

Kitsilano Citizen's Committee for Mental Health.

A meeting of the Kitsilano Citizens' Committee for Mental Health was held at 7.30 pm, Monday July 16th 1973 in Kitsilano House.

Jeff Marvin was in the chair.

Minutes of the July 3rd meeting read and adopted.

Butch Leslie reported on the July 10th Co-ordinating Committee meeting at which he, Lois King and Nick Zepantis had submitted our budget proposals. He said that the general climate seemed unfriendly: for example, the delegation was not invited to sit down at the table with the members of the Committee. Dr John Cumming presented a number of detailed objections to the budget, including:

- 1) the equalisation of salaries would be an 'administrative nightmare' and would not be acceptable to the unions and professional associations involved. There was a need for some uniformity in personnel policy throughout the project.
- 2) the drop-in function was not required because it was already being provided by the M.P.A.
- 3) there was no specific provision for supervisory personnel.
- 4) the general expenses budget was far too generous.
- 5) the budget for drugs had been cut by half.
- 6) the crisis hostel, as proposed, could not be justified for Kitsilano alone, on the basis of his figures.

Dr Donald Coates had characterised the budget as 'antiprofessional and confrontational'. He suggested that it be withdrawn and studied further by representatives of the Co-ordinating Committee and the Kitsilano Citizens Committee rather than have it voted down altogether. The delegation had agreed to this after attempting, in the limited time available, to correct some of the Coordinating Committee's misconceptions.

Following Butch Leslie's report there was a lengthy discussion during which the following points were made: 1) The treatment received by the delegation was shabby, especially in view of the voluntary effort that had gone into the preparation of the budget submission. 2) It was necessary to spell out more clearly just what skills and attributes were needed for prospective workers. 3) Equalisation of salaries, whilst desirable, was less important than the need to make jobs available to suitable applicants, regardless of qualifications. 4) The capacity to provide supervision or to accept added responsibility did not necessarily entail a salary differential.

Some reference was made to the crisis hostel budget, but it was not discussed in detail.

Moved that the Steering and Personnel Committees contact Dr Kyle in order to initiate further discussion of the budget with members of the Coordinating Committee.
Seconded and passed.

Final plans for the July 24th public meeting were discussed. Arrangements were made for the distribution of the publicity committee's newspaper (which received high praise from all).

Moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded and passed.