

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER

**Meeting of the Advisory Planning Commission
Held at City Hall, 141 West 14th Street, North Vancouver, B.C.
in Conference Room A on Wednesday, January 10th, 2018**

MINUTES

Present: S. Huber
T. Valente
R. Vesely
A. Cameron
Councillor Bell
D. Farley
B. Hundal
B. Watt
D. Marshall

Staff: R. Fish, Committee Clerk
H. Evans, Community Planner

Absent: Councillor Back
M. Higgins
A. Boston
S. Smith, Planner 2

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:05PM

1. Minutes of the Meeting of the Advisory Planning Commission held October 11th, 2017

It was regularly moved and seconded

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Advisory Planning Commission held October 11th, 2017 be adopted.

Carried Unanimously

2. Staff Update

None.

3. Child Care Strategy Needs Assessment

H. Evans gave an overview of her role in the City and a presentation on the Child Care Strategy Needs Assessment. The main points included:

- The Child Care Plan was adopted in 2009.
- The City needs to work with its other partners on child care.
- We are relying on context information from our partners.
- DNV did a child care needs assessment in 2016.
- Two strategy components include
 - Needs Assessment
 - Targets and Strategy
- There are 1,740 infants and toddlers in our community
 - 2,448 ages 1-5
 - 3,553 ages 5-12
 - 6,250 children in total
- In terms of childcare access capacity, the percentage of kids that can access a childcare spot, the access rate is 23%.
- For school age kids, only 8% have access to childcare.
- Infants and toddlers are at 20%.
- Not every family is going to look for childcare.
- CNV access rate of 23% is quite favourable in the region.
- A survey of childcare provider's found that the biggest issue is with staffing.
- The pay is not very high and it is difficult to retain staff.
- A survey of 400 parents on childcare found that half said the childcare fees they pay are not sustainable.
 - 95% said they want childcare so they can go to work
 - 45% said they want it for their child's own development
 - Many said they wanted childcare close to home and parks and recreation
- Next steps are to conduct consultant run focus groups, with parents, child care providers, people who work with children and children with developmental needs.
- We will pose questions on what the City's next moves should be.
- The consultant is looking at childhood need and vulnerability in terms of income level and ability to access services, the need per neighbourhood and the childcare provided.

Questions and comments from the Commission included but were not limited to:

- Are there any projections on how to figure out funding and space needs? **A:** They won't be rolling it out all at once, it's too expensive and too much of a change. The emphasis is on infant toddler child care spaces. The Provincial government will want to reduce the cost for families needing this type of care.
- What is the age range? **A:** Infant-toddler is under 30 months.
- How can we as a committee support the targets? **A:** When we get to the second stage and are looking at targets and strategies, it would be good to get you involved and familiar with them.
- If the childcare facilities are not going to be government facilities, would be private? **A:** They are not cutting out private operators but are heading towards a publicly

- funded institutions and/or non-profit. In the beginning it is intended to be both private and public.
- Would it be like the private schools versus public schools models? **A:** Not sure, I don't think it will be free for everyone. It will be free for lower income homes, people who can pay will pay some. The private operators will be able to opt into the system, or opt out and create a private system.
 - The percentages are not indicating a deficiency; the percentage is against the potential but not an identified need? **A:** Yes.
 - Do we know what the demand is? **A:** The CoV has calculated what the demand is based on unit types, who will live in them, labour force participation rates, multicultural breakdowns etc.
 - Is childcare as high as grade 6/7? **A:** There is a need for before and after school care programs to have supervised play until parents are done work.
 - What is the legal age you can stay home on your own? **A:** 10 years in BC (BC Supreme Court)
 - There was an after school study that looked at which programs are available for kids to go from school to an after school program. A lot of kids are hanging out at the library, community centres – but this is less formalized.
 - It would be useful to have the map and plot the childcare locations, with the number of spaces in the residential and commercial childcare facilities.
 - Is there a big decline in children on North Shore? **A:** No, it's growing.
 - There is an issue that comes up regularly at council when someone acquires a house and wants to run a business out of it. If they run a daycare, they can have 8 children as long as it meets basic requirements. With additional requirements and application process, can get up to 16 children. There must be a resident living in the home.
 - When you have a child care in a residential neighbourhood, the neighbours get up in arms since it's like a school in their area. There should be a radius of how many of these can be placed within a block. There's the issue with drop off safety and noise control as well.
 - It should be density based not distance based.
 - Would that be part of what you're doing? **A:** Last year council adopted new regulations to deal with accessory residential child care, and it's not being dealt with in detail. There are regulations in place for residential child care but not a requirement around the radius between childcares. There is a requirement to have a parking and transportation plan.
 - There is great opportunity within Harry Jerome to develop provisions for daycare along with senior living and low income housing to make it a complete community.

4. North Shore Dementia Friendly Action Plan

H. Evans gave a presentation on the North Shore Dementia Friendly Action Plan. The main points included:

- There are many different forms of dementia, it is a progressive disease.
- The Alzheimer's Society has been working with communities in BC.
- We are an aging community on the North Shore and dementia is becoming more prevalent.
- Treatment is directed at the symptoms and well-being of the individual.

- The Alzheimer's Society has dementia friendly community staff that we have been working with. They worked with New Westminster and Burnaby to create dementia friendly communities action plans.
- The third one that they are working on within the province is here on the North Shore with ourselves and the District of North Vancouver and the District of West Vancouver.
- Council provided direction to staff to work on a tri-municipal dementia North Shore Action Plan. Starting in 2016 they provided that direction. At that time there was no funding so surveys and working groups were conducted.
- Applied for funding through the Union of BC Municipalities through their Age Friendly and Communities Plan and received funding in 2017 to create this action plan.
- With the UBCM funding we received, we were able to hire Mariam Larson, a consulting gerontologist who worked with New Westminster and Burnaby and helping them create a plan.
- We completed a survey on the perceptions of dementia and how people with dementia are viewed in the community.
- Two questions included:
 - Do you think people on the North Shore are knowledgeable about dementia?
 - 61% said somewhat or no
 - Do you think people with dementia are viewed positively on the North Shore?
 - 80% said no
- Most that filled out the survey were caregivers and those that are touched by dementia in their family.
- We started a community steering group which was interesting for the process. People from parks, emergency services, tax counter, many people who deal in community and municipal services were involved to find out what the interactions were and the needs and barriers of residents with dementia.
- It was also featured at the North Shore Senior's Expo with keynote speakers and profiling of the issue with discussions on the plan.
- This all happened through 2017.
- The process with research and experience with communities brought 5 main areas of action that the three municipalities can undertake over the next few years:
 - Community education and advocacy
 - Training
 - Inclusive and supportive programs
 - Built environment
 - Supporting caregivers
- The plan is going to Council consideration for endorsement on Monday, January 15th and will be going to district soon as well.
- We applied to UBCM and were funded again.
- Our priorities are to work on dementia education campaigns across the North Shore and training with staff affiliated agencies.

Questions and comments from the Commission included but were not limited to:

- When we are reviewing developments, we can consider these issues and variables.
- Does this include things like signage? **A:** Yes benches, signage, and the design of public space and inside facilities as well.
- Things like this should be implemented into a developer's sustainability statement when they bring forward a proposal.
- It's incumbent on the City to create guidelines that are dementia friendly. It's early as well; a lot of architects are not well versed and educated on what is considered dementia friendly.
- When council endorses something in the plan, it should then be brought to this committee. It should also be brought to the design panel. They are the ones that look at the design, built form and massing and broader development issues.
- You might also consider the running of commercials or ads that provide information and alert people to dementia issues. Emphasizing the difference between dementia and getting old is also important to educate people on. Awareness is critical.

5. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:17PM.

The next regular meeting of the Advisory Planning Commission will be held on Wednesday, February 14th, 2018.

Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ruyal" followed by a stylized surname, written over a horizontal line.