

General Membership Meeting
Lumby & District Health Services Society
November 27, 2017

10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.
Whitevalley Community Hall

Minutes

Members Present: Beth Baker, Diann Bastian, Hank Cameron, Rick Fairburn, Catherine Hertgers, Diana Lock, Lori Mindnich, Rosemarie Neufeld, Julie Pilon, Ev Reade, Heather Serafin, Ben Winters

Guests: Jenny Pinsonneault, Sonja Harkness

Staff Present: Barb Dyck & Lyndsay de Jong

A. Jean Latval, Chairperson called the General Meeting of the Lumby & District Health Services Society to order at 10:00 a.m. Quorum present.

B. Agenda motion of approval for the following:

I. Agenda November 27, 2017

II. Minutes April 24, 2017

Julie Pilon motioned to accept the agenda and minutes, seconded by Ben Winters.

CARRIED

C. New Business – Chairperson

1. Speaker Tamara Allen, Registered Nurse for Options for Sexual Health (OPT)

Founded in 1996, OPT Clinic is part of BC wide nonprofit organization and is not connected with Interior Health. There are sixty clinics across the province. The Lumby clinic is more diverse than other OPT clinics. It runs every Wednesday evening from 6 pm - 9 pm, whereas most OPT Clinics run twice a month.

In OPT's early days, they were open from 11 am – 2 pm and was mainly used by high school students. The time frame created problems to maintain registered nursing staff.

Today, the clinic has had to be creative since Lumby is a rural community. Night clinics do not work many students as they live too far away. OPT would like to expand services to include a lunch hour clinic from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm and continue running the evening clinic from 6 pm – 9 pm. The day time clinic would be able to serve the students. OPT Clinic and Barb have been working on government grants to operate the expansion for a year. The Lumby Health Centre has a bucket for receipts from Natures Fair. They are offering 3% back on receipts and the money will be used to provide compassionate contraceptive for women. Lumby Health Centre staff is going to contribute money to OPT clinic instead of exchanging gifts this year. Tamara thanked Lumby and said "she enjoys being part of the community". Tamara works for a regional program where she gets to see how health services run in other rural places. Tamara said Lumby is a great place with strong networking and Lumby OPT would not be what it is without the society's support. Ev Reade asked about scheduling for the new daytime clinic. It will be open for one hour 11:30 am – 12:30 pm if grant is approved and registered nurses will be there 30 minutes before and 30 minutes afterwards for charting.

Barb said OPT is completely full until the middle of January mainly due to from Dr. Burnett referrals. OPT and Tamara are taking it to the next level. Rick asked about funding. North Okanagan Community foundation is one grant that has been submitted for \$4000 dollars. Barb said that she will submit the extra clinic cost to the BC Gaming Branch once she has a year of data.

The BC Gaming Branch grant will not support the nurses but they will support the extension of the program. Currently there are two Lumby OPT nurses and OPT pays their wages. Tamara said they are not able to access anymore funding through OPT and that is why they are looking elsewhere and if that does not work, they can look at the Rotary club for support. Revelstoke has created a lunch time clinic for students and they get funding through rotary.

The schools are keen to partner with them. Tamara said a lot of clinic have to use OPT head office to book appointments and Lumby does not, which is fantastic. OPT is a provincial non-profit organization and the base funding that they receive is from the provincial government. OPT clinics are funded by donations and fundraising. The funding supplied by health authorities has not been increased for the past ten years. OPT is not part of the public health services. It was suspended by Interior Health in 2011. IH is the only health authority that does not provide sexual health services. Rick Fairburn questioned Heather Serafin on her role with OPT. Heather responded she no longer plays a role with OPT since the suspension in 2011. Ev Reade asked what we could do as a society to help this.

Presently, there is advocacy being done in Kelowna for sexual health services that is publicly available to everyone. The Kelowna OPT Clinic only runs six hours a week for a city of 200,000 people. Furthermore, there is also advocacy work being done to bring back the STI clinics within IH. Should LDHSS's strategic planning committee send a letter? Barb expressed the BC Provincial Government is already supporting the nurse's component. She further explained that we want these clinics to carry on, but we have to be careful what we wish for. Lumby has done a good job searching for funding. Rosemarie Neufeld mentioned perhaps adding our voice and gaining some strength with the funding. Tamara advised that OPT has a new Executive Director that is very passionate about the program. She admires Barb and the hard work she has put into the program. Rick followed up with Barb's comment and verified that LDHSS does not want to 'rock the boat' by asking for more grants. Barb confirmed and further explained that it requires a year of monitored compiled data. If the grant is approved and LDHSS demonstrates the clinic operates efficiently for year, she can apply it to the gaming grant.

Most OPT Clinics operate with volunteers. Due to client confidentiality, it is not something Barb wishes to see after. Continuity is the main denominator for efficiently running the clinic. The Lumby OPT Clinic currently serves 400 – 500 patients a year. Rick asked if the society can make a pitch to IH and follow up with a letter to aid the avenues and remove the 'band aid' to further seek additional ways of accessing funding. Jean Latval is concerned the grant will not get approved, as most businesses have made their budget requirements for the next year.

2. Change for Society Members calendar meetings.

Last directors meeting they decided to change the calendar meetings to February, November and AGM in May. No questions or comments.

D. Announcements

1. Membership Meeting February 26, 2018 @ 10:00 am.

E. Community Report

Pythians – Diana Lock: Baby basket is done from the legion ladies. They have done small catering jobs up to 100 people.

Walk, Roll & Run 2017 – Rosemarie Neufeld: Attendance was down compared to previous year, despite the increased attractions. In 2018, there will be a bike decorating contest. Scotiabank matched \$5,000.00. Total net revenue was \$10,519.39.

Flu Clinic – Heather Serafin: There were 238 participants this year. Normally there is an average of 300 participants; however the numbers were consistently lower across BC. The reason being, pharmacies are given the flu vaccine three weeks before Interior Health.

New babies for 2017 were 46 (2016 was 56). Heather has seen 47 moms and dads throughout the year on Friday mornings.

Ev Reade - Senior Advocate is wrapped up. On September 15 there was a meeting in Kelowna regarding a forty five page document with eight recommendations for clients in residential care. This was not advertised in local papers. To access more info one can email: info@seniorsadvocate.ca. The need to increase staff is a massive complaint.

Beth Baker had nothing to share.

Rick mentioned Cannabis legislation. Local government level has concerns.

- What will it cost through policing?
- What does it mean locally to enforce all of these?

If any groups have an opportunity to comment, input is being collected until the end of January 2018.

Follow up regarding the promotion of agricultural policies concerning food production (grow, sell and export local food) are being completed. The government has indicated they are going to make some changes. Unfortunately the changes are unknown. This is good news for our local economy.

Kitty advised of a meeting regarding farming orchards in this area that was being held at 7 pm that evening at Mabel Lake Hall (the organics against the conventional farmers). Rick is aware of the meeting, but has a conflict in schedule.

Whitevalley is going to have a silent auction. They have hired a new executive director, Sonja Harkness. Sonja created a new initiative called 'Tag the Cards'.

Julie Pilon had nothing to share.

Kitty inquired on the total amount raised by Kevin Acton from camping for homeless awareness. Approximately \$2,700.00 was raised last year.

Whitevalley Seniors Services drop in is still happening three days a week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday). Health Living sessions take place once a month, with attendance from the local paramedic. The services provided by the local paramedic may include checking blood pressure, assisting with diabetic care, helping to identify fall hazards, medication assessment, post-injury or illness evaluation and assisting with respiratory conditions. The visits are one on one with local seniors provided with a doctor's referral. She will serve the residents of Lumby and Cherryville.

Jenny Pinsonneault writes weekly articles in the paper. She does very well with the volunteer driving program. She has five drivers that will take seniors to medical / legal appointments in Lumby, Cherryville and Vernon. Jenny also helps with breakfast at Saddle Mountain.

Diann Bastian assists seniors filling out forms, such as, CPP, OAS, etc. Monthly senior's agency meetings are ongoing. The Lumby United Church has a luncheon (soup, wraps and dessert) on Friday, December 1 from 11 am – 2 pm. Saturday, December 2, 2017 the artisans market commences and is held at the church every Saturday. They will also be hosting the Annual Cookie Walk.

Hank Cameron: Cannabis legislation is seeking input regarding public health changes in law regulations. In Cherryville, there is a well being drilled, however water licensing has posed an issue. They're trying to get compliance with the big irrigators. Due to the massive power outage five years ago, the Community Hall is being made as shelter. A five year emergency plan is being put in place.

Council Highlights – Lori Mindnich:

Short term: Adopted Affordable Housing Strategy. Property tax exception for affordable housing and promote existing housing programs. There will be an Affordable Housing Committee in 1 – 3 years.

Long term: Compact housing. They developed a housing development toolkit. The kit will have a list of contractors and which banks will be willing to work with clients. Adapted economic development planning strategy. Visit <https://www.lumby.ca/content/council-highlights> to view the highlights.

New Year Eve dance at the Lumby Legion Hall from 8 pm – 12 am. No minors allowed. Everyone is asked to bring an appetizer. Entrance is free.

Meat draw is accepting letters for 2018.

Saturday - Christmas Market from 10 am – 2 pm.

Elinor - Seniors Housing Society: Saddle Mountain began with 40 units; there is now 56 units. She attended a seniors housing conference last week. 30 seniors are on the waiting list for low income senior housing which operates through BC Housing. Some are subsidized, some are not. BC Housing contributed \$365,000. This will lower the electric bill for seniors by 30%. Their bill per month was approximately 300 per month.

Jean Latval discussed that there are no places for someone that is 80 years old that just had surgery. Rosemarie added that aside from seniors or disabled people, there is no housing for anyone.

Diann - Assisted living was going to be put beside Monashee Mews.

Ev inquired about the Ramshorn Hotel. It has asbestos and would cost too much money to tear down. Removal of the asbestos would double the price of the sale of the hotel. Rick advised it's in court for flooding problems.

F. Attachments

- Agenda- November 27th 2017
- Minutes – April 24th 2017
- Attendance Sheet – November 27th 2017
- Community Reports – November 27th 2017

G. Meeting Adjourned – 11:15 am moved by Ev Reade and seconded by Judy Phillips.