

Mount Pleasant Community Planning Program (MPCCP)
Social Coordinating Group (SCG) Meeting #16
June 16, Tuesday, 2009
6:00 pm - 8:30 pm
at
Mt Pleasant Neighbourhood House

Meeting Summary Notes

Attendance:

Christine O, Zoe W, Judi P, Shauna M, Stephani A, Christina C, Grayson B, Nathan H, Laurel C, Linda R, Sharon M, Arthur B, Nap E, Janet B, Kim S, Bill B, Mona E, Paul R, Ajax Q, and Ti L

Regrets: Robert M, Krista T, Zsuzsi H

City Staff: Beverly C, Dana W - recorder

1. Opening Remarks:

20 SCG members and friends were welcomed.

2. Mount Pleasant Community Plan Update

- Second meeting to review and share the Fraser / Broadway Shopping Area ideas with the applicants for the proposed Social Housing project: Thursday, June 25, 7 to 9 pm, at the Native Education College. This is not a public meeting.

3. SCG and Working Group updates:

Each member gave a quick update on who they are, what they have been working on, and sharing information on neighbourhood issues:

- The Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House is actively conducting a membership drive to increase its presence in the community. One focus is to help residents understand the difference between the House and the City's Community Centre. Visit http://www.anhgv.org/neighbourhood_houses/mount_pleasant.php to learn more about the House.

The House is also hosting the following programs:

1. The Spot - Fri Teen nights
2. Summer Pre-teen leadership
3. The Spot - Fri Pre-teen nights

Contact Romy at 604-879-8208 ext. 318 for more information on these three programs

Youth Vital Signs www.youthvitalsigns.ca/

- **Fusion Canada** is hosting an Open Crowd Festival, a three day event at Teaswamp Park (and at adjacent churches: Vancouver Filipino and Bethlehem Lutheran) on June 28, 29 and 30: 4 to 7 pm. The event seeks to build community through low cost activities that encourages people to volunteer,

participate and enjoy themselves as a local group. For information contact Paul at 604-346-9853. Fusion Canada also hosted a previous successful event at Robson Park in the spring of 2009.

General announcements

- **WISH:** Need for your support Tuesday, June 23rd, 9:30 pm to 10:30 pm to stand together for the MAP (Mobile Access Project) van. Come out along the MAP van route, light a candle and stand in protest for the loss of the van. The van will drive the route between the Downtown Eastside and the Kingsway Corridor. Next week we will send out a map with gathering places to meet along the route. Contact wishdropincentre@telus.net for more info.
- **Farmers market:** Main St. Station Wednesday Farmers Market 3PM-7PM, Station St. at Thornton Park, www.eatlocal.org
- **Means of Production Artists Raw Resource Collective**
Invites you out to celebrate Solstice! Saturday June 20th at the M.O.P. garden
 - 10-12noon and help out with general weeding and art installation maintenance
 - 1-4pm we will begin a new project: harvesting grasses, morning glory and blackberry vine to investigate crocheting large forms and weaving grass "bee skep" inspired sculptures. Contact <http://moparrc.wordpress.com/>

Artist's Solstice Tea Party, Sunday June 21st, 1-4pm

Free Family Event. You are invited to attend our summer tea party with wild-crafted teas made from the Means of Production garden. Celebrate Summer Solstice, Father's Day and the return of the "Honey Moon" with your community in a garden setting that grows materials for artist's use. For more information visit <http://moparrc.wordpress.com/>

- **Neighbourhood-based Solutions to Homelessness**
Wednesday, July 8th, 1 pm to 4 pm, Plaza 500 (500 W. 12th Avenue) for a "how to" forum to discuss neighbourhood-based solutions to homelessness. The goal of this "how to" forum is to provide a sample of the types of neighbourhood initiatives that are currently under way, in order to generate ideas and interest for other neighbourhoods to organize similar projects and events to raise awareness about and find ways to address homelessness during Homeless Action Week, October 11-17, 2009 (www.stophomelessness.ca). Please RSVP by July 3rd by emailing celine.mauboules@vancouver.ca or calling 604.871.6848.
- **ICURS:** results are now in on the survey that was conducted last fall 2008. One SCG member was trained and conducted the survey along with the community policing centre and other members. Copies are available please contact Dana.
- **Donor's thank you card:** AAA horse and carriage ltd will receive a thank you note from the group. The company has offered up \$1,100 dollars worth of free passes for door prizes at all SCG meetings. A card was circulated and signed.

- **SCG Handbills:** Dana announced that a handbill was prepared for the Celebrate Mt Pleasant Days to promote the program and to recruit more members. Please review and report any improvements/ changes, etc.

Agenda Items:

- **Filipino Barrio Fiesta.** Nap explained details of the event. Handed out a poster for the event and a letter inviting people to participate and volunteer.
Where: St. Patrick Church's parking lot at Main and 12th Ave.
When: June 27, Saturday 10 am to 4 pm - open to everyone. Contact Nap at 604-727-5609 for information.
- **Nathan:** talked about his previous challenges addressing mental health issues in his personal life. He has participated in educational courses to learn more about his inner self, and has been successful in creating a happier and more productive life as a result. He wants to share his new awareness with others, including training mentors to work with others to overcome and turn lives around. His vision is to recruit people with mood disorders and / or who are inspired generally and who want to help conduct one-on-one mentorship sessions. Looking to host the project (vision) locally and would be looking for a venue to hold the sessions. Group members wanted to learn more about the administrative side and how they could help connect people to Nathan. Contact him at 778-882-5901.
- **Cycle Back:** Still working with Lookout to resolve year two funding before launching the project. The group discussed how the BAM (Bike Assembly and Maintenance) name could be incorporated with Cycle Back. It would appear that Cycle Back could still partner with many sponsors, and certified programs like BAM. And still maintain its local identity while at the same time broadening its support and allow the program to be sustaining in the future, without government funding.

Part 2 :

SCG's Next Steps

The group was presented with a handout listing out four aspects of the program that can be assessed. Two of these are Council's term of reference: Objectives and Duties of the SCG. A third is a list of SCG actions and projects that have been or are in process of being completed. Finally a fourth item focuses on the future prospects of the SCG after the planning program moves forward.

It was agreed that a separate meeting needs to take place to begin the above review process. The group felt that an outside facilitator could add value to the review process. July 21, from 6 to 8 (or 9) pm was recommended. The Neighbourhood House may be able to assist again by hosting the meeting.

The group discussed the need to obtain research related to "conducting evaluations or SWAT analysis" ahead of time. Some members can now begin to review related literature and send to Dana. The SCG will review the research and evaluation findings on July 14, prior to heading into the July 21st workshop.

Key items include “how do we qualify” some of the social processes, in addition to the quantities that may be easier to develop for the actions and projects.

The Splash and Ripple report was referenced to once again as one possible strategy to start the evaluation piece for the program. A copy is available on line. Dana noted that this fall starts up the Residential Areas review for the land use component of the overall program, and will hold a series of weekday evening sessions and that several social themes will naturally overlap with the SCG’s work: Community Safety and Community services. More details on this component later this summer/fall.

Part 3 - J. McKnight video:

Following the viewing the group discussed personal and community aspects and perspectives related to the messages that McKnight raised in the showing of Everyone Has a Gift. The group was invited to think of other dialogue issues and topics for future sessions. Contact your neighbour or Dana with your ideas.

4. Next SCG Meeting July 14th: venue needed

- August: Summer break
- September 15th - date and venue tbd

5. Closing Remarks:

Members and friends were thanked for their participation at the meeting.
Meeting ended at 8:30 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