



City of Port Moody

Minutes

Seniors Focus Committee

Minutes of the meeting of the Seniors Focus Committee held on Tuesday, November 2, 2021 via Zoom.

Present

Councillor Amy Lubik, Vice-Chair
Wayne Borthwick
Yolanda Broderick
John Crowther
Connie Meisner
Wilhelmina Martin
Malcolm Harkness
Grace McKeown

Absent

Councillor Diana Dilworth, Chair (Regrets)

In Attendance

Esin Gozukara – Committee Coordinator
Liam McLellan – Social Planner

Also in Attendance

Janice Boyle, Executive Director, Crossroads Hospice Society
Rose McFarlane, Manager, Crossroads Thrift Store

1. Call to Order

Call to Order

1.1 The Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

2. Adoption of Minutes

Minutes

2.1 SFC21/015

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the minutes of the Seniors Focus Committee meeting held Thursday, October 7, 2021 be adopted.

3. Unfinished Business

4. New Business

Crossroads Hospice Society

4.1 Presentation: Janice Boyle, Executive Director, Crossroads Hospice Society

Janice Boyle gave a presentation regarding Crossroads Hospice Society, and the following was noted;

- Crossroads Hospice is run in partnership with Fraser Health, and medical support is available 24/7;
- the model of the Crossroads Hospice Society is rather unique in the Tri-Cities, and it is one of the first standalone hospices in the community;
- before COVID-19, there were approximately 50 volunteers in the Hospice providing comfort care and services, and beginning in July 2021, volunteers were allowed in the Hospice again;
- several complimentary programs are offered, including art cart, tea cart service, musical performances, and pet therapy;
- bereavement support is offered to the members of the community through two bereavement coordinators working for adults and youth and young adults;
- it is the Society's philosophy that grief is natural, and everybody experiences it differently;
- a variety of programs are offered depending on the needs of the people who lost their loved ones, and trained volunteers take part in these programs;
- horseback riding, yoga, rock climbing, and photography are examples of activities that are offered to grieving youth;
- physical and digital grief lending libraries are available to the public;
- annual remembrance ceremonies organized by the Society are open to the residents of Tri-Cities who want to honour their loved ones through different rituals;
- the Thrift Store was created as a service to the families who lost their loved ones, it generates revenue to support the hospice, and provides important service to the community;
- the majority of staff working for the Thrift Store are volunteers, and there were 250 volunteers pre-pandemic;
- the annual virtual gala and the silent auction are two important upcoming events; and
- social media channels for both the Society and the Thrift Store are active, and up-to-date information can be found there.

The following was noted in discussion:

- the Labyrinth Healing Garden, located right across from the Hospice, offers a contemplative space for meditation and reflection, and the latest addition to the Garden, the phone of the wind, is quite popular;
- youth bereavement programs are new, they are publicized through the school system by the counsellors, and there were many referrals in 2021;
- bereavement services are not funded by the Province;
- almost all the Thrift Shop volunteers have suffered the loss of someone dear to them, and volunteering keeps them busy while providing support for each other;
- volunteer application forms are available at the Thrift Store and online; and
- there is a rigorous process in place for selecting and training the volunteers.

SFC21/016

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT Council to advocate to the Province through UBCM to include funding for bereavement services in the BC Mental Health Plan.

Janice Boyle and Rose McFarlane left the meeting at this point and did not return.

2021 Annual Report 4.2 Liam McLellan, Social Planner

To be distributed On-Table.

The Social Planner provided an overview of the 2021 Annual Report and requested Committee member feedback.

The Committee suggested adding the status of Age-Friendly City application and updating the Seniors Centre Community Assessment and Space Needs Analysis section with upcoming stakeholder engagements.

SFC21/017

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the 2021 Seniors Focus Committee Annual Report be approved as amended.

John Crowther left at this point and did not return.

**2022 Work Plan –
Presentation
Suggestions** 4.3 The Committee noted the following in discussion:

- adding a Seniors Focus section to the City’s website;

- receiving updates on the Official Community Plan and an upcoming housing action plan;
- receiving a presentation from the Tri-Cities Food Council and the Tri-Cities Homelessness and Housing Task Group ;
- exploring the housing needs of seniors'; and
- exploring the extreme weather plan the effects of the heat dome of 2021 in relation to the seniors in the community.

**Seniors Centre
Needs Assessment
Update**

4.4 Liam McLellan, Social Planner

The Social Planner noted the following;

- an engagement session with staff is scheduled for November 8, 2021 with upcoming stakeholder sessions scheduled for upcoming months;
- in-person engagement opportunities are not possible due to budgetary limitations;
- a survey is scheduled to be available on the Engage Port Moody website in January 2022; and
- staff may be able to share paper copies of the survey at certain City facilities.

5. Information

Staff Updates

5.1 There were no staff updates at this time.

6. Adjournment

The Vice-Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:23pm.



Councillor Amy Lubik,
Vice-Chair



Esin Gozukara,
Committee Coordinator