

Mount Pleasant Community Planning Program (MPCCP)
Social Coordinating Group Meeting #3 - Workshop
April 8, Tuesday, 2008
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Native Education College
285 East 5th Avenue

Workshop Summary Notes

Attendance:

Dave Forrest, Christina Chociolko, Frank Frigon, Bill Briscall, Eric Kirkpatrick, Sharon Urton, Susan Pacurib, Zoe Welch, Janet Berry, Ajax Quinby, Megan Lilly, Julie Linden, Lindsay Hinrichsen, Tammy Brander, Abby Wong, Marilyn Perlas, Valeria Stampino, Christine O'Fallon, Robert Bonner, David Mahjour, Kimmy, Grace MacKenzie, and Lee Chapelle.

Regrets: Zsuzsi Heusch, Carola Goetze, and Meredith Starkey

City Staff: Angela Ko, Dana Walker and Peter Burch

1. Introductions:

22 SCG members were welcomed to the workshop.

2. Updates

1st Shopping Area workshop update - April 20, noon to 5 pm. Staff gave an overview of the first shopping area workshop; and CGS members were asked to come out to the event and to distribute handouts ahead of time.

SCG Achievements - Includes: The Community Action Agenda (CAA) Council report approved on Feb 14, 2008; on March 4 the SCG membership officially formed; on March 18 the SCG reviewed all community actions and established action priorities. Tonight's focus will be to develop a work plan for one or more priority actions that were prioritized last week. Angela reviewed how a recent meeting with several the Aboriginal community groups helped to update the shopping area workshop flyer to be more friendly and inviting, and that trying to connect with the Aboriginal community to be more involved in the planning programme overall. The SCG may want to use this approach to reach out to minorities groups as it implements the Community Action Agenda (CAA).

SCG working findings - At the last workshop many actions were regrouped and new ones added. This demonstrates the SCG's ability to problem-solve and move actions forward in a coordinated and integrated way. Tonight's meeting will start to look at partnerships and funding sources as part of your action work plans.

Question: What do we do when we need monies to carry out a project, like a meal project for homeless people? **Answer:** We will need to seek out existing funding sources first (draft list of funding sources provided) and look to form partnerships that help find needed materials and food items to make it sustainable.

Working group leaders' update on top priority actions - members were asked, due to limited meeting time, to discuss the top actions in their break out sessions.

3. SCG Review of Actions: Break Outs

The SCG members divided themselves up into four groups (about 4 to 8 members) and proceeded to have small group discussions on specific actions listed for each of the four issues.

Each group reviewed the list of priority actions and reviewed a short case study on Community A, as an example on how local citizens and governments can come together to identify a problem and turn it into an action.

Reporting Out Comments:

The following are meant as an overview only for the purposes of recording the events of the workshop. If you are interested in learning more details about these action Work Plans, please contact the working group leader for each issue, or contact Dana for assistance.

Homelessness (David M.):

- Looking at three locations to conduct homeless surveys to find out 'what' people
- Partners include City Hall's Judy G., Raven Song, BYRC, Community of Hope, and MPNH
- A questionnaire needs to be designed
- Meet next Monday at 6 at the 10th Alliance Church to conduct the survey
- Action product is to build trust and learn directly from the homeless

Safety and Security (Janet B.):

- More block watch support; eyes and ears on the community
- Want to connect with local strata councils, MP CARES at MP School Days, to create a communication tree
- Ask City for \$ to meet and greet people
- Request staff to prepare more binders for each member
- Rotate meetings throughout the community
- Recruit volunteers through schools, PACs, Kingsgate mall, volunteer Vancouver, IGA on Main, CPC,

Support for the Vulnerable (Christine O.):

- Set up a neighbourhood directory, decide on what to include
- Recruit volunteers
- Use technology to use the databases
- Ajax to research the red book; Frank to look at access; Zoe to research UBC/SFU and municipal resources; Lee the City; and Abby for translations
- Small grant for translation services

- Have future focus groups and engagements

Open Drug, Alcohol and Sex Trades (Dave F.):

- Review partnership list and invite to a meeting
- Support local policing efforts
- Create a task force to work with agencies on gang issues and sex trade
- Host a community fair to raise awareness

4. Next Steps: SCG members were asked to think of possible agenda items for the next meeting on May 13, SCG meeting #4, and to submit their ideas to Dana for consideration.

5. Closing Remarks: Members were thanked for their participation at the workshop. Door prize was handed out (AAA horse and carriage passes).

Meeting ended at 8:25 p.m.