

Mount Pleasant Community Planning Program (MPCCP)
Social Coordinating Group (SCG) Meeting #12
February 10, Tuesday, 2009

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

at

Community of Hope
535 East Broadway

Meeting Summary Notes

Attendance:

Pastor Kim, Frank F, Michelle B, Christine O, Judi P, Shauna M, Tim R, Zoe W, Heather R, Ajax Q, Christine S, Sharon U, Lynn W, Kirk J, Jan B, Zsuzsi H, Colin B, Tammy B, Shannon M, Rob W, Larry S, Joseph M, Simon D, Andrew H, and Dave E

City Staff: Dana W recorder

1. Opening Remarks:

26 SCG members and friends were welcomed to the meeting.

2. Mount Pleasant Community Plan Update

Main 2nd to 7th Workshop #1 (Light Industrial Area) was held on Jan 25, 2009. Transcripts from the workshop are now online. Participation rates have doubled since first workshop. CLG meets this Thursday to discuss next steps.

Residential Area Workshop #2 tentatively set for Mar 29, 2009. More information will be handed out over the next few weeks. Expect many workshops throughout the spring and summer.

3. Mount Pleasant Community Plan Update

Pastor Kim gave an overview of what the Community of Hope does for homeless people: Meal program offered five times a week between 12 to 2 PM; Second chance gift shop for affordable clothes and other items, free medical clinic services, and maybe some beds on the second floor. Counselling, ESL classes and crafts, and maybe one day a restaurant for cheaper food, and employment opportunities. Volunteers are always needed to help this 13 year project become even more successful. For more info please visit <http://www.comofhope.org/>

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.

- **Mount Pleasant BIA Updates**

Mount Pleasant BIA: Major clean up scheduled for May 22 and 23. Clean up part of Keep Vancouver Spectacular with other local partners, BIA, Lookout Society, Community Centre, Engineering and Charles Tupper School. Looking to include areas outside of BIA boundaries and welcome more volunteers and groups to help extend it throughout the community. Please contact Lynn at 604-874-9816 for information. www.mountpleasantbia.com

Car free days: Next Car Free Vancouver Day is planned for June 21, Father's day. Hoping to carry out several throughout the year. Volunteers are needed. The event was well attended and supported last year. To book a table for your display or activity or to learn more contact Shannon at www.carfreevancouver.org or mainstreet@carfreevancouver.org

- **Fusion Canada - Update**

Christian values in the community. Partnership building with local businesses, residents and broader community. Fusion is an international program that builds community at a local level through low cost family-based community events. Hoping to do at least 3 events, 3 hours long, over the next 3 years. Part of the Olympics' celebrations pre and post event. First event to happen around Easter Christian holiday April 5 and 6, 2009. Lots of volunteer opportunities please contact Tim or Heather at 604-346-9853.

- **Supportive Housing Update - Information session**

Larry gave an overview of the supportive housing project, noting general land uses, estimate number of supportive housing units and possible number of market rental units. The Broadway Youth Resource Centre will remain and re-open on the second floor, with enlarged space. Ground level land uses will be for local retail shops and stores. The height of the building may vary depending on how many units (supportive and/or rental are eventually approved). Estimates range from 12 to 18 storeys. Members were asked to forward their comments onto staff for consideration by the applicant. The intention of the presentation by Larry was not to consult with the Mt. Pleasant community, rather to give the consultant an opportunity to ask the SCG for advise on the public process for this project. No detailed site designs were discussed. Staff from the City's Housing Policy group, who are managing this project, will work with the consultants to discuss the project's community engagement process. Staff on the Mt. Pleasant Community Plan team will update SCG members with new information as it becomes available.

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

Dana reported that the program offers \$150,000 to Mount Pleasant. We will need to review all of our social actions and Community Planning program needs to see what project, or series of projects we could develop for an application this spring. The idea is to help recent homeless people gain job training and employment. The Neighbourhood House will help in the community engagement through arts and cultural celebration activities, including Harvest Fest. Local business, community groups and individuals will play an active role in setting up the program. Refurbished bikes will be returned to homeless and low income families in Mount Pleasant. More updates at the next SCG meeting regarding a business plan and the overall community engagement component. Council report link: <http://vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/cclerk/20081014/documents/a10.pdf>

- **Lookout Emergency Aid Society "Yukon Shelter" update**

Not covered

- **Mount Pleasant CARES update**

Tammy explained that the group started 6 years ago in response to growing social issues from the Downtown eastside. They do clean ups, pole cleaning, adopt a

block, street sweeps and movie nights. Next Movie night is February 21, at 6 pm at La Boussole - 612 E. Broadway.

- **4 working group updates**

911 Safety and security brochure: A future meeting with volunteers to start the translations is being planned shortly with the Vancouver Recovery Club

Single Moms Initiative: March 8 at the Neighbourhood House. Please contact the group at mtpleasantmoms@gmail.com with donations and volunteer support. A small brochure has been produced by the group for handing out.

- **Diversity Coordinator's Update**

Judi is working to make meaningful contact with selected members that use to attend as well as new groups in the community. We are asking what they are doing and how we might help them do more. Angela Ko in Planning is starting up several focus group discussions on the bigger planning program and would welcome any SCG members to join her to learn about focus sessions and reaching out to the hard to engage. Contact Dana for focus session meeting dates and time. Groups include the homeless, seniors and various language groups.

- **Wiki updates**

Wiki site continues to grow with updates, project details and recent local articles. Members can join and edit the site to fit their own needs.

- **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.

5. Next SCG meeting: March 10th, Tuesday, lookout Emergency Aid Society at 2088 Yukon Street, 6 PM start time

April 7 or 21st: Date and venue tbd

6. Closing Remarks: Members and friends 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