

**PEACE AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

SEPTEMBER 25, 2006

A meeting of the Peace and Justice Committee was held on Monday, September 25, 2006, at 4:30 p.m., in the Strathcona Meeting Room, Sub-Ground, Vancouver City Hall.

PRESENT: Gail Davidson, Co-Chair  
Thomas Anthony  
David Askew  
Amanda Camley  
Sam Phillipoff  
Lizz Lindsay  
John Price  
Peter Prontzos  
Al Wong

ABSENT: Ivan Bulic  
Councillor David Cadman, Vice-Chair  
Trustee Colin Hansen, Vancouver School Board (Civic Business)  
Christy Mori  
Cara Ng  
Noha Sedky, Co-Chair

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Denise Salmon, Meeting Coordinator

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of July 24, 2006, were approved as circulated.

**1. Sub-Committee Updates/Reports**

**a. Citizens' Peace Award Sub-Committee**

The Meeting Co-ordinator advised the presentation of the 2006 Vancouver Citizens' Peace Award to Dr. Jennifer Simons will take place on Tuesday, November 14th, at 3:45 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

Gail Davidson and Sam Phillipoff agreed to be the media contacts for this event.

**b. Hiroshima Day Sub-Committee**

**i) Kinuko Laskey Bronze Bust**

Committee members noted the memorial bronze bust of the late Kinuko Laskey, survivor of the atomic bomb blast in Hiroshima, has yet to be installed, the need for Park Board involvement for installation at Seaforth Peace Park, and the importance of bringing this matter to conclusion as soon as possible.

**c. Justice Sub-Committee**

No report at this time.

**d. Peace and Justice WebSite Sub-Committee**

No report at this time.

**e. Public Participation Sub-Committee**

Sam Phillipoff advised:

- the IPEC Peace Proposal asking school children to surrender toys of violence for creation of an art piece will continue in the schools, and the current display at the Museum of Anthropology will continue until the end of December;
- a peace education consortium is scheduled for late October to focus on support and advocacy for peace education in British Columbia's school curriculum, which also ties in with the declared 2001-2010 international decade for a culture of peace and non-violence for the children of the World as declared by the United Nations; and
- on September 21 a successful event was held at the Museum of Anthropology in recognition of the International Day of Peace, as established by a United Nations resolution.

**f. Arms Race Sub-Committee**

Peter Prontzos noted his intent, as a private citizen, to prepare a short article for media distribution regarding global military spending as compared to the social benefits that could be realized with an equal amount of money spent. The argument that war provides jobs was countered with note of the number of jobs that could be provided by an increased social infrastructure and programs, with figures quoted from a study done by National Priorities Project Inc., specifically for the city of Chicago.

Committee members also noted it the duty of Council to look after the welfare of the citizens of Vancouver, and the importance of avoiding nuclear war, as this cannot be defended against.

**g. Code of Conduct Sub-Committee**

The Committee had before it for comment and consideration a "Summary of Code of Conduct" document prepared by the Sub-Committee (circulated at the meeting and on file) in response to Council-approved motions arising from the Report of the Roles, Relationships and Responsibilities Review Committee.

Gail Davidson, Co-Chair, reviewed the document, noted problem areas, and suggested the Committee may wish to postpone further discussion on this matter until the future of the Peace and Justice Committee is known (see Item 2. "Planning for the Committee's Future").

## 2. New Business

### a. Planning for the Committee's Future

The Chair noted a meeting with Councillor Ladner will take place on September 27th to discuss the Committee's future, as a result of Council-approved motions arising from the Report of the Roles, Relationships and Responsibilities Review Committee. Ms. Davidson advised it would be useful to provide Council Ladner with a summary of the Committee's past accomplishments, including resolutions forwarded to, and passed by Council, and also those things which the Committee can offer assistance with in the future, including civic peace issues that need planning with respect to the Olympics, the Vancouver Appeal for Peace and the International Association of Peace Messenger Cities initiative.

Members also agreed on the need to return to, and examine, the Committee's approved terms of reference to determine if these need to be reworked or expanded. The Committee also discussed the rationale of "why should there be a Peace and Justice Committee" in Vancouver to advise Council, and referenced the resources this Committee brings to the City, in terms of the skills of its members.

David Askew and Tom Anthony volunteered to prepare the draft response document, expand on material already prepared by the Chair, and incorporate the various comments/suggestions offered by members at this meeting.

### b. War in Afghanistan

MOVED by John Price

THAT the Peace and Justice Committee endorse the October 28th Day of Action Against the War in Afghanistan; and

FURTHER THAT the Committee encourage other organizations and other city municipal governments to do the same.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### c. Outstanding Matters

The Chair reviewed with the Committee outstanding items of business that require follow-up from the July meeting. David Askew volunteered to prepare the draft report to Council incorporating resolutions moved by the Committee at that meeting.

## 3. Enquiries and Other Matters

### a. Peace Messenger Cities - New Members

It was noted that Coquitlam, Delta and Whistler had now joined the Peace Messenger Cities.

The Committee adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

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