



COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP

Held Thursday, March 18, 2004
Room M.2.004
Richmond City Hall

In Attendance:

Working Group

Danielle Aldcorn
Jim Lamond
Sharon Meredith
Greg Robertson
Kuo Wong

Olive Bassett
Michael McCoy
Vince Miele
Harold Steves

Shawkat Hasan
Bill McNulty
Bob Ransford
Jim Tanaka

Staff

Greg Buss
Dave Semple
Cathy Volkering-Carlile

Simon Johnston
Kate Sparrow

Recorder

Roxanne Glavina

Facilitator

David Roach

Consulting Team

Cheryl Hodgson

Absent

Nicky Byres
Linda Shirley

Julie Halfnights
Joann Wong Bittle

1. Opening Remarks by David Roach

2. Record of Meeting # 11

The Record of the Meeting dated February 19 was approved.

3. Delegations

Richmond Art Gallery (presentation distributed at meeting)

Barry Jones, Acting President of the Richmond Art Gallery, spoke of their comprehensive strategic plan, designed to complement the City of Richmond's vision. The Gallery, operated by a Non-Profit Organization is experiencing increasing numbers of visitors with positive feedback.

The Gallery hopes to be a leader in innovation, a destination for cultural tourists and want to have an Artist-in-Residence program. The main concern for the future is support space for storage or educational program workspace.

The typical member profile is a Richmond residents with a strong interest in education. A core group of members have been with gallery for many years and are always trying to recruit new individual and corporate members, plus reach out to the Asian community.

There was discussion on limitations. The Gallery found that hosting prestigious shows is cost prohibitive. Corporate partnerships are generally preferable in these situations.

4. Homework Report

Julie Halfnights (absent from the meeting) provided the CWG with a draft of the model she worked on, and her conclusion that the model was effective. (Included in Agenda Package).

Danielle Aldcorn presented a case study to the CWG, "Increased Participation in Parks, Recreation and Cultural Programs and Events". The objective was to increase revenue to the City of Richmond and benefit the community's well-being. In working through the Process Model, Ms. Aldcorn made two suggestions:

1. The addition of a "Greenlight Committee" to Step 5 (Identify Gaps/ Service Demands), a think tank to generate creative solutions; and
2. Advertising and Marketing added to Step 10 (Provide Service).

It was agreed, by the CWG, that her suggestions should be adopted and added to the Process Model already accepted by the CWG.

5. Discussion Paper on Sustainability

The "Framework for Sustainability" discussion paper was presented.

Five Sustainability Tables were developed to address the following Input categories:

1. Financial Sustainability
2. Volunteer and Non-Profit Organization Sustainability
3. Human Resources Infrastructure Sustainability
4. Physical Infrastructure Sustainability
5. Planning, Policies and Decision-Making Sustainability

Each category evaluated using three questions – Where do we want to go? What do we need to do? What are the desired outcomes?

The concepts of Inputs, Outputs and Outcomes was introduced. Inputs are the resources required, outputs are the programs and services offered to achieve desired outcomes.

Michael McCoy suggested that Relationship Sustainability be included as a category, in order to show the commitment to maintaining long term, sustainable relationships. There was discussion as to where it should fit (Input, Output or Outcome).

It was agreed that it is important to show commitment to maintaining long-term sustainable relationships.

Michael McCoy suggested that “Terms & Conditions of Relationship” be included in every table.

There was a discussion regarding the definition of Financial Sustainability which included accountability (for both the City and any organizations it works with) and the balance required between Financial Sustainability and the other Sustainability Inputs.

The CWG discussed the model and tables. There were several suggestions which will be incorporated into the tables.

It was agreed that the model addressed the Sustainability question “How will the City ensure financial, infrastructure, volunteer and governance sustainability?”

The group agreed to a revised definition of Financial Sustainability: *“A method of tapping the financial resources of the community today to fund needed / desired services and programs, while protecting the ability of the community to afford to pay for appropriate level of service in the future.”* Staff will take this definition and review it in context with city definitions.

By consensus, the CWG agreed with the discussion paper on Financial Sustainability.

6. Closing Statements

Due to time constraints, the final agenda item, “Role of Community Based Organizations” was deferred to next month.

It was agreed that there would be no further delegations scheduled. The April meeting would allow one half-hour to discuss the Role of Community Organizations and 15 minutes to discuss the final report. The remaining time will be unstructured to allow for any issues and suggestions delegates might wish to bring up with respect to the Master Plan.

As a homework assignment, the CWG was asked to consider what other organizations the City might want to work with.

Adjourned at 8:30pm