

**New Westminster Seniors Services Task Force (SSTF)**  
**MINUTES of the Meeting**  
**Wednesday, September 22, 2010 1:00 – 3:00 pm**  
**Century House Birch/Cedar Rooms**

**In attendance:** Annette Oakes, Chair; Marg McKee, Past-Chair; Mariam Larson, SSTF Co-ordinator; John Stark, Syl Helmink, Joy Barkwill, Dianne Clark, Morgan McGrath, Judy Sofroni, Joanne Robertson, Jan Greenhow, Diane Murakami, Lesley Cole, Patricia Smith.

**Regrets:** Gabriele Scully, Aida Charmley, Lorraine Logan, Freda D'Souza, Brian D'Souza, Kara-Leigh Jameson.

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**1. Welcome and Adoption of Agenda**

Addition to Agenda: Under Item 2. Business, Item 2 was added “Times and locations of SSTF 2011 meetings.” Moved by Syl , Seconded by Marg to adopt the Agenda as revised. AIF. Carried.

**A. Minutes of June 16, 2010**

Moved by Joy, Seconded by Marg to adopt as circulated. AIF. Carried.

**B. Introduction Activity**

Member strengths include: creative writing, volunteering, organization, group process, communication skills, education, computer skills, enthusiasm, information and services, commitment to seniors.

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**2. Business**

**A.i. Chairperson’s Report:**

Annette introduced herself as new Chair with an outline of her background and experience. She remarked on the necessity to bring new representation from the community to the Task Force and was hopeful more individuals could be encouraged to join. She also applauded the excellent work the Task Force is doing and hoped this would continue in the coming months.

**A.ii. SSTF Meeting times, dates, and location:**

Mariam proposed SSTF meetings continue on third Wednesday of alternate months from 1 – 3 pm (as before), and that they be held at Century House instead of different community locations.

After discussion about location options, Marg moved to adopt the proposal. Seconded by Syl. AIF. Carried.

**Action:** SSTF Meeting dates will be: Nov. 17, 2010, February 16, April 20, June 15, September 21, November 16, 2011. Meetings will be held at Century House, 1:00 - 3:00 pm. **Joy** will book space through June 15, 2011.

## **B. Coordinator's Report (below).**

### **C. Draft Election Process.**

1. *Mariam circulated the Table Officer Election Process Draft of September 15, 2010.*

2. *Finalize process.* After discussion Marg moved to accept the Draft as written. Seconded by Jan. AIF. Carried.

3. *Vice-Chair nominations.* As a member of the Membership Committee, and standing in for Lorraine Logan, Chair of the Membership Committee, Marg conducted an election for the position of Vice-Chair of the Committee as a Whole.

Joy nominated Dianne Clark. Dianne agreed to let her name stand. Syl Helminck declined nomination due to other commitments. Marg called three times for further nominations from the floor. Hearing none she declared Dianne Clark Vice-Chair of the SSTF Committee as a Whole.

## **D. Action Group Reports.**

### **1. Membership Committee: Marg**

Marg read from a report which Lorraine had sent for the meeting. Lorraine reported that the membership committee is trying to reach seniors who belong to diverse groups or cultures, such as First Nations, South Asian community members, Korean groups and any others who meet in New Westminster on a social or political level. Lorraine had attended the Downtown Residents' Assoc. BBQ in July, as well as the West End 12<sup>th</sup> St. Festival, and focussed on identifying seniors. She did approach some. At the time of her report Lorraine was planning to attend the Quayside Sidewalk Sale. She noted that she thinks the Residents Association Meetings might be a good place to gain some new Task Force members.

**Action: John** will send Mariam a list of Residents' Association contacts for the Membership Group to work with.

**2. Agency Network Event (SANE): Dianne**

Venue and date: Centennial Lodge in Queen's Park, Wednesday, October 20, 2010, 9 - 11 am. More than 50 invitations have been sent. 7 have responded. The committee hopes to include First Nations with a Greeting from an Elder.

Refreshments will be served. Nurse Next Door is providing scones, but will not be included in the Event which is not-for-profit organizations only. Century House is providing coffee, tea, creamers, sugar and water. Lorraine is trying to get environmentally friendly napkins and related items. BCAA and MVT (Handy Dart) have signed on and Lorraine will contact them when she returns about donation of refreshments.

Discussed Fraser Health "Older Adults Programs."

**Action: Mariam** will invite Fraser Health, Director of Adult Programs to give a talk to SSTF about their programs and services.

**3. Seniors Engagement Guide: John**

John provided an overview of the Seniors Engagement Guide (see below).

**4. Wheelability Final Report: John**

John circulated an update, prepared August 31, 2010, on the Wheelability Assessment Project. (see below). There was discussion around the issue of the "1 metre per second" crossing time allocated at some pedestrian crossings, notably the one near Century House on 8<sup>th</sup> Street, which testing has proven is not enough time for pedestrians who have mobility issues to get safely across the street.

**Action: John** will ask about having a speaker from Engineering to discuss pedestrian crossing times with the Task Force.

**5. Seniors' Directory (Mariam for Kara-Leigh)**

Would like to update online regularly and print every 2 years. As there is a funding challenge ideas will be discussed at the November Governance Meeting.

## **6. IMBY FAIR 2011: Mariam**

An IMBY Fair is tentatively planned for May 2011. Royal City Centre is under new ownership and it will not be known until January 2011 if the Fair can be held there as it was this year.

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### **3. New Business**

#### **A. 2011 Budget Consultation**

The Finance Minister, the Hon. Colin Hansen has invited the public to participate in the 2011 budget consultations, by sending ideas as to what they would like to see in the 2011 Budget.

Further information can be seen on the website:  
[www.leg.bc.ca/budgetconsultations](http://www.leg.bc.ca/budgetconsultations)

Governance Committee suggested SSTF consider submitting request to for reinstatement of funding which was cut in 2009. All in favour.

**Action: Mariam** will draft and circulate a letter before the October 15<sup>th</sup> submission deadline.

#### **B. 2010 SFU Gerontology Senior Leadership Award.**

Call for nominations. Deadline is 1 October 2010. (See information sheet circulated via email by Mariam).

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### **4. Announcements**

A. Senior Services Society website has been updated – same location:  
[www.seniorsservicessociety.ca](http://www.seniorsservicessociety.ca)

B. Youth Centre@ Moody Park. Mariam reported that the Grand Opening of the Youth Centre took place on Wednesday, September 15, 2010.

**C. Next Meeting: Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2010, 1 – 3 pm, Century House.**

## **2B: Coordinator's Report to SSTF Sept. 22, 2010**

### **a. United Way Funding**

- In final year of funding, with funding period ending June 30, 2010 instead of Aug. 31, 2010
- Future funding TBD - highly valued but will likely depend on United Way fundraising campaign.
- Will support SSTF in developing back-up plan.

### **b. Funding environment**

- Attended United Way Coordinators Meeting on Sept. 16. Key points of interest:
  - UBCM "Age Friendly Grant" stream is gone.
  - Seniors Secretariat Age Friendly Community Initiatives - no more grants, instead developing a logo to be used by "age friendly" communities.
  - New Horizons is undergoing major structural change. Have not announced recipients of applications made last spring.

However, as of Sept. 20, website reads: "Community Participation and Leadership Funding is: Anticipated to open in spring 2011 - Grants of up to \$25,000 for community-based projects that encourage seniors to play an important role in their communities," and " Elder Abuse Awareness Funding: Date to be announced."

### **c. Funding opportunities (circulated but speak to briefly)**

- New Horizons Capital Assistance Funding call for proposals (closes Oct. 8).
- AVIVA - community voting process.

## **2D: Action Group Reports**

### **Seniors' Directory**

- Would like to update online regularly and print every 2 years
- Funding challenge, ideas to be discussed at Nov. Governance

### **3. New Business:**

- A. 2011 Budget consultation
- B. GRC Nomination for senior or group of seniors

### **4. Announcements**

- A. SSS website revamped - same location: [www.seniorsservicesociety.ca](http://www.seniorsservicesociety.ca)