**Communities 4 Families**

# Meeting Minutes

# March 20, 2019

**Present:** Marieke Brunelli,Genny Funk-Unrau, Gabriela Galli, Hope Honeygham, Heather Mitchell, Anne Sikora, Cheryl Starr, Karen Ste. Marie

**Regrets:** Rhonda Elias-Penner, Karen Howgate,Irene Sheldon, Jess Smith

**Staff Present:** Katie Anderson, Ingrid Peters Derry

**Chair**: Cheryl Starr

**Recorder**: Ingrid Peters Derry

1. **Recognition of Treaty One lands**
2. **Welcome and Introductions**
3. **Presentation:** Marieke Brunelli – Central Neighbourhoods (Central Park, Centennial, West Alexander)
   * CNDC closed in 2017. Now assigned to SNA, which hosts Central Neighbourhoods
   * New 5 year plan 2018-23. They are beginning year 2
   * Just moved into 231 Isabel – providing a new community space. Groups wanted large community space for meetings, etc. If you would like to use the space, please contact Mareike [director@cnwpg.org](mailto:director@cnwpg.org)
   * Gang Action Interagency Network is also located in the building
   * Provides coordination of community development – community safety meeting for Central Park; stakeholder meetings to talk about needs of the community. Traffic safety meeting upcoming – to propose solutions from the community’s point of view
   * Central Park foot patrol – new initiative to start in May
   * Supporting community-based initiatives – looking for funding, providing administrative support
   * Community pride – Central Park block party, music festival, soccer ball campaign, multi culturalism celebration day, winter festival in Central Park, community beautification
   * Intercultural relations – working to make sure everyone is safe, street connections, seniors, newcomer-indigenous relations, summer BBQs at IRCOM
   * Education and livelihoods – WRHA connections - bi-weekly drop in for health and wellness, some training heart smart, safe needle collection, harm reduction
   * Housing – rooming house working group, rent smart training
   * Small grants – up to $5000 for community development or events for community building. These will be posted on social media and website when they come out.
4. **Consent Agenda**

* Approval of Agenda
* Approval of Minutes of January 16, 2019

**All agreed that we approve the Consent Agenda.**

1. **Announcements and /or Emerging Issues**

* **WGM** spring and summer flyer is available. 6 programs are running during that time. CMWI and Mosaic are running summer programs. Katie will give paper copies if anyone needs them. [Link](https://www.dropbox.com/s/z9l25pp64dqxi6b/WGM%20SpringSummer%20Flyer%202019.pdf?dl=0)
* **WRHA** – gearing up for immunizations (dose 2)
* **Mosaic** – family programs going on right now
* **Frontier** – transitioning into summer programming. Karen will send information about summer jobs coming up. Reading tents – will be looking for coordinators. Looking especially for people from the community (over 18 years old). Reading tent events – less books are available so the process may be changing a bit. Hands on engaging activities to take home. National Indian Brotherhood trust fund – supporting small groups of learners. Open to suggestions of groups that may look for free tutoring support.
* **Green Action Centre**- working with schools and communities to get people to get to school by walking and biking.
* **Klinic** – check out training offerings on [website](http://klinic.mb.ca/)
* **WestEnd Commons** – office space for rent in the Neighbourhood Resource Centre. 200 sq feet or so. Contact [Cheryl](mailto:Cheryl@thewestendcommons.ca) or [Olga](mailto:or20090214@gmail.com).

1. **Business Arising from Minutes** 
   * Strategic Planning meeting summary
     + Our [Strategic plan](https://www.dropbox.com/s/t8elnggl3oj0cch/Communities%204%20Families%20Strategic%20Plan%202019%20-%202020.doc?dl=0) has been updated and shows our regular and strategic activities.
   * 2019-20 budget
     + Discussed budgeting additional money for videography to be included on the website to complement the WGM manual.
     + Do we know many facilitators go to the website to access the manual? We could survey facilitators.
     + More people are accessing various resources online, so it would make it more accessible. Also assists in different learning styles and EAL.
     + This money might come out of money we would otherwise use for grants, or we could use some of our deferred money. We could make a decision after we have final budget figures in May or June. The would also allow us to see what is being requested for grants. We are in general agreement that we do this.
     + Training bursaries are still available – agencies should apply soon to use money budgeted for the current year
     + Office move – Jesse (DMSMCA), approached us to offer us larger office space so they could use our office for Resource Centre staff. This would not cost additional money, but would allow us more space to work in.
2. **New Business**

* Debriefing Blanket Exercise
  + Mostly positive feedback
  + Survey question: How will it impact your work? Inform work with indigenous participants; bringing information back to staff teams; sharing information with their own families
  + Survey question: Does your organization have a plan to address TRC recommendations? staff training; further education; cultural activities for clients; signed on to the City's Indigenous Accord; hoping to host Circles for Reconciliation and activities led by Indigenous Elders and knowledge holders; staff training to increase cultural competency; others were not sure
  + Criticisms – high literacy level, hard to hear, cold
  + Facilitators were great. Provided great information.
  + Communication with us could have been better
  + We might want to do this again next year as there was a lot of interest in this
  + What other sort of trainings should we do? there is a Manitoba blanket exercise as well
* Ad Hoc Committee for Indigenous initiatives – Cheryl, Noelle and Karen agreed to be on this committee to this though our response to TRC recommendations. The first task would be to find out what is happening in the community – from each organization and Knowledge Keepers. Ingrid will initiate a meeting of this committee.

1. **Committees Reports**
   * **Executive Committee** 
     + Began thinking about the AGM – **June 19 at 1:30 at WestEnd Commons.** The focus will be Family Literacy projects that we have supported.
     + Chair, Vice/Co-chair positions are open. We will accept nominations for our April meeting and vote at the May meeting.
     + Budget discussion
     + Grant applications will be available early April, with a deadline at the end of May. Decisions are usually made by middle of June to get the money out in time for summer programming if needed. Multiyear grants – the Executive talked about it but decided against it.
     + Outdoor play project – reminder that we should be clear about our process and bring information from the committees to the larger group
   * **Literacy Committee** 
     + Family literacy day – another great event. This year we decided to spend less money on food (we just provided snacks) and provide some transportation. Mosaic and MaMaWi were partners and pick up locations for a bus. That was a great idea! Participation was up despite the weather being very cold. We estimated at least 100 attended. Lots of volunteers and donations were great. Parents reported that they were going to use some of these ideas at home. Next year will be the 10th year we’ve done this. We want to re-think how we do draw prizes, especially for children.
     + Book Bags workshop – having the workshop on 2 mornings worked well but we might also want to think about whether we can do the workshop in one full day. The first morning was to give information (Janet Simpson came and talked about Family Literacy and its importance) and look at the components of a Book Bag. Participants planned what they would include in theirs. The second morning was spent putting together the Book Bags. There was a nice energy in the group and lots of room to spread out at WestEnd Commons. 15 people attended (3 outside of downtown). Participants plan to use the information about family literacy with their clients, to share Book Bags with their families, and to help their families make Book Bags themselves.

* + **Resource Committee and Staff**
    - WGM Manual update – Katie is on revision #5 right now. She will be talking to the graphic designer this week. We have a quote from Kromar’s and will likely print 200 copies – enough for a few years. Katie has sought feedback from a few different places, including Fit Kids Healthy Kids and Healthy Start for Mom and Me. There will be more consultation. If you would like to see the draft and make comments, please see it [here](https://www.dropbox.com/s/pzpyhy9zg6kc8z8/v5.WGM%20Manual%20Revisions.docx?dl=0). We have pictures that can be used in the manual and for promotional material.
    - WGM training – 2-day training in February at Knox. Good feedback. There will be no May training this year.
    - Outdoor Play Pilot
    - January 19 @ Valour CC, Isaac Brock site – C4F & Valour Outdoor Family Play Day. It was minus 40! But 6 families attended.
    - February 2 – Snoball Winter Carnival @ Broadway Neighbourhood Centre. We provided a “tot lot” station for younger children. Kelly created a poster series with “how to dress for winter” tips. This could be used during workshops going forward.
    - February 23 – Provided a snow painting and snow kitchen at Central Winter Fest.
    - February 24 – Provided our snow kitchen and snow painting outside and a wall art colouring station indoors at DMSMCA Winter Carnival.
    - March 15 – C4F & Mosaic Outdoor Family Play Day at Central Park. This format works well when partnering with an agency who has the ability to recruit families. It would be great to get some ideas for easy snacks to do outside in winter with kids. We have also discussed purchasing a tent/shelter of some sort to provide a bit of a warmer spot for snacks and some of the activities.
    - Saturday programs get dads out.

1. **Correspondence**

* **Families in Canada Conference 2019** Should Ingrid attend? PD budget for 2018-19 is already used. There are no strong feelings to encourage Ingrid to attend.
* **MCCA CONFERENCE** Early Bird Entries!! May 23-24. March 22nd, 2019 is the deadline for early bird registration. Information was shared.

1. **Next Meeting**

**April 17, 2019**

**1:30 pm**

**Location: 823 Ellice Ave.**