

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, September 27, 2017 at 6:00pm

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Steve Tornes, Chair
Arash Ehteshami, Vice Chair
Cassandra Buckley
Naz Kohan
Etienne Normandin
Tina Parbhakar
Heather Urquhart

ABSENT:

Jasreen Janjua
Mary Tasi
Holly Back, Councillor

STAFF:

Heather Evans, Community Planner
Edytha Barker, Committee Clerk

9 members – quorum = 5

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

1. WELCOME NEW MEMBER

New member Naz Kohan was welcomed and members introduced themselves.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved with the addition of a Round Table after Discussion Items, and the addition of Dementia Friendly Update after the Social Plan Update.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of June 28, 2017 were adopted as circulated.

4. UPDATES

a. Councillor

Councillor Back is attending UBCM this week.

b. Staff

- Harry Jerome – This summer Council provided direction to enable planning for a new HJCC building on the north side of 23rd Street. South of 23rd Street is to be rezoned and developed, with proceeds to go to funding HJCC along with Community Amenity Contributions. A Request for Proposal went out to development companies and submissions have been received. The City is currently evaluating them.

- Attended a North Shore Immigrant Inclusion Partnership forum at the Kay Meek Centre. It was a mix of high level discussion on racism and everyday events that occur. One of the speakers included a message that education is not always the solution against racism. Next steps will be coming soon.
- To clarify information discussed at the last SPAC meeting, the intended Ferris Wheel will be a temporary installation; it will only be in place for a weekend. This has now become an initiative led by the Lower Lonsdale Business Improvement Association.
- Have you seen the new chairs and astro turf outside the library? This is part of the City's "Embrace the Space" initiative. J. Buitenhuis would like to come to SPAC in the next couple of months to give a presentation on this.
- Kids in the Hall will be happening at City Hall on Saturday, November 18. This will be the third year the City is putting on this family friendly event. This year's theme is "Welcome to the City" and we will be working with the North Shore Multicultural Society to attract newcomers to the event.
- Over 50,000 people attended the Fun City Festival in August.
- Have you seen the "Alley in the City" painted by the Studio in the City students this summer? It is located on West 1st between The Lift Bakery and Buddha-Ful. It has already become a popular place to take selfies and is often tagged on Instagram.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. 2017 Round Two Community Grant Applications

The matrix was distributed in SPAC's agenda package. H. Evans distributed her memo which outlines funding history of each organization that has applied. Groups were identified and applications handed out. Each group received 6 applications. The groups got together and discussed their review process.

A sheet was sent around for members to identify any applications that they are interested in reviewing that are not in their allocated group. Members were asked to identify a maximum of 2 per person. E. Barker will send these extra applications to members as PDFs.

A member asked about funding limits; is the \$15,000 limit per round or per organization. H. Evans advised that the Community Grant Guidelines state "The maximum grant available from the City of North Vancouver is \$15,000", and that this maximum is per organization per round.

A question was raised regarding funding history of organizations. A member proposed that some sort of database be kept whereby current members could understand the reasoning behind previous funding decisions. This will be something that will be available when we have an online application system but until then it is felt best that each application be reviewed on its own merit.

H. Evans asked committee members to have any questions to staff by October 11 so that answers can be brought forward at the October SPAC meeting.

b. Child Care Strategy

H. Evans gave an update on the Child Care Strategy.

- The current Child Care Policy and Plan was adopted in 2009.
- The City put out a Request for Proposal recently and has chosen the Social Planning and Research Council (SPARC BC) to assist with the process for developing a new Child Care Strategy.
- A Research Assistant was hired for 4 weeks this past summer to help us gather data and research best practices about what is happening with Child Care elsewhere.
- There are two parts to re-writing the Child Care Strategy: needs analysis and implementation objectives and strategies.
- A survey will be going out to child care providers as well as parents of young children.
- A draft child care needs analysis report will be ready in late 2017.
- In early 2018, workshops will be held to set objectives for child care and develop implementable strategies.
- The City's mandate is to coordinate the implement of the Child Care Plan, integrate child care into the City's ongoing planning and development functions, support existing child care service and encourage new initiatives and advocate for provincial and federal action on child care.
- The Provincial government has committed to implementing Universal Child Care. They hope to begin to release a plan and roll out a pilot project by January 2018.
- Will bring back more information as the project progresses and will be asking for SPAC's input.

Questions/Comments from SPAC:

- Do we have disaggregated data?
 - Yes, we do. We may never have a space for every child. We know we have a shortage of after school care; some schools have space for this, some don't.
- Is Universal Child Care going to be by catchment area? Has that been discussed?
 - We don't know yet. That will likely be in the hands of municipalities.
- Has the City looked at GPS of where current spaces are and take census data to combine higher populations that don't have access to care?
 - The City has all of the licensed child care spaces in the City mapped and how many spaces there are. SPARC are going to look at that and the census data and have a strong lens for what makes kids vulnerable.
- Culturally, the City's large immigrant population would benefit from group child care.

c. Social Plan Update

H. Evans presented an update on the Social Plan which will now be called a "Community Well Being Strategy".

- The City's current Social plan was adopted in 1998. Times have changed and we need an update. Council has allocated resources in the Planning department's 2017/2018 budget to look at updating this plan.
- There is a large scope of issues in a Community Well Being Strategy. However, it will not include housing as the City has a newly adopted Housing Action Plan.
- There will be 3 phases: Research and Engagement, Policy Development and Review and Approvals.
- The research and engagement will involve working with the District of North Vancouver (they are also developing a new Social Plan), community non-profits and service agencies, Vancouver Coastal Health, libraries and the City's residents and neighbours.
- We will be developing a Memorandum of Understanding with the District of North Vancouver in terms of the research and engagement in Phase 1.

Questions/Comments from SPAC:

- Community Well Being is a good title. Where do you get the research from?
 - We try to stay on top of what's going on in community. When we hire a consultant, we expect them to be on top of that. We will also talking to key people and agencies to get input.
- How different with this plan be from the one we have now? The current one is very general.
 - The idea behind making it a strategy is to make it more tangible. We will have actual actions that community agencies can do, that we can do. Point taken that there should be concrete action items for the CNV. We also hope to have some funds in the budget for implementation projects.
- Once this has new strategy has been implemented when would we look at a new social plan again? Things change, goals may not be relevant.
 - Legislatively, our Official Community Plan has to be reviewed every 5 years. The Social plan is up to each municipality individually.
- It's nice that the DNV and the CNV are teaming up.
- Are there any major differences in terms of the DNV and CNV for social issues?
 - Yes, quite a bit; the DNV is more suburban.

d. **Dementia Friendly North Shore Action Plan**

H. Evans presented an update on the Dementia Friendly Action Plan for the North Shore.

- We conducted focus groups with municipal employees, people living with dementia and their caregivers, and for-profit caregivers to share their experiences and identify needs that could be addressed by City programs and services.
- Five key priorities came out of these focus groups:
 - A. Increase community education about dementia, resources and services
 - B. Strengthen training for staff and caregivers
 - C. Provide inclusive and supportive community programs and services

- D. Improve built environment safety, accessibility and way finding (particularly to reduce risks related to wandering behaviour)
- E. Address caregiver needs.
- A Dementia Friendly Forum was held at the City Library on September 8. In attendance were a mix of people from agencies as well as community members.
- The gerontologist consultant is now drafting the plan with the cooperation of the three North Shore municipalities. It will then come back to each municipality's Council for approval.
- At the end of November, staff will bring back the draft action plan for SPAC's input and support.

5. ROUND TABLE

S. Tornes asked committee members to bring forward any ideas for making the Community Grant review process smoother.

A. Ehteshami would like to see some sort of institutional memory or record per organization as to the reasoning behind the funding decisions. H. Urquhart pointed out that this can be created with an online system but would be difficult until then.

S. Tornes reminded members of the rationale behind the \$15,000 grant limit. This came about when Community Grants were combined with the Lower Lonsdale Legacy Fund. The LLLF had a funding limit per application of \$15,000 and this was something that SPAC members wished to continue.

6. ADJOURNMENT – 7:55 pm

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – October 25, 2017



Chair



Date