

Welfare Council of Greater Vancouver

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~~GROUP MEMBER PAPERS~~

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WELFARE COUNCIL OF GREATER VANCOUVER
Housing Committee
Exhibit and Education Committee

WELFARE COUNCIL OF GREATER VANCOUVER

(Vancouver Council of Social Agencies)

President: C. B. Romer
Vice-President: R. M. Schou
Vice-President: W. R. Fraser
Vice-President: Mrs. Gordon Selman
Hon. Secretary: Miss Amy Leigh
Hon. Treasurer: C. J. McNeely
Past President: R. Bell-Irving

Acting Executive Director:
Edgar N. Brown
Secretary:
Frances E. Reynolds
Secretary, Social Service Exchange:
Joanne V. Brown

1675 WEST 10TH AVENUE
VANCOUVER, B. C.
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October 5th, 1945.

NOTICE OF MEETING

At recent meetings of the Citizens' Housing Committee of the Vancouver Welfare Council and the Vancouver Housing Association, the members decided to bring about the fusion of the two bodies in order to concentrate forces in the campaign for better housing conditions in Vancouver.

It was decided to retain the name and constitution of the Vancouver Housing Association, and in order to legalize the position the Citizens' Housing Committee has applied for membership in the Vancouver Housing Association and will cease henceforth to exist as a separate body.

The organizations whom the members of the Citizens' Housing Committee represent will in due course be asked to confirm the new set-up by applying for organizational membership in the Vancouver Housing Association.

A general meeting of the reconstituted Vancouver Housing Association will be held on THURSDAY, October 11th, 1945, at 3:30 p.m. at the office of the Citizens' Rehabilitation Council, 524 West Pender Street.

The agenda will include:

- a) Election of officers and of an Executive Committee to hold office until the annual meeting next January.
- b) Future policy and programme of the Association.
- c) Means of accomplishing its objects in terms of finance, personnel and office accommodation.
- d) Amendments to the Articles of Association.
- e) Discussion on civic housing policy.

The meeting to be held on October 11th at 3:30 p.m. will be of considerable importance in shaping future housing plans for this city. It is hoped that members will make every effort to attend and that they will bring any friends who are interested in the problem and who wish to become members of the Association.

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WELFARE COUNCIL OF GREATER VANCOUVER

Housing Committee
Exhibit and Education Committee

A Sub-committee of the Housing Committee met on Monday, December 4th, at 10:30 a.m. in the Clinic Room at 1675 West 10th Avenue.

Attendance

Dr. Hugh Dobson, Convenor; Mr. A.J. Harrison, Mrs. G. Selman, and Miss F.E. Reynolds, Secretary.

It was moved and seconded that Dr. Dobson be appointed Chairman of this sub-committee. Carried.

Purpose of the Committee

The purpose of this committee is to plan and prepare an Exhibit and a program of education on the human and cultural aspects of town planning and housing.

Exhibit

It was agreed that the Exhibit should:

1. Present the conditions that prevail in Vancouver
2. Show what has been accomplished elsewhere
3. Show what might be accomplished in Vancouver

Materials for Exhibit

It was suggested that films, enlarged photographs, maps and models be used in the preparation of the Exhibit.

It was felt that films could be secured through the University, Junior Board of Trade, etc. Maps and models may be obtained from the Allied Artists Council. Photographs of the conditions in which people live might be taken by members of various photography clubs in the city. Pictures of what has been done in other cities should also be secured.

It was decided that the central office for the collection of materials should be at 1675 West 10th Ave. with Miss Reynolds in charge.

Possible Contributions

It was agreed that the following people in various fields should be asked to contribute to the study and Exhibit: Architects - Mr. Van Norman; Engineers - Dr. Cleveland; Landscape man - Professor Buck; Sociological - Professor Topping or Dr. Drummond; Law - Mr. G. G. Meeker.

Juvenile Delinquency in Relation to Housing

In regard to juvenile delinquency it was decided to try to determine the number of cases brought to the Juvenile Court where housing conditions entered into the picture.

X It was suggested that Mrs. Hartley be requested to provide facts and figures on poverty, crime, disease, and delinquency in relation to housing conditions.

Expenses

It was suggested a budget be made out and presented to the Executive. Mrs. Selman agreed to approach the Executive in regard to this matter at a later date.

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Name of Committee

It was decided that the name of the committee should be "Exhibit and Education Committee".

Education

The program of education can be carried on by the social agencies, churches, press, radio, Junior Board of Trade, Parent Teacher Federation, service clubs, women's organizations, political parties, and by a direct appeal to the public.

Date of Next Meeting

It was suggested that the next meeting be held on Tuesday, January 30th, 1945.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

The minutes of the last meeting held on August 13th, 1944 were read, and following changes made. Next the word "dissolved" appeared in reference to the Vancouver Housing Association, it was erased and the word "adjourned indefinitely" substituted.

L.R. HUGH DOBSON
Convenor

Vancouver Housing Association

The Chairman reported that he had attended an executive meeting at which it had been decided to approach the Vancouver Housing Association with a view to discussing some kind of merger with that group, to which F.E. REYNOLDS had already agreed to help those people interested in it.

At a meeting with some of the members of the Vancouver Housing Association, the topic of bringing about the merger was discussed.

It was felt that this Committee would apply to the Vancouver Housing Association for membership. They would pass on our request and if it was approved they would at a future meeting of the two groups at which we would be admitted into membership and there would be an election of officers for the remainder of the year.

In reporting further Mr. Morrison stated he had met with the Administration and Finance Committee of the Vancouver Welfare Council, and had brought up the proposition of paid assistance, unfortunately they had given him no final decision at this regard.

Mr. Morrison pointed out that the Executive Committee of the Welfare Council was meeting this afternoon, and it was his plan to leave this meeting as soon as possible in order that he might attend their meeting in an attempt to get their support to the proposition of paid help.

It was generally felt by the Committee that it is essential that there be a paid secretary on the job, and that it would be in the best interests to have this Committee merge with the Vancouver Housing Association, which would act as a member agency of Community Chest, obtaining a budget from same to cover the salary of the necessary work now being done under different titles.

It was moved and seconded "That we apply to the Vancouver Housing Association for amalgamation with same." CARRIED.

Some of the members were a little doubtful as to this Committee's ability to carry out its duties if joining with the Vancouver Housing Association. However, the Chairman pointed out that was exactly the Committee's aim. It was felt that there was greater strength in unity, and that other things could be brought in, with the Vancouver Housing Association, than other groups could be brought in.

In the same manner, while possibly all organizations and committees represented in the meeting with the Housing problem would become welded into one complete organization.

The Chairman and Secretary were appointed by the Committee to act as a committee consisting of two, in order that when the merger is completed, the work of officers for the balance of this year may be done.

WELFARE COUNCIL OF GREATER VANCOUVER

Citizens' Emergency Housing Committee

A meeting of the Citizens' Emergency Housing Committee was held on Monday, October 1st, 1945 at 3:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Citizens' Rehabilitation Council, 524 West Pender Street.

Attendance

Mr. A. Morrison, Chairman; Mr. P. R. U. Stratton, Vancouver Housing Association, Dr. H. Dobson, Social Agencies Housing Committee, Mr. J. A. Walker, Town Planning Commission, Prof. Frank Buck, Mrs. S. H. Simms (for Mrs. A. W. Cruise) Mr. C. R. M. Gale, Citizens' Rehabilitation Council, Mrs. D. Hartley, Mr. L. E. Rowebottom, Junior Board of Trade, and Mr. Elgin Ruddell, Secretary.

Minutes:

The minutes of the last meeting held on August 17th, 1945 were read, and the following change made. There the word "dissolved" appeared in reference to the Vancouver Housing Association, it was agreed it should have been "adjourned indefinitely". CARRIED.

Vancouver Housing Association

The Chairman reported that he had attended an executive meeting at which it had been decided to approach the Vancouver Housing Association with a view to establishing some kind of merger with that group, to use what they had already done and to keep those people interested in housing together as far as possible.

At a meeting with some of the members of the Vancouver Housing Association, ways and means of bringing about the merger had been suggested. The final decision had been that this Committee would apply to the Vancouver Housing Association for membership. They would pass on our request and if it was approved there would be a joint meeting of the two groups at which we would be admitted into membership and there would be an election of officers for the remainder of the year.

In reporting further Mr. Morrison stated he had met with the Administration and Finance Committee of the Vancouver Welfare Council, and had brought up the proposition of paid assistance, unfortunately they had given him no final decision in this regard.

Mr. Morrison pointed out that the Executive Committee of the Welfare Council was meeting this afternoon, and it was his idea to leave this meeting as soon as possible in order that he might attend their meeting in an attempt to get their support to the proposition of paid help.

It was generally felt by the Committee that it was essential that there be a paid Secretary on the job, and that it would be in the best interests to have this Committee merge with the Vancouver Housing Association, which would seek to become a member agency of Community Chest, obtaining a budget from same in order to carry on the necessary work now being done under difficulties.

It was moved and seconded "That we apply to the Vancouver Housing Association for amalgamation with same." CARRIED.

Some of the members were a little doubtful as to this Committee losing its identity if joining with the Vancouver Housing Association. However, the Chairman pointed out that was exactly the Committee's aim. It was felt that there was greater strength in unity, and that once this Committee had merged with the Vancouver Housing Association, then other groups could be brought in, in the same manner, until possibly all organizations and committees interested in and dealing with the housing problem would become welded into one complete organization.

The Chairman and Secretary were appointed by the Committee to act as a nominating committee of two, in order that when the merger is completed, a slate of officers for the balance of this year may be drawn up.

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Dr. Dobson observed that there was a need for permanency in housing organization with a well-equipped central office and a paid secretary. He felt that the heavy case loads of the various welfare agencies was caused in a large measure by the lag in the housing problem.

The Chairman then left to attend the executive committee meeting of the Welfare Council, and there being no further business the meeting adjourned.

A. M. MORRISON
Chairman

ELGIN RUDELL
Secretary