

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER  
Regular meeting of the Social Planning Advisory Committee  
Held in City Hall, Conference Room 'A'  
On Wednesday, May 23, 2018 at 6:00pm

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**MINUTES**

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**PRESENT:**

Steve Tornes, Chair  
Naz Kohan, Vice Chair  
Cassandra Buckley  
Arash Ehteshami  
Jolene Kennett  
Etienne Normandin (*arrived 6:10 pm*)  
Tina Parbhakar  
Heather Urquhart

Holly Back, Councillor

**ABSENT:**

Jasreen Janjua

**STAFF:**

Heather Evans, Community Planner  
Edytha Barker, Committee Clerk

9 members – quorum = 5

1 Councillor (non-voting) 2 staff (non-voting)

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**1. ACKNOWLEDGE OF UNCEDED TERRITORY**

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting of April 25, 2018 were adopted as circulated.

**4. UPDATES**

a. Councillor

- Cannabis has been a hot topic at Council lately; how we going to govern it, etc. Council has to wait and see what the Province is going to do in this regard and then will act accordingly.
- The Harry Jerome redevelopment has also been big on the agendas.
- Many developments want to get through Council before summer break and new Council in the fall.
- Also ramping up for the election, there could potentially be four empty Council seats.

b. Staff

- Studio in the City, the City's youth employment program, is now accepting applications. The deadline to apply is June 15. The program starts July 3<sup>rd</sup>

and the students will be working on and completing a large public art project on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.

- The parklet will be installed at Queensbury and 7<sup>th</sup> in Queensbury Village in June. This site was chosen in consultation with the Queensbury businesses and the community. The location chosen will not encroach on the existing sidewalk or take up any parking spaces.
- The report including the recommendations for round one of Community Grants will be going to Council Monday, May 28. The City's Finance department requested a change to the grant amounts going to one of the recipients, which resulted in a change to the total amount granted. The total recommended grant amount is now \$140,355.
- A couple of community associations have spoken to Council regarding their needs for space. One was the North Shore Multicultural Society who presented to Council May 7 and spoke about how they will need new office space in the near future.
- The City received an invitation to be part of an inter-governmental settlement committee. This committee is run by the Federal government with assistance from Provincial governments. The idea is to talk about issues around immigration and settlement with a view to the fact that people don't just immigrate to Canada but rather to a community. At future meetings, ministries that work separately will be asked to come and have round table discussions.

## 5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

### a. VCH My Health My Community Report

Heather Evans provided a verbal presentation on the Vancouver Coast Health report "My Health My Community". This report was circulated to SPAC members in the agenda package.

SPAC members discussed the report. Some key observations were:

- It was noted that this type of data can raise more and different questions than the ones answered in the report.
- A strong sense of community seems to be related to volunteer frequency, but which comes first? Maybe people volunteer because they feel connected to their community already.
- Does VCH have any statistics regarding a sense of belonging coming from the neighbourhood built environment?
- Interesting that religion and church is not mentioned in this report. Generally, that is a way people build community or feel connected to their communities.
- The report mentions that "As people age a greater proportion have a strong sense of community belonging..." but we hear a lot about social isolation in seniors.
- This report could be used to discuss neighbourhood stability in light of all the new development happening in the City. What can the City do to incorporate new residents into the community as much as possible?
- The City can work with developers on community amenity space and other things that provide a safe sense of community using the Adaptable Development Guidelines.

- The City of Vancouver is examining how residents living in higher density buildings can better connect with each other through design improvements and social programs in their buildings. The program is called “Hey Neighbour!”

H. Evans will bring new information and statistics back to SPAC as they come up.

b. Child Care Strategy

Heather Evans gave a verbal report to bring SPAC up to date on the progress of this strategy. Working with SPARC (The Social Planning and Research Council of BC), the City has held four different meetings; two with agencies that deliver and enable child care in the community, one with child care providers and one with the general community (a ‘community conversation’). The report has been finalized and will be posted on the CNV website.

The key themes, issues and opportunities that were heard and identified are:

- Affordability of Child Care
- Spaces and Location
- Access to Information
- Policy and Advocacy
- Accessibility

Questions from SPAC:

- Has the school board ever considered integrating childcare into elementary schools as part of how schools operate?
  - Some schools DO have before and after school care currently. However, it is an interesting issue. When schools dedicate space in their facilities for childcare, it can affect their funding and how much space is credited to them for “learning”. There is a willingness to put childcare on school grounds however and the Ministry of Education is working towards having childcare space included in all new schools that are built.
- Do we have any childcare facilities in large developments or new ones being built?
  - Yes, Centreview has a daycare; the HJRC neighbourhood lands development will have one.
  - There is a development application in for a new build on the Gardenworks site, which includes childcare space as a community amenity.
- Regarding access to information and accessibility, perhaps the market will see that and seize the opportunity, particularly the demand for childcare for people working non-traditional shifts.
- Do we have daycares in non-profits?
  - Yes, we do. It is pretty close to 50/50 ratio for for-profit and non-profit. At the CNV, our Request for Proposals are open to both profit and non-profit; the City of Vancouver only works with non-profits for childcare.

7:13 pm – H. Back left the meeting.



7:15 pm – 5 minute break.

c. Community Well-Being Strategy

Heather Evans provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Community Well-Being Strategy.

Key Points:

- “What About YOU ME US? Let’s Create a Caring North Van!” is the project identifier being used by City Spaces as they collection research for this project.
- Statistics were gathered by age (children, youth and seniors).
- The source used was Statistics Canada as well as the My Health My Community report, Vancouver Foundation’s Vital Signs, as well as a few other reports and surveys.
- The statistics used are for DNV and CNV combined but the actual report will split out the City and the District.
- Four Focus Groups were held in May. In June, there will be six “pop up” engagement sessions held.
- There will also be an opportunity for the public to provide their own input at “Listening Posts” which will be placed at schools, rec centres and libraries.
- Also being developed is a “Kitchen Table Kit” which is two questions that any group can get together and provide answers to, then send back to the consultant.

d. June Meeting – Agenda Planning

For the June SPAC meeting, H. Evans will bring an update on both strategies, but is also wondering if SPAC is interested in having a speaker? It was unanimously agreed that SPAC members would like to have a speaker from an agency at the June meeting and some ideas were shared. Some of those mentioned were the Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention Centre, the Lower Lonsdale Business Improvement Association, agencies that provide legal aid, North Shore Neighbourhood House and the District’s Community Services Advisory Committee (CSAC).

H. Evans will contact the agencies in the order prioritized by SPAC and will make arrangements.

## 6. **ROUND TABLE**

Arash Ehteshami brought forward a point for discussion. He is concerned that SPAC meetings are not being run as efficiently as they could be. He would like to see more voting rather than unstructured discussions around the table and sought that SPAC increase its use of the Roberts Rules of Order, ie. speaking through the Chair. He would like to see the SPAC meetings become more structured and follow procedures.

Steve Tornes replied that he can certainly focus on making the meetings more structured and would be happy to meet privately if there are further concerns. He stressed that his main objective has always been to have fair and open discussions and for everyone to have a voice. Steve added that his concern about voting is that sometimes people can

take things personally if there is not enough discussion around an issue. He will continue to try to maintain a balance between discussion and keeping the meetings running on time.

Some SPAC members agreed that there is value in a more ordered meeting structure and perhaps we could use the tools of the committee more effectively by bringing more resolutions forward to Council.

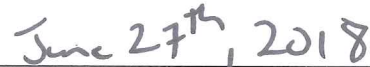
**7. ADJOURNMENT – 8:13 pm**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous agreement.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING – June 27, 2018**



Chair



Date