

MINUTES
HEALTHY SAANICH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room #2
April 16, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Chair: Councillor Paul Gerrard

Members: Jean Fraser, Fred Haynes (SCAN), Nancy McDuffe, Shirley Woods

Staff: Kelly-Ann Armstrong, Senior Manager, Recreation Services; Sandra Pearson, Community Services Manager; Alana Goddard, Programmer I Recreation Services; Jason Jones, Programmer II Recreation; Chantelle Chan, Saanich Youth Council; Jason Gray, Saanich Youth Leader 2; Elizabeth van den Hengel, Committee Clerk.

Guests: Andrea Paquette, Executive Director, Bipolar Disorder Society of British Columbia

Absent: Franca LaBella, Dorthy Rosenberg, Jean Hodgson, Nadia Rajan

MINUTES

MOVED by N. McDuffe and seconded by S. Woods, "That the minutes of the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee meeting held March 19, 2014 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

BIPOLAR SOCIETY

The Chair introduced Ms. A. Paquette, Executive Director, Bipolar Disorder Society of British Columbia. Ms. Paquette presented the Committee with an overview of the Bipolar Disorder Society of British Columbia. The following was noted:

- Ms. Paquette presented her personal journey with having bipolar disorder.
- The Bipolar Society of British Columbia does many mental health presentations to area youth. Many of these presentations are done through the schools.
- Bipolar disorder can manifest itself in two different forms, Bipolar 1 and Bipolar 2.
- Many people who suffer from mental illness feel isolated and can be unaware of the supports that are available to them.
- Funding to support the Bipolar Disorder Society of British Columbia comes from a variety of sources.

The Chair and Committee thanked Ms. Paquette for her presentation.

YOUTH SERVICES

The Senior Manager of Recreation Services introduced the Youth Services Staff. An overview of youth programs and services in Saanich was presented.

The current Youth Strategy is from 2003 and is being reviewed and updates are planned. The Committee was provided with an overview of what is happening in Saanich Recreation youth programs and services and the following was noted:

- The Philosophy of Engagement for Youth Services is based upon engaging young people and actively supporting the contribution and participation of young people in decision-making about the issues that affect them.
- Engaging young people in the planning, delivery and evaluation of services will result in services that are more effective, relevant and better able to meet the needs of young people.
- To capture what youth are seeking from Saanich Recreation a planning session was held with eight youth and eight Saanich staff participating.
- From the planning session a draft vision, mission statement and values for Saanich Youth Services was developed. The draft has been circulated to the public via posters in teen centres and at events targeting youth for additional feedback.
- The document will be finalized at the end of April 2014.
- Youth Services had an active year in 2013. Some of the events/programs supported by Youth Services are: afterschool and evening drop-ins, school programs, girls and guys groups, FUEL Breakfast program and lunch drop-ins.

Ms. C. Chan from Saanich Youth Council provided the Committee with an update on the activities of the Saanich Youth Council. The following was noted:

- Saanich Youth Council members attended a VanCity sponsored planning retreat that was held in September 2013.
- A Youth Council Instagram feed has been set up to circulate the Youth Council Newsletter.
- Saanich Youth Council submitted a 30 second film to the Victoria Film Festival titled “Think before you Type”.
- Upcoming projects include an intergenerational “Ball Talk” which has youth and adults of various generations meeting and discussing issues. A short documentary film will be produced capturing significant “Ball Talk” moments.

Mr. J. Gray, Saanich Youth Leader 2, provided the Committee with an update on the activities of the Community Youth Team (CoYoTe). The following was noted:

- CoYoTe was founded in 2013, and is part of Saanich's Leadership Continuum.
- The youth involved with CoYoTe assisted with numerous Special events within the community.
- CoYoTe provides youth with training and leadership opportunities that also allow for the internal development of future recreation staff.

The Committee thanked the Saanich Youth Services Staff for the presentation.

SCAN UPDATE

The Chair of SCAN provide the Committee with an update of Scan activities. The following high-lights were noted:

- SCAN actively participated with Saanich in discussions regarding updating local area plans with respect to secondary suites.
- Strategies to deal with and prevent graffiti were discussed at the SCAN meeting.
- Mayor Leonard will be speaking at the May SCAN meeting.

RECREATION UPDATE

The Senior Manager, Recreation Services provided an update to the Committee. The following high-lights were noted:

- Saanich Commonwealth Place is piloting two new programs for school aged children, Wheelchair Sport and Home-school Sport Mix.
- Coast Capital Savings has renewed their grant funding for the “Moving Forward” program for youth at risk, which continues in partnership with the John Howard Society.
- Gordon Head Recreation Centre is the new home for the Gordon Head Lions.
- Pacific Institute of Sports Excellence (PISE), is one organization that is geographically based in Saanich and is offering a wide range of summer camps and programs.
- Many other Saanich based organizations offer summer camps and activities (churches, sports groups).
- Saanich Recreation focusses on providing quality, safe and innovative programs for the community. Saanich residents benefit from the wide complement of choices for their summer program needs.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2014.

Chair

I hereby certify these minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary