

Alderbridge Supportive Housing Community Advisory Committee

Tuesday, December 3, 2019 – 6:00 p.m.
City Centre Community Centre
Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Diana Bulley (Facilitator), Adina Edwards (RainCity Housing), Emma McGarry (RainCity Housing), Cody Spencer (City of Richmond), Jennifer Molto (Community Member), Timothy Osiowy (Community Member), Julie Halfnights (Community Member) Carmen Hall (BC Housing), Karen Barclay (Vancouver Coastal Health), Jamil Karim (City Centre Community Association), Heather Hall (RCMP), and Gord Derosa (RCMP).

1. Welcome and Introduction

- The facilitator welcomed committee members to the meeting.

2. Action Items from Previous Meeting

- Jamil Karim (City Centre Community Centre) reported that he followed up with RainCity Housing after the previous meeting to distribute a list of programming and events happening at the Community Centre.

3. Updated and Discussion

Project Partner committee members (RainCity Housing, BC Housing, City of Richmond and City Centre Community Association) provided updates and discussed the Alderbridge Supportive Housing.

A. RainCity Housing

- Adina Edwards (RainCity Housing) provided the following updates:
 - Since September, RainCity Housing has received one complaint from a neighbour regarding a resident spending time in a parking lot on a neighbouring property. RainCity met with the tenant about the complaint, and the tenant has agreed to refrain from spending time in the parking lot.
 - No noise complaints have been received since the last Community Advisory Meeting. However, as a proactive measure, RainCity Housing has moved the building's gazebo from the south side to the north side of the property. This change will ensure that noise from residents spending time at the gazebo will not impact neighbouring properties.
 - A large number of donations have been received in advance of Christmas. Donations have been provided by the Richmond Food Bank, the Rotary Club of Richmond, and the Tapestry Church. RainCity is very grateful for the donations received to date, and is still open to accepting additional items.
 - BC Housing is completing research about modular housing developments in BC. In support of the project, surveys will be sent to all residential and commercial properties located within one block of the Alderbridge Modular Housing.

- A community member asked about the radius for the BC Housing survey.
 - Carmen Hall (BC Housing) agreed to confirm the radius for the survey, and will provide an update at the next Community Advisory Committee meeting.
- Sean Spear (RainCity Housing) provided the following update:
 - On November 4th, RainCity staff presented at the City of Richmond's General Purposes Committee. The purpose of the presentation was to update City Council about the first six months of operation at the Alderbridge building. Councillors asked several questions, and were happy to hear about the support from community organizations, such as the Tapestry Church.
- A community member asked if there are any new tenants in the building.
 - Adina Edwards stated that one tenant has moved out of the building, and a new tenant has moved in.

B. BC Housing

- Carmen Hall (BC Housing) indicated that there are no new updates.

C. City of Richmond

- Cody Spencer (City of Richmond) indicated that there are no new updates.

D. City Centre Community Centre Association

- Jamil Karmin (City Centre Community Centre Association) indicated that the Community Centre is usually open on December 25th. Jamil agreed to verify the hours for the 2019 holiday season and will follow up with RainCity.

E. Vancouver Coastal Health

- Karen Barclay (Vancouver Coastal Health) indicated that flu clinics are available for tenants in the modular building.

F. Richmond RCMP

- Heather Hall (RCMP) indicated that there have been no significant police files associated with the modular building. RCMP continue to communicate with RainCity Housing regarding the building on a consistent basis.

G. Community Members

- A community member stated that it's good to see that RainCity has focused on effective communication with neighbouring properties. Although neighbours continue to monitor the building, the community member is satisfied with RainCity's efforts.

- A community member stated that the building blends into the neighbourhood. The building does not look like supportive housing.
- A community member asked if services related to addiction treatment are provided to Alderbridge tenants.
 - Adina Edwards (RainCity Housing) commented that whenever a tenant expresses interest in recovery services, staff are proactive in referring the individual to programs in Richmond. Multiple tenants are currently connected with Turning Point Recovery Services and Vancouver Coastal Health.
- A community member asked if visitors to the Alderbridge building are causing problems in the neighbourhood.
 - Heather Hall (Richmond RCMP) commented that there hasn't been an increase in crime in the area. Heather emphasized that a variety of other support services and facilities exist in the City Centre area, and individuals experiencing homelessness come to the neighbourhood for a variety of reasons.
 - Adina Edwards (RainCity Housing) commented that a few guests have violated the building's policies, and have been banned from the building and property.
- A community member asked if the building will be decorated at Christmas.
 - Adina Edwards (RainCity housing) answered that the interior of the building has been decorated. RainCity would be happy to accept donations to allow them to decorate the exterior of the building.
- A community member asked about the frequency of meetings in the future and requested quarterly meetings.
 - The committee decided to shift to a bi-monthly meeting schedule.

4. Action Items and Next Steps

- **Action Item:** Carmen Hall will verify the radius for the BC Housing survey and provide an update at the next Community Advisory Committee meeting.
- **Action Item:** Jamil Karim will work with RainCity Housing to provide information about winter hours and programming at City Centre Community Centre.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Next meeting: It was decided that the next meeting will be scheduled for February 2020.