

Minutes of the Kitsilano Committee on Mental Health, Monday, August 13.

7:40 Call to Order. Chairman - Jeff Marvin

It had been decided by the steering committee that the chairmanship should be rotated. Lois King was to be chairwoman, but due to illness could not attend.

1. Minutes of the July 30 meeting were revised and adopted.

2. BUDGET (report by Jeff Marvin)

At an informal meeting on Friday, August 2, Jeff Marvin, Hugh Parfitt, Barry Coull and Lois King met with Kyle, Bonham, and Goodacre to continue discussions over the budget. Jeff felt that it had been a good meeting. Kyle laid out his position as to what he would support and what he would not support. Principally, Kyle stated that salaries will be paid according to provincial salary scales.

The steering committee, in the light of this meeting, revised the budget. The principle change was in the salary levels of the 11 mental health workers. They now read:

1 Senior Mental Health Worker	\$ 14,880
1 Community Mental Health Nurse	\$ 11,880
1 Registered Nurse	\$ 9,744
2 Community Psychiatric Nurses II	
at \$9,840	\$ 19,680
2 Community Psychiatric Nurses III	
at \$10,620	\$ 21,240
1 Community Mental Health worker I	\$ 8,724
2 Community Mental Health worker II	\$ 20,808
at \$10,404	
1 Community Mental Health worker III	\$ 10,788

Jeff and company felt that Kyle would support this budget.

The other major change was to split the short-stay crisis residence from the mental health team as a tactical move.

Discussion: Most of the discussion centred around the new community mental health worker category. Kyle is presently working on the job descriptions. At this stage, it would seem that the only qualification for a Community Mental Health Worker I will be experience, rising to completion of high school, some university training, and experience for a Community Mental Health Worker III. A large amount of concern was expressed that these new job categories not become tightly entwined by formal or "paper" qualifications. The question of what attitudes the Public Service Commission (if the mental health team are employed by the province) or the unions might take to this new category was raised. It was suggested that we need to find out just what the job descriptions are going to include, and what regulations might come into force.

Moved: (Dick Betts, Penny Hicks) - That we ratify the budget as presented by Jeff and send it to the Co-ordinating Committee for their meeting on Wednesday, August 14.

Barry Coull will present the budget to the committee.

3. Inter-Area Meetings (report by Barry Coull)

There have been 3 meetings to date; no representatives from Kitsilano were at the last meeting. The following issues came up at the last meeting.

- There is no citizen participation on the North Shore. Individual efforts will be mounted to get people organized.
- Co-ordinators for Mt. Pleasant and Strathcona have been selected.
- Representatives from Burnaby and Richmond will be invited to the next meeting.
- Mt. Pleasant has requested a representative of its own on the Co-ordinating Committee. They will be supported by a letter from the inter-area meeting, arguing that every local area should have a representative.
- Next meeting is on Thursday, August 16, at 1087 West Broadway.

4. Research Report (report by Penny Hicks)

The research group have worked out a questionnaire and covering letter to be sent to agencies that serve Kitsilano seeking statistics on the need for short-stay crisis facilities. The information will be made available to all groups.

The research committee needs more help.

5. Citizen Participation Report - Tabled

6. Internal Organization and Elections

It was agreed that at the next meeting there would be a full discussion on the organizational needs of the citizens committee. This will be formalized, and elections held at the meeting in four weeks time.

7. Building: An ad-hoc committee of Gavin Perryman, Hugh Parfitt, Alice, Jackie, and Bill will start exploring the possibilities for a building to house the team.

## JOB DESCRIPTION FOR COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH WORKER

Dr. Kyle has said he would draw up the job description for the community mental health worker. It is my suggestion that the Citizens' Committee draw up a job description to fit its needs and present it to Kyle. The job description typed below is based on the job description of the Childrens' Aid Community Worker. It is presented here for discussion.

Two primary objectives of the Community Mental Health Worker programme are to identify and support those forces in the community that are conducive to development of mental health, and to combat those community forces that are impeding and/or destructive to social well being of individuals and families.

The Community Mental Health Worker will be indigenous and a non-professional whose tasks will be:

- to provide direct assistance through advice and guidance.
- to assist individuals, families and groups become aware of resources available from the Mental Health Team, and other agencies
- to expedite receipt of services and to serve as an advocate with regard to inadequate delivery of service
- to mobilize community resources
- to serve as a bridge between citizens' needs and appropriate professional services
- to encourage citizens to become involved in a mutual self-help relationship with other people who are also in need
- to stimulate citizens to take action on their own behalf.

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### Report from the Ad-hoc Committee to find a Facility for the Team

Meeting on Monday, August 20. Hugh Parfitt, Gavin Perryman, Marilyn Kalman.

#### 1. The problems of zoning and development permits.

In applying for a development permit, there seem to be 3 possibilities:

- (a) Apply as "an institution of religious, philanthropic, or charitable character"  
This means being incorporated under the Societies Act.  
This is a conditional use in all zoning categories in Kits, except for C-3 (high density commercial), M-1 (light industrial), and M-2 (medium density industrial) where it is an outright use.
- (b) Apply as "a use required by public authority"  
This is a conditional use in all zoning categories in Kitsilano.
- (c) as an office building  
This is an outright use in commercial areas, and a conditional use in industrial areas.

#### 2. Possible buildings that we could use.

- (a) House - imposes an informal style \* number of smallish rooms \* lack of access \* problem of neighbourhood relations
- (b) Store-front - accessible to public transit \* accessible to the community (which is vital if we are interested in education and prevention and community feedback) \* informal if well-designed \* good location for drop-in \* most likely to be acceptable to the authorities and to residents in the area
- (c) Offices - relatively formal and intimidating \* lack of direct access to the public
- (d) Warehouse - usually in a bad location \* would need extensive renovations.

#### 3. Recommendation That we set as a top priority a store-front operation with the following criteria:

- central to Kitsilano, on 4-th or 9-th.
- near to good public transit
- sufficient space (size small rooms)
- cost
- the possibility of having a 2-storey operation.