



Journey Home Task Force Minutes

Date: Wednesday, December 13, 2017
 Location: Okanagan Regional Library - Kelowna Branch
 Lower Meeting Room
 1380 Ellis Street, Kelowna, BC

Task Force Members Present: Co-Chair, Martin Bell, Co-Chair, Dr. Kyleen Myrah, Ann Howard* (BC Housing), Cheryl Miller* (Central Okanagan Foundation), John Yarshenko (Interior Health Authority), Harleen Price (Ministry of Social Development & Poverty Reduction), Shawna Whitney (Okanagan Nation Alliance), Superintendent Brent Mundle (RCMP), Theresa Arsenault*, QC, Gaelene Askeland, Tom Dyas*, Diane Entwistle, Mike Gawliuk, Scott Lanigan, Carrie McDonald, Lisa McHaffie, Brenda Plitt, Kelly Taverner and Shane Worman

David Krysko and Pam Moore

Divisional Director, Active Living & Culture, Jim Gabriel; Social Development Manager, Sue Wheeler; Neighbourhood Development Coordinator, Glenda Cooper; Community Communications Manager, Jodie Foster; Communications Advisor, Lisa Ruether; and FOI-Legislative Coordinator, Sandi Horning

Guest: Consultant, Alina Turner (Turner Strategies)

(* denotes partial attendance)

1. Call to Order, Welcome & Introductions (Co-Chairs)

The Co-Chair, Martin Bell, called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

2. Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by Theresa Arsenault/Seconded by Tom Dyas

THAT the Minutes of November 1, 2017 Meeting of the Journey Home Task Force be confirmed as circulated.

Carried

The Co-Chair, Martin Bell, acknowledged the attendance of Committee Member, Shawna Whitney, who is representing the Okanagan National Alliance. A brief introduction of the Task Force Members was conducted.

Co-Chair, Dr. Kyleen Myrah, provided an overview of the meeting's Agenda.

3. What will make you proud - Themes (Co-Chairs)

Co-Chair, Dr. Kyleen Myrah:

- Displayed a PowerPoint presentation outlining the 5 key themes that the Task Force members provided input on.
- Advised that the common themes were:
 - o We will have developed an action plan to systematically and tangibly address homelessness in Kelowna;
 - o The plan will have engaged those with lived experience, community members, and service partners recognizing all have an interest in ending homelessness;
 - o The community will have a clear strategy that has recognized (or incorporated) the diverse needs of the homeless population;
 - o We will have established a collaborative approach to coordinating homelessness services, so those who desire can easily access services and find and maintain healthy housing;
 - o The community at large will better understand the root causes of homelessness and are motivated to move from "those people" to "us" in our conversations, investments and actions.

4. Current Initiatives Update (Ann Howard, BC Housing/Staff)

Task Force Member, Ann Howard, BC Housing:

- Provided an update on the current initiatives BC Housing is working on.
- BC Housing recognized the need for shelter for the homeless in Kelowna during the winter months. The Salvation Army provided their gymnasium for use in November. "Cornerstone" was established in the old A & B Sound building in downtown Kelowna, with the John Howard Society as the facilitator.
- Provided an overview of how Cornerstone operates and confirmed that the facility has a maximum capacity of 75 persons.
- BC Housing is currently working on a strategy to deal with the increasing need for shelter as the weather gets colder.
- Provided an update with respect to other BC Housing initiatives.

- Encouraged by the community support for the initiatives.
- BC Housing is working on long-term strategies with the City of Kelowna.
- Responded to questions from the Task Force Members.

Task Force Member, Gaelene Askeland:

- Provided further comment regarding Cornerstone.

4.1 Task Force Updates (Task Force Members)

Task Force Member, Mike Gawliuk:

- Provided an overview of other initiatives being considered.
- Advised that a Steering Committee has been established to focus on homeless youth ("A Way Home - Kelowna").

5. Turner Strategies (Alina Turner, Turner Strategies)

5.1 Introduction

Co-Chair, Martin Bell:

- Provided an overview of the Request for Proposal process that was used to recruit the Consultant, Dr. Alina Turner of Turner Strategies.

Co-Chair, Dr. Kyleen Myrah:

- Introduced the Consultant, Dr. Alina Turner.

Consultant, Dr. Alina Turner:

- Introduced herself to the Committee Members and provided an overview of her personal and professional background.

5.2 Proposal and Work Plan Overview

Consultant, Dr. Alina Turner:

- Displayed a PowerPoint presentation and provided an overview of the Project Team.
- Displayed a PowerPoint presentation and provided an overview of the Proposal and Work Plan.
- Responded to questions from the Task Force Members.

6. Meeting Break

The meeting recessed at 6:05 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 6:25 p.m.

7. Large Group Discussion (Alina Turner, Turner Strategies)

7.1 Expectations

Consultant, Dr. Alina Turner:

- Requested that the Task Force Members respond to the question, "What are your expectations of what we will accomplish as a Task Force upon completion of the Journey Home process?".
- Provided feedback with respect to the expectations raised by the individual Task Force Members.

Task Force Members:

- Members provided input regarding their individual expectations.

7.2 Task Force Roles

Task Force Member, Theresa Arsenault, left the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Consultant, Dr. Alina Turner:

- Requested that the Task Force Members respond to the question, "How can you contribute, as a Task Force Member, during the Journey Home process?"
- Provided feedback with respect to the contributions noted by the individual Task Force Members.

Task Force Members:

- Members provided input regarding their individual contributions.

Task Force Member, Cheryl Miller, left the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

8. Small Group Discussion (Alina Turner, Turner Strategies)

8.1 Task Force Member Engagement in Plan Development

Co-Chair, Dr. Kyleen Myrah:

- Provided direction to the Task Force Members and requested that they break out into small groups in order to answer the question, "How do you want to be involved throughout the plan development process?"

Task Force Members:

- Divided into small groups to discuss how each Member would like to be involved throughout the plan development process.

Task Force Member, Ann Howard, left the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Task Force Member, Tom Dyas, left the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Task Force Members:

- A spokesperson from each group provided feedback on the Members would like to be involved in the plan development process.

Consultant, Dr. Alina Turner:

- Provided feedback to the Members regarding their input.

Co-Chair, Dr. Kyleen Myrah:

- Provided additional feedback to the Members regarding their input.

9. Closing Discussion (Co-Chairs)

Co-Chair, Dr. Kyleen Myrah:

- Provided closing comments.
- Will provide key dates for the plan development process to the Task Force Members should they wish to participate.

Co-Chair, Martin Bell:

- Provided additional closing comments.

10. Proposed Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date of the Task Force is proposed for January 24, 2018.

11. Termination

The meeting was declared terminated at 7:25 p.m.

Martin Bell, Co-Chair

Dr. Kyleen Myrah, Co-Chair

/slh