidbury (Councillor, Port Hardy)

Chris Parker (ED, NI Crisis & Counselling Centre Society)
Christine Swain (Chair Youth Emergency Housing ctee)
Angelika Starr (Mgr Acute/Residential Care, Port Hardy)
Sandra Waarne (Cormorant Island Health Communities)
Wendy White (Councillor, 'Namgis FN and Village of Alert Bay)

Guest: Claire Trevena, MLA (North Island)

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

2.0 Review Agenda

Approve agenda

Motion: Approve the agenda as presented.
Carried.

3.0 Previous Minutes

Accept minutes of
27 March 2013, with
amendments

Motion:
Accept the minutes of 27 March, 2013 as true and accurate, with the following amendments:
Heidi Soltau was not in attendance.
Carried.

4.0 Correspondence

No correspondence was circulated.

5.0 Reports

5.1 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Alyson Hagan-Johnson reporting

Applicants for the food security have been short-listed and will be interviewed later today.

The Executive Committee endorses the proposed change to the MWHN terms of reference, to include a representative of NICCCS to the Steering Committee.

The Executive Committee has requested the Co-ordinator to report monthly on committee expenses, and twice yearly to make a full report of all disbursements.

We also have prepared a draft template for funding applications. Thanks to Chris Parker for providing the drafts as the basis of this work.

Include NICCCS as a member in the Terms of Reference

Motion: Specifically include North Island Crisis and Counselling Centre Society as a member in the terms of reference.

Carried.

Proceed with selection of Food Security researcher

Motion: Proceed with interviews & selection of Food Security researcher/co-ordinator.

Carried.

Accept the report of the Executive Committee

Motion:

Accept the report of the Executive Committee

Carried.

5.2 SENIORS & ELDERS BETTER LIVING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Gail Neely reporting

SEBLAC will hold our regular monthly meeting next week. Since last month we have prepared a request for funding for a mini-conference related to World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 10, 2013.

Elder abuse, neglect and self-neglect have been identified as a major issue in this region, and SEBLAC has made it a focus of its work.

Gail Neely presented a request for \$1500 to cover the June 10 SEBLAC event.

Approve funding of SEBLAC/WEAAD event up to \$1500.00

Motion: Approve the funding sought, to a maximum of \$1500.

Carried.

Accept SEBLAC report

Motion:

Accept the SEBLAC report.

Carried.

5.3 YOUTH EMERGENCY HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (YEHAC)

Christine Swain reporting

We have a home for the duration of the remainder of funding for the Youth Safe House pilot project, but that will be in question afterward. We will need more homes if the program expands.

We have been discussing the prospect of care homes in Port Hardy and elsewhere if the project is adopted and expands. A hotel room or apartment has been considered. We are now considering a way to involve local residents in a "home-grown" training program to develop skilled support workers. This would be an opportunity to develop more outreach and front-line workers amongst our youth, with community connections.

Accept YEHAC report

Motion:

Accept the YEHAC report.

Carried

5.4 HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE

Chris Parker reporting

The H&H core committee has reviewed the draft of the survey of Housing and Homelessness, and the consultants have revised it in accordance with their comments. The survey now includes a table of the communities and the identified needs. The public forum will offer an opportunity to reflect on this information and add to it informally

A meeting will be held shortly to prepare the regional committee for the public forum on May 28. The core committee will meet next week to develop plans for that event.

Regarding the funding request that NICCCS made to the Homelessness Partnering Strategy last autumn in support of a Ready to Rent training program, NICCCS recently received an unexpected letter from an aboriginal agency in Prince George, acknowledging receipt of the application on behalf of the HPS, and promising to be in contact again.

Chris Parker announced that she will retire from NICCCS on May 31. The new Executive Director, Althea Vermaas, has started and will be in transition for six weeks. Chris intends to stay on through June to see a good hand-off. She hopes that once the regional H&H committee has met, she will stay involved with the Housing Committee and issues on a part-time basis.

Motion

Accept the report of the Housing and Homelessness Committee.

Carried.

Accept the Housing and Homelessness report

5.5 ADDICTIONS SERVICES PLANNING COMMITTEE

Shirley Ackland reporting

The ASPC will hold its regular meeting next week.

Cormorant Island Supportive Recovery Society (CISRS) is moving ahead on a proposal to the town of Port McNeill for a donation of 10 acres of land. The Society is scheduled to make a presentation to Council on June 6. CISRS is exploring seed funding options through BC Housing and Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

The Lighthouse Resource Centre in Port Hardy is seeking some way to provide qualified intake assessment for its proposed "safe sobering place" this winter. The related community interests will meet in May to discuss how this can be achieved. The LRC faces

organizational liability issues in operating the safe sobering place without this additional expertise.

Motion

Accept the ASPC report

Accept report of the Addictions Services Planning Committee
Carried.

5.6 VIHA REPORT

Angelika Starr reporting

There were two temporary bed closures in March: one at Cormorant Island Health Centre and one at Port Hardy.

Recruitment and retention: There is a little interest in physio/OT/rehab positions. We are interviewing for managers. There has been no progress on physician recruitment.

There will be no meeting of the Local Working Group on Health Services Stabilization in April. Instead Alison and Rick will meet senior administrators of VIHA in Victoria.

VIHA's collective agreements have been ratified. All involved increases of staff hours.

Following the retirement of Howard Waldner, Dr Brendan Carr is Acting President of VIHA. A new CEO will be confirmed after the provincial election on May 14.

Discussion: The roll-out of VIHA's rebranding/website appears to have been completed at very low cost and with little publicity. The website has been improved for public access.

Motion

Defer action on motion of 27Mar13 re VIHA logo

Defer action on the letter re logo and letter until we have more information about the costs involved.
Carried.

Motion

Accept the VIHA report

Accept the VIHA report.
Carried.

5.7 CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

Reporting: Gail Franklin

Gail noted the transition of the Executive Directors of both NICCCS and North Island Community Services over the next few months. At the same time, significant positive changes continue to occur at the "grassroots" level, through dialogue between community members and organizations.

A group of community service providers including Peter Carter and Ruby Peterson has been meeting to discuss the effects of unresolved emotional trauma in this region, and

what might be done about it. Through the Co-ordinator they requested that the Steering Committee consider convening a future public forum to focus on this issue.

Gail looks forward to supporting the organization of the public forum on Housing and Homelessness, and any community action arising from it.

Discussion: Because the federal funding of the housing survey specifically excludes the reserves, the Steering Committee today reviewed its decision to hold the public forum at the Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw reserve.

The Steering Committee requested Chris Parker to change the venue of this forum to the Port Hardy Civic Centre. It hopes to hold the next public forum at the reserve.

The Steering Committee supported the suggestion that the next forum be based on the topic of trauma.

Motion

Accept the Co-ordinator's report

Carried.

Accept the
Co-ordinator's report

6.0 Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

6.1 HEALTH NETWORK GRANTING PHILOSOPHY AND FOCUS

The Steering Committee reviewed draft guidelines and forms to apply for funding held by the Health Network. These will be distributed to the Steering Committee membership as a whole for further reaction and discussion.

7.0 New Business

7.1 Presentation: Funding requirement for Youth Emergency Housing initiative

Presentation by Michele Dorsey, Youth Shelter Pilot Co-ordinator, NICSS

One to two youth per week currently require emergency housing in Port McNeill alone; two to four per week in Port Hardy and Port McNeill combined. Two potentially additional family homes have been identified in Port Hardy & Port McNeill.

Two recent surveys through the high schools have found that at least 27% of high school students have needed emergency access to housing in the past year.

The nature of the youth need for emergency housing is not frivolous. The individuals served are experiencing true emergencies. Additionally this program sees youth with cognitive barriers that require long-term/permanent supportive housing or supportive services.

Funding to support the youth safe house for a full year would give time to establish continuous funding from other sources. With this funding NICSS will be able to demonstrate a record of continuous service for a full year, and show funders the statistical evidence of need and the community's determination to respond.

Michele will prepare a formal application for consideration by Executive Committee on May 15.

Motion:

Receive the Youth Emergency Housing presentation.

Carried.

Receive presentation on funding needs for youth emergency housing

7.2 PRESENTATION OF FUNDING PROPOSAL: TRANSIT EDUCATION

Presentation by Mary Mavis, Transit Co-ordinator, NICSS.

The presentation described the content and schedule of a series of seniors' workshops on using the regional transit system.

Mary will make a formal application for consideration by Executive Committee on May 15.

Motion:

Receive the Transit Co-ordinator's presentation.

Carried.

Receive presentation describing needs for funding of Transit workshops for seniors

7.3 PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL REPORT

(Postponed because of time limitations)

8.0 Motion to adjourn

Adjourned 12.15 pm.