

Surrey Community Council Meeting Minutes Thursday, March 26, 2009

Present: Cheryl-Anne Hendy Larry Shareski
 Connie Hulley Maddie Addison
 Coreen Windbiel Marie Sabine
 Jane Moon Sandra Cottingham

Regrets: Sheila Palmer

CLBC Staff: Sharon Rose, Surrey CPD Office Manager
 Josefina Marchetti, Recorder

Guest: Rachel Schmidt, Community Relations Specialist, CLBC
 Rod Gunn, Member of the CLBC Board of Directors

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm and welcomed the members and guests.

Agenda

The agenda was reviewed and accepted with the addition of Rachhpal Sidhu's term expiration.

Approval of the Minutes of February 26, 2009

Motion

It was moved by Coreen Windbiel, seconded by Larry Shareski, to approve the Community Council minutes of the February 26, 2009 meeting. *Carried Unanimously*

Rachhpal Sidhu

The Chair announced that Rachhpal Sidhu's term had expired. Unfortunately, Rachhpal is not able to commit for a second term due to personal reasons. A thank you letter has been sent to Rachhpal.

Communication and Media Exposure

Rachel Schmidt, Community Relations Specialist, was welcomed by the Chair. After explaining her role in CLBC, Rachel received the Council's invitation to talk about media exposure and how to effectively get to the community in order to recruit new members. The idea of publishing a story in a local paper was discussed. The story will create awareness in the community and will focus on attracting parents or siblings, ethnic representatives and business people who may want to join the Council. Marie Sabine volunteered to write the story; the chosen subject will be "aging parents and planning for the future". Marie will work with

Rachel to make sure the story gets to the right audience with the right message. Other ideas were discussed and Rachel offered her expertise and assistance. Rachel will work on a community and media profiling workshop for Community Councils in the province.

Assignment of Action Plans

The list of Action Plans was distributed at the February, 2009 meeting. The list included completed plans and pending plans. The Chair informed that although this is a group work, the Council members could ensure accountability and follow-through by adopting a few items from the list each and being responsible for monitoring the progress. This item will be included in the next Council agenda, and all future meetings under Annual Calendar. The calendar will be maintained, and updated monthly by Larry and Connie with help from Marie. 10 minutes will be allotted at each meeting for Larry/Connie to uptake information from members and review our upcoming deadlines, events, etc.

The action plans were adopted as follows:

Action

Plan # Description

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|-----|---|
| #8 | Host future meetings. <i>Coreen</i> |
| #9 | Build in web-based capability to respond to community inquiries. <i>Maddie</i> |
| #10 | Obtain progress update-range of options (residential and employment initiatives). <i>Coreen</i> |
| #11 | Obtain progress report of accountability for agencies to do what they are paid for. <i>Cheryl-Ann</i> |
| #12 | Obtain progress update on "getting money out of existing contracts to directly give it to families. <i>Cheryl-Ann</i> |
| #13 | List services available in different communities on the CLBC website. <i>Maddie</i> |
| #16 | Assign monitoring and reporting on specific objectives to Council members. <i>Sandra</i> |
| #25 | Annual calendar. <i>Connie and Larry</i> |
| #29 | To prepare formal recommendation to CLBC Board regarding planning for those with aging parents. <i>Jane</i> |
| #31 | Review other councils website postings and share key information with Surrey Council. <i>Madie</i> |
| #35 | a) Transportation. <i>Marie</i> b) Connections. <i>Sandra</i> |

Council Work

Action Plan #29, Planning for individuals with aging parents; #35 a) Transportation and 35 b) Connections, are items identified through the survey to be a common concern in the community. The Chair proposed to devote some time during the next meetings to work on these items and to use "Appreciative Inquiry" as a method to productively work as a team. The "AI" method is based on positive ideas and solutions rather than focusing on the problems. The Chair briefly described the method and volunteered to provide the Council with training and to make it more inclusive using plain language for easier understanding. The Council members accepted the idea of using Appreciative Inquiry to work on these important issues. Regarding Action Plan #29, the CPD manager informed that CLBC is still trying to get the specific information required to deal with this issue.

Advisory Committee

The Surrey Community Council needs to nominate one of its members to be part of the Advisory Committee to the Board of Directors. Since the Council was not certain about the frequency and times for these meetings, the interested members were not able to put their names forward. The CPD manager will get the necessary information and will bring it to the next Community Council meeting in April.

Report from the Recruiting Committee

- 1.- The Subcommittee requires a Chair. Coreen Windbiel volunteered and the members accepted her nomination.
- 2.- The Subcommittee has received two applications from two self-advocates. The committee members agreed that neither applicant was suitable for council's recommendation.
- 3.- Marie Sabine informed that she has made contact with a mother of an individual supported by CLBC. She looks like a very good candidate but she is out of the country at the moment. Marie will inform the Sub-Committee at the next meeting in April.
- 4.- The members agreed that, in order to have a smooth transition from the Recruiting Sub-Committee meetings into the Community Council meetings and to stay within the time frame, the Recruiting Sub-Committee will start at 5:50 and will be over at 6:20. The door will be closed at 6pm in order to allow the Sub-Committee to work without interruptions and will be reopened at 6:20.
- 5.- The Sub-committee discussed some ideas to look for new Council members and to raise awareness about CLBC and what it does. Examples included a newspaper article and poster.
- 6.- Sharon Rose informed that Facilitators have been advised about the Council's need for new members; facilitators are working on getting some response from family members
- 7.- Sharon Rose also commented on the importance of getting aboriginal representation for the Council.
- 8.- Maddie Addison suggested that going to faith groups and promote CLBC and its work will help to recruit members. Posters can be displayed in different churches.
- 9.- Sharon will look for the recruiting poster used back in 2006 when the Community Councils were just starting. The idea is to update the poster, if required, and take them to churches (see item #8) and other institutions where they can be posted.

Next Meeting

The next Community Council meeting will be held on Thursday, April 30, at 6:30. (Note: Recruiting Subcommittee will convene at 5:50 pm.)

Adjournment

There being no further items to discuss, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:45.