

# TRI-CITIES SENIORS PLANNING NETWORK

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 17, 2015 - 1:00 - 3:00 pm**  
**Port Moody Arts Centre**  
**2425 St. Johns St., Port Moody**

## Attendees:

## Regrets:

Stacy Ashton	Parneet Hara
Masumeh Bakhshian	Peggy Hendrickson
Bruce Bird	Mike Oakley
Carmeliza Florido	John Schofield
Gina Hortelano	
Brenda Hynes	
Judy Jackson	
Ken Kuhn	
King Lum, Chair	
Pat McBlane	
Mary Ong	
Irene Turnbull	
Karen Tyrell (pt. time chair)	
Linda Western	
Bill Wray	

## Introductions:

**Agenda** accepted as presented.

## Minutes of Last Meeting (January 20, 2015):

- Motion to accept, Bruce Bird
- Seconded by Carmeliza
- Carried

## Presentation:

**Bruce Bird** shared a presentation on Age-Friendly Communities. This video was shown at the CARP Conference in October.

- Gil Penalosa was the presenter representing '8-80 Cities'
- Major theme was around moving people within the cities with the priorities being:
  - Pedestrians first
  - Cyclists second
  - Automobiles third
- These types of cities (centres, in particular) are doable anywhere across Canada
- Communities need to slowly adapt and continually improve

- The 55+ demographic is more knowledgeable and healthier than ever before
- The median age in Canada is now 40
- People need to live vs. survive, which is what we do now
- More public spaces for people to share and enjoy are valuable for all ages – ‘8-80’
- Pedestrians, cycles and public transit must become ‘best friends’
- Creating this type of community living is a way of showing respect for its people who live and work there
- Cities become people oriented
- A grid needs to be created connecting communities city-wide
- Public engagement is crucial
- When cities are defined by people vs. cars, we have better, happier communities

The Province has 40 grants to disburse to study friendly communities – nothing has been slated for the Tri-Cities.

It is important for us to have a voice with the City Councils and Government representatives.

#### **System Changes Forum (Feb. 6) – update**

- Massi, Linda, King and Ken were all in attendance
- Very well attended
- Seniors Advocate, Isabel MacKenzie was the keynote speaker
- Sessions were broken down into various categories:
  - Poverty
  - Affordable Housing
  - Seniors Home Support
  - Seniors Centres
  - Transportation
  - Homelessness
- Some elected officials attended

#### **Affordable Housing Dialogue Session**

- More of an information session than a good dialogue
- Senior population is increasing but affordable housing is not
- Affordability for rentals is rapidly disappearing
- Homelessness for seniors is on the rise
- No solutions were given

#### **Multicultural Day Update**

- Great event – many more people than last year
- Excellent entertainment
- People wandering, but language biggest barrier in having much interest in any of the displays

#### **New Business**

##### **Healthier Communities Partnership Table**

- In Parneet’s absence, Linda Western discussed the recently formed Healthier Communities Partnership Table

- Fraser Health and members from each of the cities City Councils sit at this Table
- Parneet felt that it might be best for us to present to this group, before (or instead of) as it covers a much broader representation of stakeholders vs 'just' City Council
- Linda Western to contact Parneet to discuss the presentation
- Bruce Bird, Linda, Karen and Pat will meet to discuss the presentation to this group
- One person to address the Table asking: 'How are you involving seniors in your decisions?'
- Upcoming meetings are March 4 or April 1
- March 27, Tri-Cities Community Seniors Forum, one person will ask the panel of MLA/MP's the same question.

*King excused himself from the meeting at 2:40 and Karen took over as Chair.*

#### **Volunteer Support Program, Investors Group**

- There is a grant available for two years for \$3,000 per year
- Stacy to complete the registration form and Mary Ong will submit it on behalf of the Network
- Money cannot be used for operating/administration expenses
- Some ideas would be a display banner; maybe another forum
- Item deferred to the next meeting
- Anyone wishing information about the grant, please check the Investors Group website or contact Mary Ong for more info.

#### **Updates**

##### **Bruce Bird:**

- Met with the Superintendent of Motor Vehicles last week
- Discussion was about having 'senior' driving rules being unwarranted and unfair
- Bruce was advised that they were studying things now – discussions will continue

##### **Ken Kuhn:**

- Tri-Cities Community Seniors Forum to be held on Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>
- Winslow Centre in Coquitlam
- Registration begins at 8:30
- MLA/MP Panel at 9:30
- Food trucks available for lunch
- Please pre-register
- Registration and Exhibitor Information has been forwarded to the Network separately

##### **Bill Wary:**

- **55+ Games** call for committee members
- Call for volunteers in the fall
- Event takes place in August of 2016
- For more information, visit Glen Pine's website
- **Leisure Connections** still looking for grants to continue the programs
- City of Coquitlam, Parks and Rec 55+ report going to Council, Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 1:00-3:00 p.m. – Port Moody Arts Centre, 2425 St. Johns Street**