Minutes of a Meeting of the Regional Housing Advisory Committee

April 25, 2019, 1:00 - 3:00 pm, Room 488, Victoria, BC

PRESENT: Malcolm McNaughton, Kerriann Coady, Candace Koo, Kathy Whitcher, Dave Corey, Lindsay Milburn, Bruce Anderson, Bill Brown (alt. for Laurie Hurst), Cam Scott (alt. for Sharon Hvozdanski), Jarret Matanowitsch, Leah Stohmann (alt. for Matthew Baldwin), Danella Parks, Kaye Melliship, Kelly Roth

STAFF: Kevin Lorette, Christine Culham, John Reilly, Maia Kerr (recorder)

REGRETS: Jim Hartshorne

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm.

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

    Kevin Lorette welcomed all RHAC members and introductions were facilitated around the table.

2. **Advisory Committee Role**

    Christine Culham provided a brief overview of the purpose of the RHAC as outlined in the RHAC Terms of Reference.

3. **Orientation to Regional Housing**

    Christine Culham briefly reviewed the contents of the RHAC Orientation Packages and requested members to read them.

    Christine Culham and John Reilly provided a brief introduction to CRD Regional Housing (pdf presentation attached).

4. **Overview of Regional Housing Affordability Strategy (RHAS)**

    John Reilly provided an overview of the current RHAS and informed committee members that hard copies are available for those who are interested.

5. **Roundtable – Sharing of priorities by each RHAC member**

    Summary of Priorities:
    *   Clearly defining 'affordability' and distinguishing from 'below market'
    *   Using a long-range lens on affordability when considering new developments
    *   Increasing density and housing diversity while still building livable communities
    *   Improving education for and engagement with communities regarding affordable housing to achieve community support for affordable housing projects
    *   Looking for innovative solutions for how to engage with and support developers: if municipalities want developers to create affordable housing, then municipalities also have to give something to developers in return (e.g. inclusionary housing policy)
    *   Balancing affordability desire with an understanding of market forces
    *   Addressing the challenges of limited land available within regions for development
    *   Addressing transit deficits and keeping housing growth in line with climate change issues

- Helping first time buyers achieve home ownership
- Identifying land to build supportive housing to help address the needs of people experiencing homelessness
- Coordinating access to affordable housing and, where necessary, supports
- Keeping Indigenous needs in focus
- Interested in studies on a) how municipal requirements affect housing costs, and b) planned housing projects and what they will be used for
- Addressing transportation impacts on location of affordable housing
- Aligning municipal expectations on affordability with provincial and federal requirements around affordability

6. Next Meeting

- Chair selection will take place at the next meeting. Interested candidates should notify John Reilly by email and prepare a small presentation for the Committee next meeting after which committee members will vote to select the Chair and Vice-Chair.
- RHAC meetings will occur 5-6 times per year and ideally be scheduled the first Thursday of the month at 2:00 pm.
- Confidentiality forms have been distributed and committee members are expected to review and sign before the next meeting.
- Committee members that have any suggested agenda items and/or presenters they would like to recommend can contact Maia Kerr.
- If committee members are unable to attend meetings, please inform CRD as to who the alternate is for your organization.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm.