

CV Coalition to End Homelessness
Meeting Minutes
June 1st, 2016
Courtenay Library
12 -1PM

Facilitators: Helen Boyd (Care-A-Van Comox Bay Care Society) and Elizabeth Shannon (CV Social Planning & Lush Valley Food Action Society)

Recorder: Andrea Cupelli (Coalition Coordinator)

Present: Roger Albert (Comox Valley Social Planning Society), Roger Kishi (Wachiay Friendship Centre), Chris Newell-Bate (Eureka Support Society), Hugh MacKinnon (Town of Comox), Liz Brown-Commanda (private citizen), Jonathan Kerr (Division of Family Practice), Sarah Sullivan (AIDS Vancouver Island), Elizabeth Shannon (Comox Valley Social Planning Society & Lush Valley Food Action Society), Heather Ney (Transition Society), Tim Desaulniers (RCMP), Joyce Wilson (St. George's United), Bob Scales (Lions Club), Jeff Townsend (Dawn to Dawn)

Regrets: Jody MacDonald (United Way), Jessica Hawkins (Lush Valley Food Action Society)

- 1) General Updates
 - a. Regular high attendance at General Coalition meetings – way to go!
 - b. Division of Family Practice to sign on as a Member
 - c. New Coordinator for Coalition replacing Jolene McElwain– Andrea Cupelli
 - d. Bob Scales won a Community Hero Award for the Service Club category – congrats!

- 2) Expression of Interest letters for BC Housing Funding and letters of support required from the Coalition
 - a) Deadline for EOIs for BC Housing funding is June 15th, 2016
 - b) Draft Letters from the Coalition
 - i) Leadership team has written and provided the framework of a Coalition draft support letter with basic information about Coalition and the 5 year plan.
 - ii) Members who are requesting an EOI letter are to provide the Leadership Team with information about their agency's needs within the provided framework. Leadership Team will compile and create an individualized letter suited to each agency.
 - iii) Draft will be sent out to agencies for review beforehand, and Leadership Team will keep signed letters on file
 - iv) Agencies requesting EOI letter should be for projects already included in the 5 year plan

- c) Members requesting EOI letters currently are:
 - i) Transition Society
 - ii) Wachiay Friendship Centre
 - iii) BC Lion's Club
 - iv) Dawn to Dawn
 - v) Comox Valley Recovery Centre

- 3) Leadership Team 2016-17
 - a) Stepping Down: Helen Boyd (Care-A-Van Comox Bay Care Society)
 - b) Stepping In: Chris Newell-Bate (Eureka Support Society)
 - c) Carrying On: Heather Ney (Transition Society), Elizabeth Shannon (CVSPS & Lush), Sarah Sullivan (AVI), Betty Tate (CV ARNBC), Richard Clarke (Dawn to Dawn)
 - d) United Way expressed interest in having a representative on the Leadership Team.
 - i) Jody MacDonald will be leaving United Way and they have not hired a new representative as of yet
 - ii) The Coalition agreed that to serve on the Coalition it is important the representative be local (not parachuted in), and aware of local issues on homelessness
 - iii) This concern is not reflected in the current Terms of Reference.
 - e) New Leadership Team for 2016-17: **Elizabeth Shannon, Heather Ney, Richard Clarke, Chris Newell-Bate, Sarah Sullivan and Betty Tate**

- 4) Updates to Terms of Reference at time of next revision:
 - a) The Terms of Reference should be updated to reflect Leadership Team governance.
 - i) Individuals on the Leadership Team should have 6-12 months' prior experience with the Coalition.
 - ii) Acceptable to have a smaller leadership team, so long as the members are well versed on the issues at hand.

- 5) The 5 Year Plan
 - a) Many Coalition projects are spread over 5 years. 5 year plan needs to be updated over the summer
 - b) Special Leadership Meetings will be called over the summer months to update the plan
 - c) Need to look at what funds will be earmarked for Year 2
 - d) A meeting with the CVRD will need to be arranged in November

- 6) Meeting with Don McRae
 - a) The message was that the Coalition is collaborating together and supportive of all initiatives and not in competition with one another.
 - b) We need Don McRae to support these important needs and priorities within the Comox Valley

- 7) Meeting with Gord Johns, MP (NDP - Courtenay, Alberni riding)
- a) Gord Johns suggested utilizing parliamentary office library researchers who could research what accessible funding is available within the federal government through multiple ministries
 - i) Bunny wrote a letter as a follow up to request that assistance in research
 - b) Discussed restricted home ownership. Usually land gifted by the government with easy access for entry level home ownership. Home owners cannot sell their home to someone who doesn't live in the area to reduce foreign ownership and cannot raise housing prices past a certain percentage. Common in certain resort municipalities like Whistler and Tofino.
 - c) Coalition questioned whether there was anything in the local government acts about restricted ownership and whether something like this can be included on a smaller scale in our municipalities
 - d) Coalition should arrange a meeting with Rachel Blaney, MP (NDP – North Island, Powell River riding) regarding housing issues in the Comox Valley
 - e) It is helpful to give the MPs more specific requests to get the word out in parliament. The right question needs to be pitched in advance to the caucus so they are selected for the open question periods in Parliament
 - f) Potential to meet with David Eby, a BC housing advocate, to help
 - g) Can the Coalition develop a question or work with MPs to formulate this question?

8) Team Updates

- a) Public Awareness Team
 - i) Planning on setting up an information table at Comox Valley and Cumberland farmers markets over the summer to provide information on the Coalition and talk about what we have accomplished this year.
 - ii) Planning to do a series of newspaper articles on issues related to homelessness in the Comox Valley
- b) Homelessness Prevention Team
 - i) Just received the Community Map created by NIC students
 - 1) This map outlines all of the social services available in the Comox Valley and where the gaps are
 - 2) HPT will be meeting this Friday, June 3rd to look over
 - 3) Once the Community Map is ready and suits the Coalition's needs it will be shared
 - ii) Looking at results from Point in Time Count and will decide on how to appropriately use the data (one-day count vs using the entire week's data)

- c) Housing Development Team
 - i) A presentation was given on 'tiny houses'
 - 1) Roger took the idea to Cumberland Council
 - 2) Zoning is still the big question. Can tiny homes fit under the zoning for manufactured homes? Are there restrictions on how many you can have on one plot? How are they hooked up to water and sewer?
 - 3) Examples: Kettle Creek in Victoria 7-900 sq feet homes. Portland, OR, tiny homes are built in a community along with support services for residents

Next Meeting: September 7th, 2016 12pm-1pm at the Courtenay Public Library