

TRI-CITIES SENIORS PLANNING NETWORK

Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday, December 17, 2013 - 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Location: CVC office, 25 Kind Edward St.

In Attendance:

Stacy Ashton
Bruce Bird
Effie Garcia
Marg Gordon
Bruce Hansen
Gina Hortelano
Judy Jackson
King Lum
Margaret Manery
Pat McBlane
Mike Oakley
Helga Olvington
Gerry Steckler
Suzanne Tempel
Karen Tyrell
Sue Uremovich
Linda Western

Regrets:

Massi Bakhshian
Robyn Newton
Carolyn Sherrell (until June)
Christine Spinder
Peggy Hendrickson

Thank you to Stacy, CVC and SHARE for hosting this meeting. Port Moody Arts Centre has offered us meeting space, as has Douglas College. Will follow up in the new year. If anyone else would like to host a meeting, please let us know.

Introductions were made. Welcome to Marg Gordon (replace Sue Uremovich who is retiring), Margaret Manery and Gerry Steckler, involved seniors from the community.

1. Review of Agenda

- Focus of discussion will be on the Transportation Forum
- Survey Monkey - Survey to senior community in Tri-Cities (Stacy)
- Conflict around next meeting date

2. Review of Minutes from November 19th

- Minutes accepted without change
- Motion: Mike Oakley, seconded Pat McBlane

3. Forum Discussion (interspersed with 'survey discussion')

- Delta did a similar survey and a contact there can provide results on what they've done; could save us some time or give new ideas
- They included walkability and cycling as part of their list of modes of transportation

- Who will our presenters be?
- What should they address?
- These answers are what may come out of the survey

- Riviera Manor had ICBC make a presentation on preparing for giving up your drivers license
- Wilson Centre is preparing to have a forum within the next couple of months which will include:
 - Tips for pedestrians
 - Preparing seniors for their driving test
- Bruce will forward more info when available

- Translink is conducting a Regional Travel Behavioural Study
- It involves recording all of your family's travel for a two day period
- If you receive the information by mail, use the log in ID provided for internet access
- Or register by calling 1-855-319-2887, if you wish to participate

- BC Non-Profit Housing Association may be able to provide us with demographic research

4. Survey for Tri City Seniors

- Stacy thanked the Survey Committee: Effie Garcia, Mary Ong, King Lum, Gina Hortelano and Pat McBlane

- Stacy walked us through a brief recap of the last meeting discussion on the Forum (Linda provided summary document of the conversation from November meeting to the group)
- The committee looked at the overall 'theme' of the survey (and/or forum) -- Age Friendly Transportation in the Tri Cities
- How do we get the community involved in the discussions that are happening with transportation
- How do seniors stay active when they can no longer drive?
- Forum topics will be chosen by the surveyed seniors
- Forum could include an information fair which can have booths for service providers to seniors
- Next steps:
 - May provide information for the Network moving forward based on what responses are
 - There is always a question of capacity
 - Need to determine demographics (report was due in July with current stats; currently only 2006 is available)
 - Helga felt that once we involve the municipal mayors, MLA's, etc. the more success we will have
 - Let politicians know that its happening before sending out the survey; give them an opportunity to be part of it
 - Linda and Bruce will be scheduling meetings with local MLA's; request to make presentations to Mayors and Councils will be discussed at the next meeting
- As a senior, Pat stated that it was important that everyone be around the table. As many individual seniors that we can reach is important and much more powerful
- We need to coordinate service providers and those using or needing the services
- Should target 50+ seniors
- Will need a back up of volunteers to follow up and assist with survey

Parking Lot

Timing:

- Have the survey sent out in the new year
- Send and return within three months

Printing:

- Seek in kind contribution or financial support to cover printing costs and other miscellaneous expenses of the Forum

Translation:

- Effie suggested SUCCESS could provide translation

Phone Bank:

- Need to recruit volunteers for follow up

Assistance in Completing Survey: (the following is a summary of suggestions around providing assistance to seniors to complete the survey)

- Agencies who send out the survey should offer assistance to seniors who may need help completing it
- Extended care staff in housing facilities - identify one person to help residents
- SUCCESS would offer help/translation services
- Services should be noted in survey - recognizes diversity of communities
- Add “if you need assistance...” At the top of the survey
- Linda Western is noted as contact for further information in the survey

Dissemination: (the following were suggestions for strategies around distribution of the survey)

- All service providers around the table can distribute to client base
- Gerry stated he could take to the 190 seniors living at Marlborough House
- Wilson Centre is having a Fair on February 15th; the Network should have a booth there and distribute surveys

A survey committee meeting was set for early January to discuss changes to be made, distribution and next steps related the survey.

Additional Comments/Ideas:

- Karen noted that people also need to be able to ‘vent’ and talk about their own issues
- It was suggested we could have a ‘frustration box’ at the forum as well as in the survey
- At lunchtime, each table could write one frustration on their tablecloths and share/discuss

Obviously, the survey and forum discussions will continue in the new year... but we're on our way. Great input everyone.

Updates:

- Better at Homes is currently working on increasing capacity for the shopping program and transportation program
- Sue Uremovich is retiring; congratulations Sue!
- Wilson Centre is having a Seniors Fair on February 15th from 10 to 3 pm; Bruce Hansen will send information to Judy; Network should have booth there
- Mike Oakley talked about connection made through the Network for some back-up driving
- Bruce Bird talked about the December 11th CARP meeting - Karen Tyrell was the guest speaker and did a tremendous job! He complimented her on her great depth of knowledge.

Meeting adjourned at 2:55 pm

Next Meeting:

- Is scheduled for January 21st; however there is a conflict with an important workshop
- Other possible dates are January 14th or 28th; date will be confirmed based on availability of guest speaker