

Present:

Chair, Councillor Villeneuve
K. Ardawa
D. Chattha
L. Coyle
Dr. Z. Malik

Absent:

G. Dean
S. Dooley
D. Lawrance
M. Chatwin
G. Gill

Staff Present:

A. Murphy, Senior Social Planner
M. McCargar, Planning Technician
J. McGuire, Community & Recreation Service
L. Bowie, Healthy Communities Manager
H. Dmytriw, Legislative Services

Also Present:

A. Sundberg, Vibrant Surrey

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was

minutes of April 26, 2012, be adopted.

Moved by K. Ardawa
Seconded by L. Coyle
That the Social Planning Advisory Committee

Carried

B. DELEGATION**1. OCP 2012 Draft Document Review**
Cancelled.**2. Debrief on Doors Open Event – June 23, 2012**
File No. 8000-01

Lori Bowie, Healthy Communities Manager and Jessica McGuire, Community and Recreation Services, reported on the Doors Open event. The event involved free access for the public to tours of and use of 32 facilities in City Centre, Bear Creek and Newton. It was a very successful inaugural event.

Staff showed the promotional video created by Shaw TV. The Marketing Department is also creating another video documenting the event to be used for presentations and advertising in future years.

Participant surveys have been sent to the volunteers and Jessica and Lori are awaiting responses - overall, the feedback so far has been very positive.

Suggestions for next year:

- The volunteers played a big role but more City staff support is recommended for next year.

- More funds should be allocated to marketing and the marketing campaign should begin earlier. Marketing advertised two weeks prior to the event with RedFM, News 30, Shaw TV ads, City media releases, social media and in local papers. Event information was available on the City's website and on signage around the City prior to the event.
- The advertising messaging needs to be clearer. A suggestion slogan was: "be a tourist in your own city".
- Prior to event, posters should be visible at each Doors Open venue. Participating venues should be encouraged to advertise the event to their clientele.
- Venues should be encouraged to plan different activities for participants
- The 'geocaching' was very successful but instructions need to be clearer.
- Next year's event could add a loop in Cloverdale, but it was the general opinion that the number of venues was sufficient.

3. **Surrey Poverty Reduction Plan**

File No. 5080-01

Alice Sundberg, Vibrant Surrey presented on the Surrey Poverty Reduction Plan. She has been involved in social housing advocacy, education, and development for 25 years, and was the Executive Director of the BC Non Profit Housing Association for 11 years. In 2010 she joined Vibrant Surrey as the Manager of Projects and Partnership.

The Poverty Reduction Project by identifying Who, What, Why, When and Where was introduced.

Who? – the Steering Committee was made up of a collaborative group involving the City of Surrey, SPAC, Homelessness and Housing Society, Vibrant Surrey, Homelessness And Housing Task Force, Fraser Health, Kwantlen Polytechnic University and The Centre for Interdisciplinary Research: Community Learning and Engagement (CIR:CLE) and SPARC BC.

What? – a series of Fact Sheets, Community Consultation Process and an Action Plan.

Why? – there was a need for evidence based data and a need to develop a collaborative Action Plan to ensure unified action by all stakeholders.

When? – the Project began in 2010, the Community Consultation process was undertaken from November 2011 to April 2012, the Fact Sheets were released in March 2012 and the official launch of the Poverty Reduction Plan is on July 9, 2012 at 1:30 pm at Timber Grove Apartments.

Where? – a round table to be organized to guide the implementation of the Plan.

The data used in the fact sheets is from the Community Data Consortium (CDC) as well as other sources. The CDC provides community-level social and economic data that is based on the 2006 census. The fact sheets provide data on 7 population groups (aboriginals, families, immigrants, men, people with disabilities, seniors and women) and four policy areas (transportation, housing, income and support).

Vibrant Surrey, Surrey Homelessness and Housing Society, United Way of the Lower Mainland, and City of Surrey funded the project.

In addition, Ms. Sundberg will give presentations to the business community, non-profit agencies, government agencies and coalitions to raise awareness and begin

implementation of the Plan. By this time next year, a follow up Forum will be held to bring together stakeholders. The hope is to create a round table of organizations and individuals who want to end poverty and continue to implement the Plan.

We can end poverty. "**this**" is how we end poverty in Surrey.

Committee comments:

- Related work is being done by three different groups: The Province has identified Surrey to participate in a pilot project where poverty-reduction strategies will be used to work with 10 families living in poverty; the IBM Smarter Cities Challenge was recently completed with recommendations on how Surrey can improve services and outcomes for children and the Surrey Board of Trade is releasing a policy paper on poverty.

C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

1. Update on Standards of Maintenance By-law

Corporate Report, May 28, 2012 – *Surrey Rental Premises Standards of Maintenance By-law*

The Surrey Rental Premises Standards of Maintenance By-law, 2012, No. 17686 passed third reading on June 11, 2012. It was given final adoption on June 25, 2012.

Of note, the corporate report included a recommendation that a letter be sent requesting the Provincial Government provide sufficient funding to Surrey and other local governments to undertake the work associated with the standards of maintenance by-laws. Currently, such responsibility is the mandate of the Residential Tenancy Branch. As per Council direction, that letter was sent.

The Lower Mainland Local Government Association unanimously passed the City of Surrey's Resolution calling on the Provincial Government to amend the *Residential Tenancy Act* and enforce decisions related to the upkeep of rental tenancies within a reasonable timeframe. The Resolution will now be forwarded to the UBCM for consideration at their Annual Convention in September.

D. NEW BUSINESS

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

F. CORRESPONDENCE

G. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. City of Surrey News Release – *Surrey Moves to Protect Rental Standards*

2. Now Newspaper article, May 29, 2012 – *Slumlords could face jail...*
3. Now Newspaper article, May 31, 2012 – *City takes tenant rights...*
4. Province Newspaper article, June 20, 2012 – *Advocate faces eviction as landlord evades hefty fine*
5. Canadian Immigrant Settlement Sector Alliance, May 2, 2012 Letter to Minister Jason Kenney
6. Vancouver Sun, June 18-22, 2012 - *Growing Apart – A five-part series on social isolation in Vancouver*

It was

Moved by Z. Malik

Seconded by D. Chattha

That the Social Planning Advisory Committee

receive the correspondence items as information.

Carried

H. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Committee Members' Updates

Councillor Villeneuve commended the Committee on its accomplishments. Over the past year, SPAC has completed several activities that were identified on the Committee's Work Plan including: the inaugural Doors Open event, the completion of a Poverty Reduction Plan, the adoption of a Standards of Maintenance Bylaw and UBCM Resolution, and the Heart in the City Awards.

Geoff Dean provided a written update regarding efforts **to improve access to post-secondary education in Surrey** -

The Surrey Board of Trade (SBoT), SFU-Surrey, Kwantlen, the School District and the City had partnered in an "Education Today / Productivity Tomorrow" effort. This year, they are focusing on the lack of post-secondary education in our region. The Team has just approved a brief which will be going to the SBoT Executive Committee for approval, and then hopefully to the other Education Today / Productivity Tomorrow partners. Currently, Surrey has less than 1/3 the spaces per resident compared to what the rest of the Province gets. Based on the clear need for post-secondary education, and on other business and social benefits, the brief asks that the number of post-secondary student spaces in our region be tripled.

ACTION: The City will support this brief when it comes from SBoT.

Devinder Chattha – World Refugee Day was on June 20, 2012. An event held at the Guildford Recreation Centre. It was very well attended.

Progressive Intercultural Community Services (PICS) held an interfaith bridging project workshop that brought 12 faith groups together. The aim of this project is to create awareness about the diversity of people living in Surrey, illustrate the similarities between different faiths and dispel the myths about various religions and cultures.

Councillor Villeneuve - spoke at the Canada and Refugee Resettlement Conference, held June 20-23, 2012 in Richmond. People from all over Canada and the World were at the Conference. Councillor Villeneuve's speech focused on the Government-Assisted Refugee (GAR) Transportation Loan Program and Surrey's advocacy efforts calling on the Federal Government to discontinue the program.

Zanbka Malik – Zanbka Malik and Stephen Dooley facilitated the Youth Muslim Dialogue in April. The youth discussed the media and how the stereo types of Muslims in the media perpetuate racism, discrimination, and phobias. Committee member was shocked that Muslim youth felt so affected by the media and its negative portrayal of Muslims. Ms. Malik took steps to raise awareness by discussing it on the radio, but feels more needs to be done. The youth believe the solution is to request neutral reporting by the media.

ACTION: The Chair suggested that Ms. Malik select 6-8 key points/copies of evaluation forms to bring to the next meeting to discuss and determine if there is a small initiative the SPAC could take on regarding this issue

Linda Coyle – has set up an event through Third Age Learning at Kwantlen (TALK). The event involves visiting the Ismaili Centre to hear about Islam, and to talk to scholars about *what is Islam, what is a Muslim, what does it mean*. It is open to the public.

Ms. Coyle attended the 2012 Rotary World Peace Symposium in Thailand in May 2012 and heard from a former Sudanese child soldier who spoke about what peace means to him: *"There can be no peace until there is forgiveness"*. A number of cities around the World are looking at setting up Rotary Peace Communities.

ACTION: Surrey may want to consider being a Rotary Peace Community.

2. **Review "Fun Schedule" and Agenda Items for Next SPAC Meeting**

- Meeting is cancelled - July.
- OCP – September? (Manager of Community Planning confirmed that the OCP presentation should be cancelled as OCP consultations will be completed for the fall.)
- Settlement Issues - Devinder Chattha to present - September
- Update on Refugee Strategy – September
- Heart in the City Awards - 2010 award recipients to be invited to present - October
- New subcommittees - Funding Fair and Branding/Promotions - September

I. **NEXT MEETING**

July meeting cancelled. The next meeting of the Social Planning Advisory Committee is scheduled for September 20, 2012.

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was

meeting do now adjourn.

Moved by Z. Malik
Seconded by L. Coyle
That the Social Planning Advisory Committee

Carried

The Social Planning Advisory Committee adjourned at 9:03 PM.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Chairperson, Councillor J. Villeneuve
Social Planning Advisory Committee