

VANCOUVER CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

Minutes

March 11, 2009

A regular meeting of the Vancouver City Planning Commission was held on Wednesday, March 11, 2009, at 12:15 p.m. in the Strathcona Meeting Room, Basement Concourse, City Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Eileen Keenan, Interim Chair
Celena Benndorf*
Elizabeth Bowker
Peter Greenwell*
David Godin
Joaquin Karakas
Ray Lam
Ying Li
Summer McFadyen
Arno Matis
Andrew Yan
Jiang Zhu

ABSENT: Jennifer Parsons (Leave of Absence)

ALSO PRESENT: Elizabeth Ballantyne, VCPC Manager
Trustee Mike Lombardi, Vancouver School Board

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Denise Salmon, Meeting Coordinator

*Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

1. ADMINISTRATION

a) Election of Interim Chair

The Commission agreed to have Eileen Keenan serve as Interim Chair.

b) Attendance

The Commission approved a Leave of Absence request for Jenn Parsons and welcomed Joaquin Karakas as its appointed member.

c) Minutes for Approval

The minutes of the meeting of February 25, 2009, were adopted as circulated.

d) Notice of VCPC Meetings

Regular Meetings:
March 25, April 8

e) **Manager's Report**

Elizabeth Ballantyne, VCPC Manager, provided an update on her work to date (*report dated March 10, 2009, circulated and on file*).

RESOLVED,

THAT Elizabeth Ballantyne, VCPC Manager, continue as a signing officer for the Commission's VanCity account for the term of this Commission.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(Commissioners Benndorf and Greenwell absent for the vote)

2. **BUSINESS MEETING**

a) **Guest Speaker: Ralph Segal, MAIBC, Senior Architect/Development Planner
CoV Urban Design and Development Planning (UDDP) Centre**

The Chair welcomed Ralph Segal, Senior Architect/Development Planner.

Mr. Segal provided an overview and responded to questions on the workings of the Urban Design and Development Planning Centre and the composition and role of the Urban Design Panel. Circulated for the Commission's information were three documents (*on file*):

- Urban Design Panel By-law (consolidated to December 12, 2006);
- booklet entitled "Vancouver's New Neighbourhoods, Achievements in Planning and Urban Design"; and
- booklet entitled "Vancouver's Urban Design, A Decade of Achievements".

Mr. Segal invited Commission participation in the upcoming Formshift competition (<http://www.formshiftvancouver.com>) (Architectural Institute of British Columbia and the City of Vancouver jointly-sponsored open ideas competition). The Commission thanked him for his presentation.

b) **Election of Chair and Vice-Chair**

RESOLVED,

THAT the Vancouver City Planning Commission postpone the election of its Chair and Vice-Chair until after the Commission's first planning session to give Commissioners time to get to know each other.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c) **Selection of Second Commission Appointee to VCPC**

Commissioners discussed the need to select their second appointee per the VCPC By-law. The VCPC Manager advised a number of suggestions had been received to date, and suggested a

task group be struck to bring forward its recommendations to the Commission. Ms. Ballantyne suggested further nominations be sent to her for circulation to task group members. Commissioners Greenwell, Lam, Li, Yan and Zhu volunteered to serve on the task group.

RESOLVED,

THAT the Vancouver City Planning Commission appoint a small Commission Appointee Task Group to review candidates proposed for the second Committee Appointee position, and provide a recommendation at the next VCPC meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**d) YouMap Vancouver - VCPC 2008 project
Report on March 4th meeting with Director of Planning**

Commissioner Godin provided an overview of the follow-up meeting with Brent Toderian, Director of Planning re the YouMap Project and the future role of the Commission. The VCPC Manager advised Mr. Toderian would be the guest speaker at the Commission's next meeting, and suggested this might be an opportune time for further related discussions.

**e) VCPC Graphic Identity
Report from Graphic Identity Committee**

The Graphic Identity Task Group circulated suggested guidelines for a new brand (on file). Discussion followed on the need to include sustainability as a key descriptor, the expense of hiring a graphic designer, as opposed to City assistance, and the importance of obtaining a written proposal from the designer outlining her scope of work. The VCPC Manager advised of her discussions with the City's Communications staff and note was made of the Commission's previous motion to allocate up to \$500 for this project.

RESOLVED,

THAT the Commission approve the graphic identity guidelines as proposed by the Graphic Identity Task Group, as circulated this day, with the addition of the word 'sustainability' as a key descriptor; and

FURTHER THAT a formal proposal be submitted by the designer, Gianne Martin, Gianne Martin Designs.

CARRIED
(Commissioner Benndorf opposed)

**f) Urban Design Panel
Report on February 11th Meeting**

Commissioner Godin provided highlights of the Urban Design Panel's discussion on the McRae townhouse project in Shaughnessy, and noted with the Panel's support, this project will now move forward to the Development Permit Board for approval.

g) Work Planning for 2009 - Process

Commission members expressed concern with the lack of time remaining to adequately discuss the work planning process, and requested this matter be placed on the March 25th agenda immediately following the guest speaker.

To move this matter forward the Commission agreed to strike a task group, and those not present be invited to participate. Commissioners Benndorf, Lam, Godin, Matis, Li and Parsons volunteered to serve on the task group.

RESOLVED,

THAT the Commission appoint a Work Planning Session Task Group to develop a plan for a special session of the Commission, to be presented at the Commission's next meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Due to time constraints no action was taken on the following motion postponed from the February 11th meeting:

RESOLVED,

THAT discussion on work planning for 2009, and the related motion, as set out below, be postponed to the February 25th meeting of the Commission:

THAT the Commission assign members to look at the following material submitted by outgoing Commission members:

- *Market Rental Housing in Vancouver: A Strategy to Increase the Supply*
- *The Future of the Commission: Alternative Roles*
- *Change Charter: How Vancouver Will Be "Built for Change," Becoming a Resilient City through Adaptability*

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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h) Other Business

None.

The Commission adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

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