

November 26 @ 7:00 pm

Riverside Community Centre

Present: Edward Staples, Nienke Klaver, Ole Juul, Bill Day, Lynn Wells, Keith Olsen, John Akerley

Ed began the meeting by indicating that he'd like to see board members given greater responsibility for the running of the organization over the next year. The purpose for this meeting is to go through SOHC's Action Plan and to agree which items should stay, add new items, establish priorities, and determine who will lead each priority.

Action Plan review:

- Physician shortage: Lynn was wondering if we can put pressure on the provincial government to make it easier for qualified people from other countries to practice in Canada. She mentioned that there are some countries with high standards of care, that are not accepted or recognized by Canada. John mentioned Cuba in this respect, but added that their philosophy is different from western physicians. Ed suggested to work together with Ashcroft as well as Jackie Tegart to put pressure on the Provincial government.
- Access to healthcare; a paid volunteer-coordinator was mentioned as a solution.
- Information brochure; we can start a list right away and look at brochures of other communities; the sustainability committee could be approached to share the cost, possibly with Town and RDOS and Family Services. Keith suggested that the Information Brochure should also be available on-line with a list of scheduled health related events that people may wish to attend.
- Bill suggested to invite Community Services Emily Willis and Joanne Gabriel to a meeting to share with SOHC what they are doing.
- Penticton hospital fundraising; Bill suggested to ask them Walter Despot and/or Janice Perrino what assistance SOHC could give them. Consensus was not reached on this suggestion.
- First responder programs in all Area communities; John expressed that he feels passionate about this.
- Defibrillator registration; to our knowledge this has not been done yet. SOHC could take this on and also add information about location of defibrillators to the healthcare services brochure.
- Healthcare careers for students; Bill suggested that it would be more effective if a physician contacts the school to arrange an informal meeting with the Principal to discuss this and to also involve counseling personnel .

Ed asked everyone to write down their top 3 or 4 priorities from the discussed list. He

will develop a list of board priorities from this list and send it everyone. “Homework” will be to choose priorities that board members wish to lead and develop an implementation strategy. Timeline: the end of next week (Dec. 4).

Nienke Klaver, SOHC Secretary