



At-Risk and Priority Population Task Force

Minutes

September 29, 2021, 4:00 p.m.

Via Microsoft Teams

- PRESENT:** Councillor Manning, Vice-Chairperson (non-voting)
Rick Bayer, Peninsula Homeless to Housing Task Force
(arrived at 4:11 p.m.)
Tsitsi Watt, BC Housing
David Young, Sources BC
Kathy Booth, Peninsula United Church
Bruce Strom, Options
- GUESTS:** Jonquil Hallgate, Surrey Road to Home Society
Dena Kae Beno, TRES Community Solutions
Cheryl Lightowlers, Peninsula United Church
- ABSENT:** Mayor Walker, Chairperson (non-voting)
Meryl McDowell, Fraser Health
Chloe Good, HSABC
- NON-VOTING
ADVISORS:** Aileen Murphy, City of Surrey Social Planner
- STAFF:** Eric Stepura, Director of Recreation and Culture
Janessa Auer, Committee Clerk

Councillor Manning assumed the role of Chairperson.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.

2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Motion Number 2021-ARPPTF-012: It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the At-Risk and Priority Population Task Force adopt the agenda for September 29, 2021 as circulated.

Motion CARRIED

3. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Motion Number 2021-ARPPTF-013: It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the At-Risk and Priority Population Task Force amends the minutes of the September 2, 2021 meeting as noted:

- Under Item 5.1, amend the first sentence of the paragraph to read “**A group of committed volunteers, together with Options and HSABC,** have been in contact with the Mount Olive Lutheran Church to use this space as an extreme weather shelter effective Fall 2021.”
- Under Item 5.1, in the last sentence of the paragraph, omit “...and are currently working on a draft agreement” so that the sentence reads “**The City of Surrey has had their Fire Department perform an inspection of the church.**”

AND THAT the minutes be adopted as amended.

Motion CARRIED

R. Bayer, Peninsula Homeless to Housing Task Force, entered the meeting at 4:11 p.m.

4. **UPDATE ON 2021-2022 WORK PLAN PRIORITY ITEMS**

The Task Force further discussed their three (3) identified Work Plan priority items. The following updates were provided:

1. Location of a shelter for this fall, in time for when extreme weather may be experienced.

Pieces of this project (budgeting, billing, moving of equipment, staff training, etc.) are all coming along as quickly as possible. The shelter is projected to open by November 1, 2021, or possibly in the fourth week of October.

It was noted that this project will continue to move forward as an extreme weather shelter, which will be open when temperatures reach a determined extreme level, as opposed to an all-weather winter shelter that is open every night. This is largely due to the ongoing challenges with staffing shortages that are being experienced throughout the province.

2. Exploring grant fund options.

The deadline for budget submissions to BC Housing is September 30, 2021, so grant approval has not been determined at this time. Although there may be a significant wait during the approval process, it was noted that these projects generally do get approved to move forward.

3. Exploring the idea of a full-time shelter (or "permanent housing") in the South Surrey and White Rock area.

City staff have been working diligently on a Housing Needs Report, as well as a report outlining strategies that Council can pursue in purchasing land in White Rock. Currently, the amount of funding available for affordable housing is \$1 million, which will increase by \$1 million a year up to a cap of \$4 million. It was noted that the escalating real estate costs in White Rock make many sites unviable, and for this reason it may be best to partner with a faith-based group or service organization located in White Rock that is interested in re-developing. At this time, no definitive plans have been made.

It was also noted that the purchase of White Rock property by the City of Surrey will need to be finalized over the next couple of months.

5. WHITE ROCK HOMELESSNESS COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRESS REPORT

Jonquil Hallgate, Surrey Road to Home Society, and Dena Kae Beno, TRES Community Solutions, provided an update on the community grant and the Vulnerable Persons Project.

It was noted that the Metro Vancouver and Fraser Valley Council of Community Homeless Table is hosting its bi-annual 2H (Homelessness to Housing) Forum

on Wednesday, October 6 and Thursday, October 7, 2021, with opportunities for Task Force members to participate.

The Vulnerable Persons Project research from conversations with community members will be completed in the upcoming two weeks, with preliminary findings ready to be presented at the following Task Force meeting. There is also an opportunity for Task Force members to participate on the Research Design Team to support the coordinated access system, which is a region-wide initiative, which will be discussed further at the following meeting.

The goal is to have this phase of the project completed by late November or early December 2021, with forward movements focused on the highlighted objectives.

6. ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING CORPORATE REPORT

The Chairperson provided an overview of findings from the Acquisition of Property for Affordable Housing Corporate Report. A roundtable discussion followed.

It was noted that, although this report does outline the criteria that the City would follow in acquiring property for affordable housing, there are currently no parcels of land available in White Rock that would fit these criteria.

ACTION ITEM: Staff to distribute a copy of the new consolidated Official Community Plan (OCP) Bylaw to Task Force members for information purposes.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Task Force member, R. Bayer, provided an update regarding two recent virtual meetings held between community food service providers from the White Rock/South Surrey area.

8. INFORMATION

8.1 COMMITTEE ACTION TRACKING

Corporate Administration provided an action-tracking document to the Task Force for information. This spreadsheet will be updated after each meeting and provided to members for information.

9. **2021 MEETING SCHEDULE**

The following meeting schedule was previously approved by the Task Force and was provided for information purposes:


- Wednesday, October 13, 2021;
- Wednesday, October 27, 2021;
- Wednesday, November 10, 2021; and,
- Wednesday, November 24, 2021.

All meetings are scheduled to take place from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

10. **CONCLUSION OF THE SEPTEMBER 29, 2021 AT-RISK AND PRIORITY POPULATION TASK FORCE MEETING**

The Chairperson declared the meeting concluded at 5:03 p.m.

Councillor Manning, Chairperson



Janessa Auer, Committee Clerk