

TRI-CITIES SENIORS PLANNING NETWORK

Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday, October 21, 2014 - 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Location: Poirier Library, 525 Poirier St., Coquitlam

Attendees:

Stacy Ashton
Bob & Pat Darnbrough
Carmeliza Florido
Tara Hashemi
Peggy Henrickson
Gina Hortelano
Brenda Hynes
Judy Jackson, Recorder
King Lum, Chair
Pat McBlane
Mike Oakley
Mary Ong
Carolyn Sherrell
Michi Tsurumi
Irene Turnbull
Karen Tyrell

Regrets:

Bruce Bird
Mary Cooper
Robyn Newton
John Schofield
Suzanne Tempel
Barbara Thornborough

HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY, MARY COOPER!!!

Introductions were made; King Lum chaired the meeting. Agenda was accepted, with the following additions:

- Under New Business: Role of the Chair and Co-Chairs
- Under Old Business: Update on day care programs

Minutes from Last Meeting:

- Judy covered some minor changes to the minutes. Most significant being that it was not Suzanne Tempel to invite Sandra Marsden. Bill Wray was to talk with Sandra.
- Judy moved to accept the minutes with the noted corrections.
- Seconded by Pat McBlane; Carried

Business Arising from Previous Meetings

Day Care Programs

- The committee has met and had a good discussion.
- We need to determine what exactly is available in the Tri-Cities now.

- They have been reviewing different models, in particularly the model for early onset dementia programs, such as Paul's Club
- Karen's vision:
 - 24 hour per day, 7 days per week support available for all stages of dementia
 - More relief for the caregivers - good respite programs
 - Secured funding
- There are two day care programs available now. One at Hawthorne (daily programs, Mon-Fri) and the Glen Pine Leisure Connections program (1/week)
- Hawthorne currently has 12-15 people attending, with various participants attending 1-2 times per week
- A new program has started at Dogwood for early onset dementia and their caregiver. Caregiver must be in attendance. Starts at 1:15 for 1 ½ hours, 1 time per week. \$2 drop in fee
- Gathering more information on Paul's Club
- Brenda Hynes noted that Fraser Home Health offers respite care for caregivers, there is a fee involved
- Need to attempt to determine actual needs in the community
- How long are the waiting lists?
- The Day Care Program Committee will present at the next meeting

New Business

Chair/Vice-Chair Roles

- Is it time to change leadership? King is doing an excellent job as our Chair.
- King and Pat are both prepared to stay in their current positions, and Pat will offer relief to King when required
- The Vice-Chair replace the Chair when he/she is unavailable
- The Chair represents this committee to the media, at other events and involvement with other groups in the Tri-Cities, he/she sets the agenda and chairs the meetings
- Decision was made that we need to replace the 2nd Vice Chair as he has not been in attendance or communication since the time of elections. Stacy to have a discussion with the incumbent
- We may need to elect a new Co-Vice-Chair at our November meeting
- Stacy made a motion to reaffirm King Lum as Chair and Pat McBlane as Vice-Chair; seconded by Carmeliza. Carried.

Coquitlam Affordable Housing Plan

- King has a 'draft' of the new affordable housing plan
- This was provided through the Homelessness Task Force as they, and other groups, were sent the draft for their review
- King to ask for a copy of the draft plan and request that we be included in any future communications about any issues involving Senior
- Housing plan needs to include 'accessible' housing - accessible not only for individuals living needs, but also to transit, shopping and other amenities
- Burquitlam area changes seem to be the catalyst for change

- Intent is to put draft plan out for public comment once stakeholders have had input
- Karen moved that King send a letter (Stacy to draft) to request a copy of the draft plan and that TCSPN be one of the stakeholders
- If we are able to get an e-copy of the plan, we will forward to members to review
- Mike seconded. Carried.
- Gina - Coquitlam was doing accessibility survey online. If it is still available Gina will forward to Judy to send out to Network

Suggestions for Future Discussions/Presentations

- Reactions/comments to the housing plan and prepare something to send to the city
- Invite someone to speak for both the Affordable Housing and Accessibility groups. Project Manager is Bruce Irvine
 - Do Port Moody/PoCo have similar plans? What focus do they have on affordable housing and/or accessibility?
 - Irene will look at the city websites to see if they have something similar
 - Stacy to look at New Westminster's plan
- We need thread 'service coordination' thread through all discussions
- Idea: Connect with family physicians; the GP's in the area could have a 'concierge' to help direct clients/patients to the appropriate services
- There are GP's on side with this concept already but they need to learn about the services

Other Discussion:

- If anyone is available to attend any of the all candidates meetings, please do and present next meeting
- Prepare questions to send to each candidate; they can post their answers on the web
- Good to hear their definition and idea of an 'Age Friendly Community'
- Need to ask all candidates how will they support seniors
- Questions we want clarified:
 - What to do about affordable/accessible housing
 - How will you support transportation plans and other services for seniors
 - *** How will you support seniors and their families as they deal with the issues related to aging
- Stacy to create a survey to send to all candidates.
- We need to create more awareness of our group
- Note our issues
- What is their willingness to support
- Will request answers by November 3rd and try to send results to committee prior to elections

Updates

King Lum:

- Attended the Tri-Cities Local Immigration Partnership meeting
- Appears that once everything is up and running, they would like our group to be a member of the group (not actually part of the council)
- Discussions are mostly about immigration job issues.
- They recognize that senior immigrants are coming to assist their families and need support
- We need a new representative from SUCCESS; Stacy to have a discussion with Kelly Ng

Mary Ong:

- Mary is currently taking her CFP (Certified Financial Planner) course, which can be taken in five years. A group of colleagues from Investors Group are doing a fast track course, meaning we will finish in 1 ½ years. Usually have classes/study groups on Tuesday afternoons (3-6) and Thursdays, which is why she has been missing some Tuesday afternoon Network meetings.

Karen Tyrell:

- Five week caregiver program starting on November 6th at Dogwood, 1 to 3 pm
- Will send details to the network
- Karen can provide relief support for some caregivers who would like to attend but cannot leave their loved one at home

Mike Oakley:

- Mike received an award from Douglas College for his entrepreneurial achievement with Home James

Peggy Hendrickson:

- Glen Pine has new hours:
 - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Thursday (4 days) - 8:30 am to 9 pm
 - Friday - 8:30 am - 4 pm
 - Saturday - 9:00 am - 3 pm
 - Sunday - 10:00 am - 2 pm

Michi Tsurumi:

- Port Moody Community Care Committee has been meeting
- Counsellors are talking about what seniors need in the community
- There will be a seniors meeting to discuss; Michi will advise if there are more details

Gina Hortelano:

- Better at Homes is providing light housekeeping once per month; reduced frequency in order to assist more people
- Currently have 11 drivers; they each do 6 rides per month; therefore providing 66 rides per month
- Have some waiting lists

- Minimal movement on waiting lists unless someone moves from the area, moves to assisted living or passes away
- Still waiting to hear about this year's funding and any budget changes

Next meeting: November 18th, 2014, 1 to 3 pm, Nancy Bennett Room, Poirier Library, 525 Poirier Street, Coquitlam

There will be no meeting in December. Looking at booking space at other locations.

Suggestions included:

Coquitlam City Centre Library (Coquitlam Foundation Room), Port Moody Rec Centre or City Hall.

Judy/Carmeliza to research; Tara to check on details for Coquitlam Library.