

MINUTES
HEALTHY SAANICH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room #2
January 30, 2019 at 6:00PM

Present: Chair: Councillor Chambers

Members: Claire Attwell, Merie Beauchamp, Ryan Clayton, Ryan Henderson, Zhongwhen He, Jean Hodgson (SCAN), Jasmindra Jawanda, Nadia Rajan.

Staff: Kelli-Ann Armstrong, Senior Manager, Recreation and Jeff Keays, Committee Clerk

Absent: None

Guests: Grace Lore, Executive Director Victoria Sexual Assault Centre

MOTION

MOVED by R. Clayton and seconded by J. Hodgson “That the minutes of the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee meeting held October 24, 2018 be adopted as circulated.”

CARRIED

CHAIR’S REMARKS

The Chair led a round table of introductions, and noted that they were excited about the upcoming term and that the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee was their first choice when committee assignments were being decided.

The committee members’ shared their various backgrounds and expertise, the Chair noted that the diverse makeup of the membership would allow for items to be viewed from a broad range of perspectives, and experiences.

DIVISION UPDATE – RECREATION

The Senior Manger Recreation provided an overview of the previously circulated, November Recreation Report, dated November 22, 2018. In addition to the previously circulated item the Sr. Manager also provide verbal update for the period between December and January. The following highlights were noted:

- February 18 is the annual Family Day Arts Festival at Cedar Hill Rec. Centre.
- Market Analysis engagement is continuing. The Clerk will circulate an invite to the open-house and the on-line survey.

WORKING GROUP UPDATE – DRAFT REPORT

The Chair thanked the Cultural Planer, Jasmindra Jawanda, for their work on the Embrace Saanich! Draft Municipal Cultural Planning Report, before turning the floor over to the Cultural Planner, who provided the committee with an overview of the report. The following highlights are noted:

- Over 180 hours of work has gone into the development of the report.
- It is to be considered as an in-house document that can serve as the nexus point for any future cultural planning initiatives.
- The draft report includes a comprehensive matrix of what other local governments are doing with regard to inclusivity, diversity and multiculturalism.
- The draft report highlights a number of initiatives the local governments could undertake.
- Census data (2014) confirms that Saanich is a diverse community, with over 24,500 immigrants (by birth) residing in the District.
- The report includes an overview of what initiatives Saanich has already undertaken, and what gaps remains.

Committee discussion ensued, the following highlights are noted:

- Incorporating the newcomers into the civic process is imperative.
- A shorter, executive summary, to accompany the report would be beneficial.
- Council would have to allocate funds for any new programming. This would consider as a part of the strategic planning process.
- Council previously considered a request to create a Cultural/Social Planner position; however, the request was not endorsed by Council.
- There are a number of items that need to be flushed out before the report can proceed to Council.

Jasmindra Jawanda declared, pursuant to Section 91 of the Council Procedure Bylaw, that she is not entitled to participate in further discussion on the item as she is the Cultural Planner. J. Jawanda left the meeting at 7:13 p.m

MOTION

MOVED by R. Clayton and seconded by N. Rajan that “In accordance with Section 90 (1) (a) of the Community Charter, the meeting is to be closed to the public as the subject matter being considered relates to personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the District or another position of the District.

CARRIED

On a motion by R. Clayton the meeting adjourned to In Camera at 7:15 p.m.

Rise and report from the January 30, 2019 In Camera Meeting

“That the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee receive the draft report as presented; and further, that Cultural Planer be directed to prepare and executive summary in consultation with the Intercultural Sub-Committee Working and report back to committee at the February 27, 2019 meeting.

CARRIED

The Regular Advisory Committee Meeting reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

VICTORIA SEXUAL ASSAULT CENTRE

The committee received a presentation by Grace Lore, Executive Director of the Victoria Sexual Assault Centre (VSAC). The following highlights are noted:

- Since 1992, survivors of recent sexual assault have accessed emergency care at Victoria General Hospital.
- VSAC's Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) provides survivors, aged 13 and older, of all genders, who have been sexually assaulted within the past seven days, access to medical and/or forensic exams, police interviews and crisis support.
- The SART team brings together police, specially trained forensic nurse examiners (FNE), and crisis workers to support survivors with trauma informed practices.
- The Sexual Assault Centre Integrated Clinic – the first and only of its kind in Western Canada - in 2016, to provide a safe, accessible, confidential, and integrated on-stop-shop for these services.
- The Clinic is equipped with closed-circuit recording systems, secure interview rooms, a gun locker, panic buttons, and emergency exits.
- Police detachments in Saanich, Victoria, Central Saanich, West Shore RCMP, the Out Gulf Island RCMP, and the National Investigative Service utilize the clinic to conduct recorded statements with survivors.
- Since opening in February 2016, VSAC has experienced a 124% increase in survivors accessing the services now offered at the Clinic.
- The Clinic provides trauma-informed, survivor-centered care and improves working conditions and outcomes for Police while at the same time resulting in cost savings for MSP, Island Health, and Regional/Local Police detachments.
- 80% of all sexual assaults are dealt with at the centre.
- 26% of all Sexual Assault Responses in 2017-2018 supported a survivor living in Saanich.
- 36% of all room bookings for police statements or interviews for sexual assaults involved Saanich Police Files.
- VSAC provides training to new recruits to the Saanich Police Department on sexual assaults, the SART protocol, and the Sexual Assault Clinic.
- VSAC's Project Respect, a youth-lead prevention program, is in Saanich schools and aims at educating youth ages 12-19 about sexualized violence.
- The operating budget of \$192,000.
- There is no core funding from any of the key players – local or regional police, Island Health, the Ministry of Health or the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.
- For fiscal year 2019-2020, the Clinic currently only has \$30,000 towards the total budget.
- Increased demand and the changing value and unpredictability of grants have put the Clinic and the critical medical care and access to justice it provides for survivors of recent sexual assault at risk.
- Last year, the Sexual Assault Centre Crisis Line was closed after 30-years in order to keep the Clinic open.
- Without changes to funding sources the Clinic is at risk of closing this year.

The Chair thanked Ms. Lore for the presentation, and for providing survivors in our community with dignified, wrap care. Committee discussion ensued, the following highlights are noted:

- Persons in crisis are referred to VIHA’s emergency line.
- Funding has been provided in the past by other local governments.
- Survivors under the age of the 13 are supported under a different program; however, the program is located in the same space.
- The Centre is currently at capacity.
- The VSAC has sought a delegation to Council
- VSAC will be submitting an application for funding as part of the 2019 Financial Plan, Community Grant process.

MOTION

MOVED by R. Clayton and seconded by J. Hodgson “That the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee supports the Victoria Sexual Assault Center’s application to the 2019 Financial Plan, Community Grant process and encourages Council to support this vital community resource.”

CARRIED

REVIEW OF TERMS OF REFERENCE, COMMITTEE PROCEDURES & DATES

Jeff Keays, Committee Clerk, provided an overview of the committee’s terms of reference, procedures and proposed meeting dates. A package containing all of the relevant policies and procedures were circulated on-table. A summary of the topics presented include:

- Guiding Legislation and Policies
- Role and Mandate of HSAC
- Expectations and Responsibilities of Committee Members
- Code of Conduct – Respectful Workplace
- Personal Safety of committee members
- Access and Privacy at the District of Saanich

2019 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Chair noted that the meeting had reached its reasonable time limit and recommended that the discussion item be deferred until the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for February 27, 2019.

Chair

I hereby certify these minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary