



Community Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
April 18, 2017

Present: Membership- Damian Murphy (Kettle), Jean Budden (St. Andrew's- Wesley United Church), Laurie McGrath (WEBIA), Blake Chersinoff (VPD), Nicki McGregor (Directions), Sheryl Williamson (WECAN), Veronica Page (WESN), Eliza Li (BC Housing), Aleya Trott (WECH CPC)

Regrets: Janet Smith (Kettle), Calum Scott (Directions), Charles Gauthier (DVBIA), Aleya Trott (WE/CH CPC)

1. Review and Approve previous minutes
  - a. Approved.
2. Old Business from previous minutes
  - a. None.
3. The Kettle, Directions and Partner Update
  - a. WEBIA
    - i. A few meetings have been held to address the issue of sidewalk sleepers, people sleeping in underground parkades and in business' doorways.
    - ii. Aggression among street people seems to be increasing. In response new security has been hired to patrol 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. to identify hot spots and collect data.
    - iii. West Valley Produce has been closed and there was a farewell party. They will be missed.
  - b. St. Andrew's- Wesley United Church
    - i. Senior's lunch every Wednesday.
    - ii. The church has welcomed a seven member Syrian refugee family.
    - iii. Cheque for \$300.00 will be given to Kettle on Burrard for the gardening program.
  - c. Directions
    - i. Year-end stats indicate slight decrease in individual and overall visits to the centre.
    - ii. Supporting people with fentanyl addiction- 15 reported deaths across all Directions' Youth Services sites.
    - iii. One OD in the centre recently and 4 OD's discovered in the alley behind the building
    - iv. Night in the Life fundraiser was recently held. There were 11 participants in the homelessness simulator and four joined the sleep out. Over \$20K was raised.
    - v. The winter shelter closed on April 15 and 19 youth were housed.



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- d. WECH CPC
  - i. Increase in loitering complaints and open drinking in and around the area
  - ii. Merchants complaining of increase in shoplifting
  - iii. Receiving complaints from local residents about people riding their bikes on the sidewalks- danger to seniors and others.
  
- e. WECAN
  - i. Members report encampments of homeless people, not just individuals but 3-5 people.
  - ii. Seniors concerned around their personal safety
  
- f. WESN
  - i. Crisis around housing for seniors. Great need for subsidized housing. Market housing tends to discriminate even with SAFER subsidy.
  - ii. Safety complaints at Denman Mall. There has been occasional lockdowns at Kay's Place because of this. A security office has been hired back at the mall.
  - iii. There is a new pain management group and peer support group.
  - iv. Some issues with particular homeless senior who likes to sleep at Barclay Manor drop-in.
  
- g. BC Housing
  - i. 4 Temporary winter shelters funded by BC Housing opened and over the winter and now closing for the season. There were 110 mats this year.
  - ii. Overall there are about 900 staying in shelters in Vancouver.
  - iii. 24 hour wellness checks being conducted at supportive housing sites.
  
- h. VPD
  - i. Quarterly Security and safety meetings to commence to share info on issues in the downtown core.
  
- i. The Kettle
  - i. Celebrating 3 years in operation next month.
  - ii. Active response to the fentanyl crisis. 3 tenants and 2 guests have passed away from overdose since December. Most OD's are revived by fellow tenants and/or staff. Conducting a rolling 24 hour wellness check to account for every tenant.
  - iii. Kettle on Burrard community very stable with 60% of original tenants still housed.
  - iv. Spring gardening starting up again and many thanks to St. Andrew's Wesley Church for the financial contribution.



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- v. Partnership with Vancouver Opera going well and the choir and writing group will be showcased on May 10, 2017 at 4:30 at Queen Elizabeth plaza during the Opera Festival.
4. Community Impact Notifications received by The Kettle or Directions
- i. None.
5. Other Business
- i. Suggestion that the Community Advisory Committee may no longer be necessary. Kettle and partners to discuss.
6. Next Meeting
- i. TBD depending on decision to continue with CAC.

Updates since the meeting:

VPD

1. Bikes along Denman Street sidewalks- The VPD Targeted Enforcement Team will be conducting enforcement and education.
2. Continued sleeping under the Royal Bank on Denman Street – This item has been a work in process for some time and we will continue to work with WEBIA, the property owner and the RBC.
3. Awning at recently closed grocery store- This will be monitored by the Neighbourhood Policing Team.
4. General concerns regarding feelings of safety, homelessness, and shoplifting – As mentioned a public safety symposium/seminar is being planned. Once details are made available I will advise the CAC and ensure that the CAC partners can communicate this event to their constituents.