



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE
Community Advisory Board on Homelessness
January 14, 2015 at 12:00 p.m.
City Hall – Main Boardroom

MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday, January 14, 2015 at 12:00 p.m. in the City Hall Main Boardroom. The following Committee members were in attendance:

Chairman: L. Bussey, co-chair,
D. Anderson,
L. Elkin,
L. Fuller,
I. Hamlyn,
Mayor M. Heyck, ex officio,
E. Shea.

The following advisory members were in attendance:

M. Saturnino.

The following members of Administration were also in attendance:

D. M. Hernblad,
A. Neumann, recording, and
G. White.

Regrets:

D. McKee,
Dr. J. Corkal, and
N. Nadeau.

Absent:

J. Renaud, and
V. Tompkins.

Call to Order

1. The meeting was called to order at 12:15 p.m.



Approval of Agenda

2. Ms. Fuller moved,
Ms. Hamlyn seconded,

That the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

3. There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

Approval of Minutes

4. Ms. Fuller moved,
Ms. Hamlyn seconded,

That the minutes of June 20, 2014, October 7, 2014 be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Priority Update

5. Priority #3 (Integrated Service Supports) – D.M. Hernblad noted that the Priority #3 proposal was reviewed and accepted by the City, and \$76,250.00 has been allocated in the budget. Notice to the proponent has been given and a contribution agreement is being prepared to fund the installation of a bathroom, some electrical upgrades, and a teaching/working kitchen, in a building being leased by the Government of the Northwest Territories. CAB members had questions regarding the Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) funding investment for repairing/upgrading of premises that are owned by private sector and indicated the importance of making sound, viable and long-term investment decisions for the community. Administration advised that the project meets the Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) eligible activities for Priority 3 as described in the Community Plan.
6. Priority #2 (Youth Housing Options) – D.M. Hernblad noted that there was only one proposal that was submitted for this priority, and this proposal has been reviewed by City Administration, co-chairs, and all requirements have been met. The proposal is for a transitional/supportive housing with 10 - 14 units for youth aged 16 – 24 which will follow a Housing First philosophy. The funding allocation will be \$180,000 the first year with annual funding over 5 years up to \$594,000, and includes programs such as employment support, literacy and education programs. The facility intends to be open this summer. A contribution agreement is currently being drafted to include annual HPS funding up to 2018/19.
7. Priority #1 (Housing First)

- a. **Point-in-Time Counts** : Canadian Observatory on Homelessness versus Org Code



D.M. Hernblad noted that the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, along with Steven Gaetz, is working on a Point-in-Time Count toolkit with the province of Alberta (whom just completed the first *provincial* count). This program is preferable to Org Code in that the Conservatory is a non-profit organization (cost-recovery only) and does not include any proprietary methods for counting; results can then be compared from one year to the next on data collected; the Conservatory will support as needed and may be available to aggregate the data and write the report. HPS contracted the Conservatory to develop the toolkit for Canada as it is anticipated the PiT count may become mandatory and be implemented across the country. It is *estimated* Org Code costs may be approximately \$15,000 and the Conservatory approximately \$5,000. D.M. Hernblad noted that a Yellowknife PiT Count for homelessness is anticipated to happen in March 2015.

ACTION: After discussion on the merits of each, the committee decided to move forward with the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness toolkit.

Committee discussed a sub-committee for the PiT Count. The following people volunteered to be on this sub-committee: Erin Shea, Lyda Fuller, Iris Hamlyn and Dayle Hernblad.

ACTION: D.M. Hernblad to email the CAB committee members not present to see if anyone else is interested in sitting on the PiT Count sub-committee.

Discussion surrounding the Service Prioritization Decision Assessment Tool (SPDAT) occurred. The Canadian Observatory is currently analyzing assessment tools in Canada and the US with the intention of developing a toolkit, but the Org Code's assessment tool is already tested and in place. It was also noted that Sam Tsemberis of Pathways to Housing does not support or endorse SPDAT.

ACTION: Going ahead with Org Code's Service Prioritization Decision Assessment Tool (SPDAT) with the stipulation that this can be reevaluated at a later time.

ACTION: More discussion to be added to next meeting's agenda regarding being cognizant of the possibility of re-traumatizing people with the SPDAT tool. As well, it was suggested we engage support from the Tree of Peace with a dialogue on SPDAT. D. Anderson will assist D.M. Hernblad with the wording for the agenda point.

b. Mental Health (MHCC) Housing First Training & Technical Assistance

Discussed the December 11 & 12, 2014 meetings with the Mental Health Commission of Canada, Sam Tsemberis of Pathways to Housing (USA) and Housing First. On the first day, there were approximately 60 people from the service community at the initial training workshop, and, the following day, 16 people attended the stakeholder's workshop. Many action items were discussed, but no firm commitments were made to follow-up after the workshop. The membership discussed holding another meeting for stakeholders to



consider resource provision for action items that were discussed at the December meeting.

ACTION: Administration to arrange a meeting early February for stakeholders and send out possible dates to invitees. This working group is needed to regroup stakeholders, follow up on the potential pilot project, and share results for anyone not able to make the December meeting.

ACTION: E. Shea will work on a draft identifying role descriptions needed for the pilot project, and budget numbers. It was noted that Sam Tsemberis might have some of this information already.

ACTION: There will be a conference call with Sam Tsemberis on Monday, January 26 at 11:00 a.m.

c. Service Mapping

ACTION: E. Shea will send a paper to the CAB committee regarding service mapping, and D.M. Hernblad will approach Alina Turner to hire her for service mapping.

d. Canadian Housing and Renewal Association (CHRA) Congress

Canadian Housing and Renewal Association (CHRA) is hosting its annual National Congress in Winnipeg from April 28th – May 1st, 2015. Information is available at: <http://chra-achru.ca/en/index.php/congress/home/>

e. It was noted that a landlords' roundtable is taking place at Northern United Place on Thursday, January 15, 2015 to problem solve, and learn about Housing First.

Next Meeting

8. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 11, 2015 at 12:00 noon.

Adjournment

9. The meeting was adjourned at 1:46 p.m.

Prepared: February 20, 2015

DMH/an