



**PUBLIC MINUTES
STREET ACTIVITY STEERING COMMITTEE**

**September 16, 2015, 11:00 am
Committee Room E, Ground Floor, City Hall**

PRESENT: Mr. B. Penner, Chair
Mr. R. Pshebylo, Vice Chair
Ms. V. Charles
Ms. S. Marchildon
Senior Planner E. Miller

ABSENT: Inspector R. Friesen
Staff Sergeant A. Chevli

ALSO PRESENT: Community Support Program Supervisor L. Prefontaine
Committee Assistant D. Sackmann

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order.

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Moved By: R. Pshebylo

That the agenda be confirmed as presented.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved By: V. Charles

That the minutes of regular meeting of the Street Activity Steering Committee held on July 15, 2015 be adopted.

CARRIED

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

The Chair advised the Committee that on September 8, 2015 the Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services resolved to put forward to City Council at its meeting to be held on September 28, 2015 a report

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from the General Manager, Community Services Department; Community Support Program Pilot Project – Review for Permanent Status. The report makes 10 recommendations to City Council as follows:

1. That the Administration be directed to make the Community Support Program Pilot Project a permanent program;
2. That the funding for the Community Support Program, up to \$450,000 annually, continue to be drawn from the Streetscape Business Improvement District Reserve;
3. That the Downtown Business Improvement District continue to manage the program;
4. That the Street Activity Steering Committee continue to oversee the program;
5. That the City Solicitor be requested to update the Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Saskatoon and the Saskatoon Downtown Business Improvement District until December 31, 2018, including detailed budget allocations;
6. That the City Clerk's Office be requested to extend the term and support of the Street Activity Steering Committee on a permanent basis;
7. That the Street Activity Steering Committee report to City Council on an annual basis through the Community Services Department, including a comprehensive Community Support Program review in the fall of 2018;
8. That the City Administration contact the Provincial Government regarding the opportunity for provincial funding for the Community Support Officers;
9. That the matter of public intoxication in Saskatoon be referred to the Board of Police Commissioners and Safe Streets Commission for a review; and
10. That the matter of the possibility of locating the Community Support Program head office in the Lighthouse be referred to the Administration to review with the Business Improvement Districts and the Lighthouse.

The Committee was also advised that the Community Support Program is back to being fully staffed and options to increase staffing will be discussed at a future time.

Moved By: R. Pshebylo

That the information be received.

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6. COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Committee Assistant submitted a report from the Supervisor, Community Support Program and noted that Community Support Program (CSP) staff attended a total of 359 calls and assisted 447 individuals in July and August.

Community Support Program Supervisor Prefontaine reviewed her report for the reporting period July - August 2015 and the following was noted:

- The program staff is back to 5 members.
- The number of individuals who required Police assistance is higher than usual.
- Saskatoon Police Service currently is doing their blitz campaign; these numbers will be released shortly.
- Winter items for the homeless are needed; options to obtain these will be explored.

Ms. Marchildon entered the meeting at 11:16 a.m.

The Committee posed the following questions: What happens to individuals who get banned by service providers and how are their needs then met? And can the individuals who need this type of assistance be escorted to a suitable facility?

Community Support Program Supervisor Prefontaine advised that if information regarding a ban is received from a client, CSOs call to inquire the validity and details. CSOs then try the other facilities. If no facilities are an option, the Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) is notified.

Ms. Prefontaine noted that sometimes clients tell SPS officer(s) they will just walk to one of the intoxication bed facilities and with officer's discretion may be allowed to do so. What the CSP has observed is some clients that state this are in fact banned from that location.

It was noted that a meeting involving the CSP Supervisor, Saskatoon Police Service, and the General Manager of the Lighthouse has taken place. Staff at all three organizations were informed of the concerns and immediately planned to work collaboratively to address the issues. Ms. Prefontaine will provide further information in this regard to the Committee at its November meeting.

Discussion followed revolving around what the Steering Committee would require for materials, equipment, etc., pending City Council approval of the Community Support Program Pilot Project Review, in order to continue supporting those in need in the community.

Moved By: R. Pshebylo

That the information be received.

CARRIED

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Mr. B. Penner, Chair

D. Sackmann, Committee Assistant