

Minutes of the Regular meeting of the Community Safety Advisory Committee held in Committee Room #2, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, on Thursday, May 21, 2009 at 9:03 a.m.

PRESENT: Director L. Iannidinardo (Chair)
Director P. Kent (Vice-Chair)
Councillor John Koury, Municipality of North Cowichan<at 9:15 a.m.>
Theresa Gerritsen, Cowichan Women Against Violence Society / Safer Futures
Bruce Ingram, Community Representative
Candace Spilsbury, Social Planning Cowichan and Cowichan Valley School District No. 79

ABSENT: Councillor Joe Thorne, City of Duncan
Cheryl Stone, Community Options Society
Jim Harnden, Cowichan Independent Living
Corporal Kevin Day, RCMP
Michelle Bell, Community Representative

ALSO

PRESENT: Pamela Alcorn, Cowichan Women Against Violence Society / Safer Futures (Committee Support)
Dominique Beesley, Recording Secretary

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES
2M1**

It was moved and seconded that minutes of the Regular meeting of the Community Safety Advisory Committee held March 12, 2009 be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

3BA1

Work Plan Review Session

Pamela Alcorn said that a 2009 work planning session had not yet been held due to the unavailability of a facilitator although that an orientation session for new members was held instead. She distributed the CSAC Activity and Progress Report May 2009 to the Committee that, she said, provides detailed accounting of status of action items from 2008's Work Plan.

DELEGATIONS**4D1**

Chuck McCandless, Outreach Worker representing the Canadian Mental Health Association, provided a presentation on homelessness and panhandling.

Chuck McCandless said that because there are so few people panhandling in Duncan this is not, in his view, a particularly large problem.

Mr. McCandless said that homeless people's behavior may be uncomfortable for some although, in his experience, these people are often the victims of violence and crime. Many homeless people have problems with drug and alcohol abuse and there are no beds in Cowichan to support their recovery, noted Mr. McCandless.

Mr. McCandless said that the new Warm Land House, which is currently under construction, will have 24 bachelor suites for transitional housing; however it will not have supportive housing for these people to transition into.

9:15 a.m.

Councillor John Koury joined the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

With regards to people panhandling on the Highway medians, Mr. McCandless said that he sees this as a safety issue for them. He noted that they earn \$80 to \$90 per day.

The Committee discussed: addictions as a progressive illness; the distinction between homeless and at risk of being homeless; the challenges for First Nations people and their place of residency (on or off reserve); and challenges facing seniors.

Pamela Alcorn distributed copies of research specific to the issues of homelessness that she had obtained during a workshop through the University of Victoria's Office for Community Based Research.

REPORTS**5R1**

Verbal Report from Pamela Alcorn, Safer Futures, re: Safety Lens, was received as information.

The Committee directed that Ms. Alcorn liaise with other CVRD local government members that are undergoing official community plan reviews to ensure that they are aware of the Safety Lens Tool.

5R2

Verbal Report from Pamela Alcorn, Safer Futures, re: Safe Needle Disposal Initiative, was received as information.

5R3 Verbal Report from Pamela Alcorn, Safer Futures, re: Probation and Parole Services Canada, was received as information.

5R5 Verbal Report from Director Kent, re: Centennial Park, was received as information.

Given the information gathered during Safer Futures' work in the Cairnsmore neighbourhood with the Making the Links Project, said Ms. Alcorn, she is suggesting that the Committee make note of 'tagging' and that more information about it would be helpful.

It was the consensus of the Committee to form a sub-committee comprised of Councillor John Koury, Bruce Ingram, Michelle Bell and Jim Harnden for the purpose of liaising with the Citizen's Advisory Committee to the National Parole Board and Correction Service of Canada.

5R4 Verbal Report from Chair Iannidinardo, re: Orientation Meeting for New CSAC Members, was received as information.

5R6 Verbal Report from Director Kent, re: Duncan Stairs, was received as information.

5R7 Verbal Report from Pamela Alcorn, Safer Futures, re: Community Options Society – New Location, was received as information.

5R8 Verbal Report from Pamela Alcorn, Safer Futures, re: City of Richmond: Family and Youth Court, Provincial Conference, was received as information.

Director Iannidinardo announced that the next Committee meeting would be held on Thursday, July 16, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. in Committee Room No. 2.

ADJOURNMENT

10:40 a.m.

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Certified Correct:

Chairperson

Recording Secretary

Dated: _____