

DRAFT
Mount Pleasant Community Planning Program (MPCCP)
Social Coordinating Group (SCG) Meeting #10
December 9, Tuesday, 2008
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Vancouver Recovery Club
261 East 12th Ave

Meeting Summary Notes

Attendance:

Frank Frigon, Janet Berry, Sharon McFadyen, Michelle Babiuk, Christine O'Fallon, Stephani Agg, Reila Hamnes, Bernice Haaland, Judi Piggott, and Chistina Chociolko

City Staff: Dana Walker, recorder

1. Opening Remarks:

10 SCG members were welcomed to the meeting.

2. Mount Pleasant Community Plan Update

- Next Shopping Area Workshop #3 *tentative* - Mar. 2009
- Next Residential Area Workshop #2 *tentative* - Feb. 2009
- Light Industrial Area Workshop #1 (Main from 2nd to 7th)- Jan. 25, 2009

3. Vancouver Recovery Club Update

Reila gave an overview of the Club's services and programs. Volunteers are always needed:

- 24/7 Drop in program: is a safe and drug-free 24-hour drop-in and referral centre that provides immediate support for clients seeking help with addiction and recovery.

- Meetings program: provides space for over 200 meetings a month. All meetings are run by the individual help groups and cover a very broad range of 12 Step Fellowships.

- 1:1 Counseling program: Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Gamblers Anonymous, Over Eaters Anonymous, Co-dependants Anonymous are some of the fellowships that conduct regular meetings at the VRC.

- Street Outreach program is a street-team of trained front-line workers that provide compassionate assistance to the homeless of the Mount Pleasant area:

1. It "fast-tracks" street homeless to apply for and receive Income Assistance and places them into permanent housing, on the same day of service. Follow-up services are included.
2. It acts as a community liaison by providing the homeless community with support services involving time-sensitive referrals that promptly place the individual into an appropriate shelter, detox or otherwise necessary health-care treatment. Other services include distribution of food and clothing as well as counseling services wherever required.

- Saferide program is a mobile response unit dedicated to providing safe transportation, within the healthcare system, for clients with alcohol and drug problems who are seeking relief from their addictions.

4. SCG and Working Group* updates and actions

- **General SCG members and friends update** - round table
Each member gave a quick update on their work and social concerns.

- **Lookout Emergency Aid Society “Yukon Shelter” update**
Robert gave an update and an overview of some of the actions and projects that he has been working on: Kingsgate mall recycling; business area garbage clean up, needle pick up, pressure washing, gardening at Evergreen at the new Great Northern Way Campus. If you are interested in working with him please contact Robert directly. These projects help homeless people to regain their independence.

- **Crime Free Multi-Housing programme - information**
Veronkia gave an overview of the new program and handed out brochures on the crime prevention program. The program helps apartment owners, managers, residents, police, and other agencies work together to keep illegal and nuisance activities off rental property. More information can be found at: www.bccpa.org

- **911 Safety and Security Brochure** - Final Draft #3
Janet gave another update on the brochure. Some of the feedback from the last meeting has been used to further enhance the brochure by making it even more friendly and readable. Next steps will be to carry out the translations with volunteer helpers.

- **Recap Feedback forms** from November 18, 2008
Dana talked about the success of the feedback forms used last meetings to get people input and ideas on different projects. More workshop exercises in the future may follow this approach.

- **Mini Red Book for Mt. Pleasant** - Draft #1 - *Feedback exercise*
Results from the feedback form will be presented at the next meetings. The group discussed the purpose of the red book version for Mount Pleasant. Working group members are currently review categories and other details related to homelessness and at risk of homelessness. More updates at the next meeting in January.

- **Homeless Handout Pamphlet** - Draft #1 - *Feedback exercise*
Results from the feedback form will be presented at the next meetings. The group reviewed work to date, noting that symbols in lieu of words would make the handout more useable to the homeless. Portion of it would also help inform the mini red book.

- **General website development updates: WIKI training session**
Michelle gave a computer presentation on the WIKI site: what it is and how to use it. Membership is growing as more and more information and updates are uploaded. Members are encouraged to use the site until something more permanent is developed, i.e., the Vancouver Community Network.

- **Rename the SCG committee: Criteria and Selection Process**

This item was not dealt with and so will be forwarded to the next meeting. The group is looking to develop criteria for creating a name and for selecting one. Please forward your thoughts to Dana.

- **Washroom Signage**

Dana presented a new washroom directional sign that is aimed at directing people to the nearest public restroom as quickly as possible. These signs are being installed in the downtown to help direct tourists and local populations to designated public washrooms. The reaction was mixed and so no clear decision was made. The sign project can be presented at a future meeting if interests develop.

- **Olympic and Paralympic Legacy Reserve Fund - information**

Dana was not able to report out on this item; it will be moved to another meeting in 2009.

5. Next SCG meeting January 13, Tuesday, 6 PM, at the Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House - 800 East Broadway

Feb 10th: (tentative) Community of Hope

Mar 10th: venue needed

6. Closing Remarks: Members were thanked for their participation at the meeting.

Meeting ended at 8:00 p.m.

All agenda, notes, working plans and a complete list of actions and projects are listed at www.vancouver.ca/mountpleasant under Social Issues