

TRI-CITIES SENIORS PLANNING NETWORK

Minutes of Meeting
Tuesday, September 15, 2015 - 1:00 - 3:00 pm
Poirier Library, Boardroom
575 Poirier Street, Coquitlam

Attendees:

Regrets:

Stacy Ashton	Harvey Grigg
Bruce Bird	Ken Kuhn
Brenda Hynes	Mike Oakley
Judy Jackson	Karen Tyrell
King Lum, Chair	
Pat McBlane, Co-Chair	
Mary Ong	
Irene Turnbull	

Agenda:

- Accepted with one addition under 'New Business':
 - Seniors Advocate's Report

Minutes of Last Meeting (July 21):

- Motion to accept, Brenda
- Seconded by Irene
- Carried – no discussion

Business Arising from Previous Meetings:

Communications with Local Papers:

- King has written the communication to local papers
- Judy will send out again (attached to minutes) for any final comments
- Placement will most likely be after the Federal Election
- Anticipate changes with Tri-City News/Now – Bruce advised post meeting that Glacier (owner of Tri-City News) had purchased the NOW. The NOW will cease operations and the Tri-City News will publish twice per week.
 - Need to confirm/create contacts

Survey Questions re: Housing Forum:

- Stacy has made some revision/additions to the questions

- Stacy will create a timeline of the Forum event, working backwards from event date (tentatively April 14 or 21), to determine best timing to send out the Housing Forum survey questions.

Forum Sub-Committee

- Need volunteers to start having some discussions specifically about the Forum
- Follow up re: possible CARP meeting in April (ask Karen T.)
- Pat McBlane volunteered to work on the sub-committee
- Anyone interested should contact Stacy or Judy

Terms of Reference

- It was felt that our Terms of Reference were ok; however, we need to spend some time realigning ourselves with them
- Discussion ensued about current membership
 - Are we sending information to people who don't want it?
 - Need to update the membership list
 - Create a list of organizations currently involved and 're-invite' them
 - How can we get more individuals involved?
 - Create posters about the Network for community centres, libraries, churches, etc.
 - Try to generate some interest
 - Place meeting notices, etc. in more papers i.e. SNAP
 - How do seniors and agencies work together?
 - Important to do the bridging – answers are not always obvious
 - Develop a PR Plan to follow the news release (King's article)
 - Perhaps ask Douglas College students to help with focus groups, etc.
- Need a quick 'tag line' focussing on 'working together'
 - Pat suggested: "Working Together to Create Solutions" (unanimous agreement)
 - We should be the catalyst to get people coming together
 - Relationships are very useful
- Develop a six month Communications Plan, ending with the Forum

Federal Election

- CARP National has a Seniors Vote campaign running up to the election <http://www.carp.ca/category/advocacy/campaigns/seniors-vote/>
- Locally, CARP will hold an open house with one representative per party to address issues
- Stacy to send out survey (as done previously in Provincial elections)
- Judy to prepare e-mail list of candidates
- Questions to include:
 - What do you see as the key issues to include in a National Dementia Strategy?
 - How will you ensure that all seniors have equal access to medical care and medications across Canada?
 - How would you ensure that seniors have affordable, appropriate housing and food security?
 - How will you ensure future seniors have their needs met when they retire?
- Candidates' answers will be posted on our website

New Business

Seniors Advocate's Report

- King wanted to bring attention to the Advocate's Report addressing the issue and importance of Caregiver's and Caregiver Support
- Perhaps this will open up additional funding

Updates

Peggy Hendrickson

- Peggy will no longer be representing Glen Pine at the Network meetings.
- We are waiting to hear who will replace her as an active member with the Planning Network
Special thanks to Peggy for her involvement since the Network's inception. She has been a great liaison with Glen Pine and was a great support, always participating in special events and volunteering for extra tasks. Peggy will be greatly missed. We hope she will continue with us from time to time as an 'interested senior' in the community.

Pat McBlane

- Pat shared with us the BC Retired Teachers Assn.'s booklet around Federal election issues

Stacy

- For anyone interested in serving on a Board, Community Volunteer Connections, City of Coquitlam and the Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce are hosting a Board Development series
- Series will begin October 7th; \$10 for (Chamber) members/\$15 non-members

Brenda Hynes

- BC Community Response Network has produced new 'call' cards; Brenda shared them with the group

Bruce Bird

- CARP hosting "Can I Afford to Stay in My Home" September 29th, 1 to 3 pm, Nelson Avenue Community Church, 5825 Nelson, Burnaby
- October 15, Queensborough location, UBC/Pharmacare will be analyzing drugs that people are taking (part of a research and public service program)

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, October 20, 1:00-3:00 p.m. – Coquitlam City Centre Library, 1169 Pinetree Way, Room 137