COMMUNITY SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting – Wednesday, June 17th, 2015
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Committee Room, District Hall, 355 W. Queens Rd

MINUTES

Attended: Dustin Noble
Elaine Noble
Arash Rezai
Robin Woods
Stefanie Wysota

Regrets: Sean Burke
Chris Corsetti
Wendy Hiebert
Jocelyn Rea
Maralyn Wild

Guest: Elio Iorio, Manager, Revenue and Taxation

Staff: Cristina Rucci, Staff Liaison
Mary Jukich, Committee Clerk

1. Adoption of Agenda

    MOVED AND seconded:
    THE agenda be adopted

2. Adoption of May 27, 2015 minutes

    MOVED AND seconded:
    The minutes be adopted

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

    Two items, listed separately below.

4. Capilano Tennis Club

    Mr. Elio Iorio provided an update with respect to Capilano Tennis Club’s application for
    Permissive Tax Exemption, and presented a proposed agreement between the Capilano
    Tennis Club and the Corporation of the District of North Vancouver which addressed the
    concerns as noted by the Committee.

    MOVED AND seconded:
    THAT the Committee recommends that the Capilano Tennis Club be granted a
    PTE exemption on the condition of signing the agreement between the Capilano
    Tennis Club and the Corporation of the District of North Vancouver.

    CARRIED

    A suggestion was presented that, for the next PTE review, consideration be given to inviting
    representatives from specific areas, arts committee, grants, or recreation commission, who
    may have expertise in determining what may or may not constitute extension of District
    services and require tax exemption.
5. Review of PTE Application

5.1. Aga Khan Foundation Canada

Mr. Elio Iorio provided an update on the Aga Khan Foundation Canada application. BC Assessment confirmed that the Aga Khan is a charitable (not religious) organization. As such there is no statutory exemption requirement met and therefore they have applied under the correct section of the Charter, 224(2)(g) per the application. It was confirmed the Ismaili Council of BC is still under a tenant agreement to manage the property as well as run the worship programs. The Ismaili Council is a religious organization. This exemption will stay under the current bylaw.

A question was raised on whether the building was used for any other purpose. The basement is the racquet ball courts and classified as business class by BC Assessment. It has been confirmed with the Aga Khan that the racquet ball courts are still being used and that they are not asking for PTE for that portion of the building.

MOVED AND seconded:

THAT the Committee recommends the PTE be approved for the Aga Khan Foundation Canada, with the exclusion of the racquet ball courts.

CARRIED

Mr. Elio Iorio, as well as members of the Committee, were thanked for their work.

6. New Program Definition

Members reviewed the proposed New Program definition to be included with the Committee report so that Council is clear on what the Committee considers a new program.

New program

1. A new program is defined as any new service or activity provided by a non-profit Society for which the Society is seeking a community grant from the District of North Vancouver. This new program could be offered by a Society that currently receives a Community Grant, or likewise, by a Society that has not received a community grant in the past.

The program does not have to be ‘new’ but can be an existing program which has not been supported by a community grant. If a program was funded by the committee in the past but has not received funds for at a minimum 4 years, the program will be considered to be ‘new’.

2. If a Society is seeking operating funding for their organization, and have not applied for operating funding in the past, despite the fact they might receive program funding, that request for operating funding is considered to be ‘new’.
3. Any Society that has not received a community grant in the past (even though they may have
applied but did not qualify or did not receive funding), will be considered ‘new’.

MOVED AND seconded:

TO approve the new program definition, as reviewed and presented.

CARRIED

7. **Recommendation on Grants Budgets**

- Possible Motion to Increase Grants Budget

Members discussed whether or not to set up a contingency fund, or to possibly request an
increase for the grant budget from Council. Typically, the increase from Council is the
inflation adjustment of approximately 2%; however, the Committee continues to receive an
increase in the number of applicants. With the available funding, it may become difficult to
balance the budget when the number of applications is high and to also fund the second
year of a funding cycle.

A decision was not made; however, the following suggestions were made for the Committee
to undertake:

- A review of whether the two year cycle is the best for the community grants,
- The Committee revisits the allocation basis.
- As this process is fairly new, once applications are received, an early review of the
  grant process be undertaken.

In going forward, the following was discussed:

- Members were reminded that last year, three large organizations attended a meeting to
  provide an overview on how they prepared budgets and initiated a review of the
  allocation process for this year and provided some guiding principles.
- A suggestion was presented to have a large organization come in and have a discussion
  on how they review applications and make decisions on funding, and that this may be
  helpful to direct the Committee when reviewing applications.
- Members generally agreed that visiting the organization and the interview process were
  beneficial, as well as preparing and providing a recommendation to the Committee of
  the grant amount.
- A suggestion was presented that as numerous applications are received for specific
  services, eg., senior services, that a spokesman comes in and provides an overview of all
  the services available, and how each individual organization works together to provide
  those services. The Committee would become familiar and have a better understanding
  when considering individual organization’s requests for funding.
Members were informed that the Committee Report will be presented to Council at the meeting on Monday, July 6th at 7:00 pm. Representatives from some of the organizations, including Canadian Hard of Hearing, Sharing Abundance, Norvan Boys and Girls Club, Harvest Project have been invited to attend. Representatives from the Committee were also invited to attend to provide input and overview of the grant process.

8. Next Meeting – Wednesday, September 16th, 7:00 pm

9. Any Other business

No other business was presented.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

District Vision Statement

Our goal is to be recognized among the most sustainable communities in the world as demonstrated through our environmental stewardship, strong network of neighbourhoods, a vibrant economy and community-driven growth and change.