

Committee Members Present: Co-Chair – C. Gauthier; L. Levy; J. Pandher; D. Halber; E. Van Egmond; M. Brown; J. Pandher; J. Wegenast; P. Wells; D. Halber; M. Puffer; C. Silver; D. Baker

City Staff Present: Housing, Homelessness and Community Development Specialist - M. Sikora; Coordinated Access Specialist - G. McMahon;

Others Present: K. D'Souza – Service Canada; A. Koslowsky; M. Villela – Vancity Community Foundation; D. Baker – Vancity Community Foundation

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:31am

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Minutes of the Abbotsford Community Advisory Board Committee meeting of February 28, 2023.

Moved by M. Puffer, seconded by J. Wegenast that the minutes of the Community Advisory Board meeting held February 28, 2023, be adopted.

CARRIED

3. COMMUNITY HOMELESSNESS REPORT – CHR

- The Community Homelessness Report is required by the federal government to provide a report card to Infrastructure Canada to inform them on where we are in the process.

The motion was approved by Chris Gauthier, seconded by Jesse Wegenast that the Community Advisory Board approve the Community Homelessness Report, and recommend they be presented to Abbotsford City Council for final approval.

4. REPORTS: REACHING HOME FUNDS, 2022/23 – VCF, Angie K

- April 1 – June 30, 2022 – 8 service projects carried over from 2021-22 due to funding confirmation from the government.
- July 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023 – a total of 8 service projects, 3 coordination of resources and 2 capital projects were funded.
- 137 individuals were placed into housing on average just over 2 weeks from intake.
- 76 individuals received some sort of prevention or diversion service. At 3-month follow up, 28 of the 76 individuals remained housed.
- Through the programs, additional supports were also provided to support independence and stability. (For example, employment supports, food security, income supports, addiction services, etc.)

The 3 coordination projects were funded to support the Abbotsford community.

- Projects coordinated centre for extreme weather response for homeless, the 2023 Point in Time Homelessness Count for Abbotsford, and one is working to develop a better understanding of the what is needed to support homeless individuals that are experiencing addiction.
- Total funds remaining for CE, (\$25,201) unallocated + \$72,454 unspent = \$47,253.
  - COA will be contacting organizations who currently have funded projects to see if

they can use additional funds and to organizations that did not receive funding last year.

5. OVERVIEW OF 2023/24 CURRENT PROJECTS – VCF, Angie K

- Total funds unallocated, Community Plan Amount \$1,304,457 minus Contracted Amounts with amendments \$1,239,518 = \$64,939
  - COA will contact current organizations to see if they require additional funds above what they have already been approved for.
- Cyrus Centre Ministries: Youth Shelter Diversion through Increased Staff Supports requires additional funding.
  - Total 2023-24 funding with amendment: \$50,117
  - Original contracted amount: \$18,817
    - Amendment:
      - \$7,900 -SWIFT team to attend Western Canada Mental Health Summit. Conference Them is improving skills and competencies for mental health and education professionals with a focus is on trauma and addictions
      - \$23,400 –Project SWIFT youth outreach worker wages
      - Amendment total: \$31,300

The motion was approved by M. Buffer, seconded by C. Gauthier that the Community Advisory Board approve the upward amendment as presented for Cyrus Center Ministries, and recommend they be presented to Abbotsford City Council for final approval.

6. CITY OF ABBOTSFORD (CE) ADMINISTRATION CHANGES FOR REACHING HOME

- The administration of this project will be moved from Vancity to the City of Abbotsford.
- COA will be posting a Program Officer position in the next two weeks.
- The Program Officer will work with Vancity to transition the administration internally.
- The funds saved to host this program internally will be put towards the community.

7. COORDINATED ACCESS UPDATED – CoA, Graham M

- No report at this meeting – will be presented in August.

8. MEMBER ROUNDTABLE

- Deborah Baker from Vancity mentioned that she would like to stay in touch with the COA and Abbotsford ACCESS.
- Mike provided an update on the Lonzo Encampment.

9. ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:14am.

