

TRI-CITIES SENIORS PLANNING NETWORK

Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday, February 18, 2014 - 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Location: Port Moody Arts Centre

In Attendance:

Aida Alves
Stacy Ashton
Bruce Bird
Masumeh Bakhshian
Effie Garcia
Patricia Garner
Marg Gordon
Parneet Hara
Tara Hashemi
Peggy Hendrickson
Gina Hortelano
Brenda Hynes
Judy Jackson
King Lum (chair)
Mike Oakley
Mary Ong
Suzanne Tempel
Irene Turnbull
Linda Western

Regrets:

Pat McBlane
Carolyn Sherrell (until June)

- 1. Introductions were made around the table.**
- 2. Agenda was accepted with deletion of Survey Update, as there was none.**
- 3. Minutes of January 14, 2014**
 - Minutes accepted as presented
 - Moved to accept: Mike Oakley, seconded by Bruce Bird. Carried.
- 4. Business Arising from previous meetings:**
 - a) Transportation Survey (Stacy)**

(Linda took a moment to explain the Forum concept to new members around the table)

- Survey has been translated into Farsi, Mandarin and Korean (in progress)
- Mary Ong distributed throughout her church contacts
- CVSS mailed 360; King sent to approximately 90 members of Tri-Cities Power Pioneers
- Will drop off and pick up from food banks, thrift stores, etc.
- Hoping to hold the Forum during the 3rd week of June at Douglas College
- Trying to get some time at Coquitlam Centre to do surveys (will need volunteers)
- Will be promoting through the local newspapers
- King was interviewed by the Tri City News
- Pat McBlane has a student to help with designing a logo for the Network
- Parneet (Fraser Health) will post a link on line
- Linda commented on the amazing commitment of members to get this survey out
- An e-mail address has been set up for the Network:
tricityseniors@gmail.com

b) Community Response Network

- Linda and Pat McBlane attended the most recent meeting
- Only two groups around the table were NOT already represented within our Network (RCMP and CERA Society)
- Pat McBlane is planning on continuing to be involved with CRN representing our Network

c) Wilson Centre Health Fair

- Peggy Hendrickson and Patricia Garner attended and handed out surveys and brochures
- Event takes place every two years
- 62 booths were taking part in the Fair
- Effie (on behalf of Jackie) passed on the comments that she had observed there were not a lot of minority seniors attending the event
- Others commented that they had felt there was a good diversity present
- Where do seniors get their information? How does Wilson Centre advertise?
- Transportation to seniors centres is an issue for many seniors, making it difficult to participate

- How can we help seniors expand their sense of community?

d) Multicultural Fair - SUCCESS

- There will probably be three information sessions:
 - Falls prevention
 - Self defense (presented by RCMP)
 - To be determined
- Info sessions are interspersed with entertainment
- Capacity for 200
- Tara to contact Jackie re: entertainment
- 11 a.m. for set up by 12:30
- Judy to resend registration and flyer to Network

5. New Business

a) Port Moody Consultation

- Three representatives from the Network have been invited to attend the Master Plan update
- Wednesday, February 19, 2014, 3 pm at Port Moody City Hall
- King and Linda to attend
- Linda asked for any other interest, will advise Marg Gordon re: request to attend

b) Seniors Housing/Homelessness Stats

- There will be a homelessness count this year; no new stats available
- Homeless Seniors Community of Practice
- Two workshops, Wednesday, February 19, 2014 re: homeless seniors
- Presented by the Greater Vancouver Homelessness Strategy
- Linda will follow up

c) Tri Cities Welcoming Communities

- Linda attending this meetings representing the Network
- Linda handed out the document/newsletter on Newcomer Seniors

d) New West Seniors Planning Table

- Hosting a Fair on Wednesday, February 19, 2014
- A Networking opportunity for service providers, resources for seniors
- Linda will be attending

- New West Planning Table has been around for 7 years; 5 years for Burnaby's Planning Table

e) Update on Grants

- Letters of intent have been sent to all three City Foundations re: getting people to the Forum
- PoCo and Coquitlam responded requesting a full application; Port Moody said no
- United Way has offered a grant for the Network for the next six months. The Vancouver Foundation grant that currently funds the table ends March 31/14.
- Marg Gordon mentioned that United Way is pulling all seniors outreach support over the next year. CVSS will be losing funding as of June /14
- Seniors Enrichment Program at SUCCESS is covered to 2015; Caregiver Support Program is continued to June 2015
- Very small sustaining grants from United Way are remaining a to few organizations in the Lower Mainland. None is in the Tri-Cities.
- Marg made a motion that the Network write a letter to United Way re: loss of funding
- Motion was seconded by Bruce Bird. Carried.
- Linda Western to draft a letter
- Also noted, we should be leaders in getting other planning tables together
- Invite all other Planning Tables to discuss funding issues
- Motion was made by Stacy to bring the Planning Tables together; seconded by Marg Gordon. Carried.
- Linda to follow up with Marg
- Chair and facilitator to meet with other funding tables if a meeting is arranged

f) Network Facilitator role/job description

- Linda advised that she will not be renewing her contract after the end of March
- Network has been designed to be senior led
- CVC hosts the contract
- What does the facilitator need to do?
- Facilitator should communicate with others in the Tri Cities and Lower Mainland

- Be familiar with the area and community
- Have some knowledge of funding
- Know target groups
- Good public speaking skills
- Expertise to tap into skills around the table
- Ability to 'bring out the best'
- Stacy will bring a budget to the next meeting
- King, Bruce Bird, Patricia Garner, Stacy Ashton will make up the hiring committee

Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 due to a booking conflict. We were unable to do Updates from Members. If anyone has anything that they would like to be distributed through the Network, please send PDF files to Judy at judy.seniorsnetwork@gmail.com

Next Meeting will be held on March 18th at the Wilson Centre in Port Coquitlam. Discussion topic will be: Legal and Financial Concerns for Seniors