



PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

JUNE 25, 2015

A meeting of the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, June 25, 2015, at 5:05 pm, in Town Hall Meeting Room, Main Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

PRESENT: Tom Patch, Co-Chair
Tasia Alexis
Peter Brown
Jacques Courteau
Paul Gauthier
Brian Gibney
Darcie Kerr
Laura Mackenrot
Leonor Vlug
Sandy Yee

ABSENT: Cathy Browne, Co-Chair (Leave of Absence)
Mary-Jo Fetterly
Jocelyn Maffin
Greg Pyc
Daniel Ward

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Melissa De Genova, City of Vancouver
Commissioner Michael Wiebe, Park Board
Stephanie Kripps, Vancouver Public Library
Jill Weiss, Past Chair

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Tina Hildebrandt, Meeting Coordinator

Introductions

The meeting began with roundtable introductions.

ADMINISTRATION

Adoption of Agenda

MOVED by Tom Patch

SECONDED by Laura Mackenrot

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee vary the order of the agenda to consider 4 a) as the first item of business.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Note: for ease of reference, the minutes are recorded in agenda order.

Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Laura Mackenrot

SECONDED by Peter Brown

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee approve the minutes from the meeting held April 23, 2015, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Tasia Alexis

SECONDED by Laura Mackenrot

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee approve leaves of absence for Cathy Browne and Mary-Jo Fetterly for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUSINESS:

1. City of Vancouver Requests for Input

a) Burrard Corridor

Paul Storer, Manager, Transportation 2040 Plan Team, provided a summary of the Burrard Bridge upgrades and sought the Committee's input on accessibility issues for inclusion in a report to Council in July.

In discussion, primary concerns raised included pedestrian safety, wayfinding and rest stops.

MOVED by Laura Mackenrot
SECONDED by Sandy Yee

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee, at its meeting on June 25, 2015, expressed concerns to staff about safety and wayfinding on the Burrard Bridge for persons who are blind or partially sighted and wishes to see the accessible pedestrian signals¹ and tactile markers used;

FURTHER THAT the Committee requests there be places for people to rest along the Burrard Bridge.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b) Plaza - Bute and Davie

John Grottenberg, Planner, Vancouver - Downtown, and Hayley Rowlands, Planning Analyst, Strategic Transportation Planning Branch, provided an overview on the Davie Village Public Space Improvements Project, and responded to questions.

¹ As amended at the meeting held September 17, 2015, to change "accessible and audible signals" to "accessible pedestrian signals".

Staff will report back once more details emerge on a conceptual design.

c) Outdoor Lighting

The Chair reviewed a request from Kathryn Lennon, a Greenest City Scholar working in the City's Streets & Electrical Design Department for the summer, for input on an outdoor lighting strategy (*on file*).

MOVED by Laura Mackenrot
SECONDED by Jacques Courteau

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee refer Kathryn Lennon's request for input on an Outdoor Lighting Strategy to the Accessible City Sub-committee meeting on July 8, 2015.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

d) Accessibility in all One and Two Family Homes, Laneway Homes, Secondary Suites, Town Homes and Stacked Town Homes

Pat Ryan, Chief Building Official, and Anita Molaro, Assistant Director - Urban Design, introduced themselves and sought the Committee's input on a Council motion passed September 25, 2013, directing staff to report back on the feasibility of mandating an accessible path of travel from the street to at least one exterior entrance of all new one- and two-family houses, laneway houses, secondary suites, town houses and stacked town house type units.

The Chair thanked staff and the Committee agreed to refer discussion to the Housing Sub-committee.

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The Committee recessed at 6:52 and reconvened at 6:59 pm.

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2. Updates

a) Orpheum Visit

Paul Fazekas, Project Manager, Facilities Planning, provided an update on accessibility issues at the Orpheum Theatre in response to Committee input, as follows:

- a temporary ramp will be installed for the Awards of Excellence Ceremony being held July 6, 2015;
- the ramp can be stored on site for future uses;
- more signage (black with white lettering and braille) has been installed;
- large print menus will be provided;
- a variety of foods will be provided to accommodate all dietary needs; and
- Smithe Street will have a zone for taxis and HandyDART drop-off/pick-up and there will be four designated accessible, metered parking stalls about ½ block from the theatre.

In regard to staff training he advised that the long-term plan will include a steering committee comprised of other civic departments to ensure that all staff are aware of the accessibility guidelines for events.

In response to questions, Mr. Fazekas confirmed that Committee members are welcome to participate on the steering committee.

b) Cambie Corridor public meetings

No report.

c) South False Creek Temporary Focus Group

Jacques Courteau provided a brief report back on the first meeting of this focus group held June 4, 2015, noting the aim is to improve safety and enjoyment on the south side of the seawall between Burrard and Cambie Street Bridges.

d) Pearson Re-development

Paul Gauthier provided an update further to a recent stakeholder meeting on the re-development of the Pearson Dogwood lands as follows and responded to questions:

- the re-development will be in 5 phases;
- Committee needs to discuss the number and types of units being built as part of Phase 1 now (*SE corner Cambie & 57th*) so Vancouver Coastal Health can provide a decision to Onni Group, the developer;
- the first 4 buildings will be ready in about 3 ½ to 4 years; Vancouver Coastal Health has to determine how many residents of Pearson are to be relocated to Phase 1;
- a proposal for 2 12-person greenhouses, 3 4-bedroom apartments, 6 individual apartments that share care, in addition to 4 individual apartments were discussed;
- though expressing some concern about the number of units and the balance between greenhouse and independent apartments, Committee members indicated that the proposal was reasonable and consistent with the consensus proposal.

Mr. Gauthier thanked the Committee for the direction provided.

3. Sub-Committees

The Chair suggested that while Cathy Browne is on leave, the Communication Sub-committee work with the Accessible City Sub-committee.

4. Other Business

a) Request for support -- Centre of Inclusion and Citizenship

Tim Stainton, PhD, Professor and Director, UBC School of Social Work/Director, Centre for Inclusion and Citizenship, provided an update on and sought the Committee's endorsement for sponsorship from the City of Vancouver of an upcoming conference: *Claiming Full Citizenship: an International Conference on Self-Determination, Personalization and Individualized Funding*, taking place in October 2015.

In discussion, the Committee expressed its strong support.

MOVED by Peter Brown

SECONDED by Laura Mackenrot

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee endorse the Conference on Claiming Full Citizenship to be held October 15 to 17, 2015, in Vancouver, and support the organizing efforts of the Centre for Inclusion and Citizenship in pursuing funding from the City of Vancouver.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b) Request for support for Canadians with Disabilities Act

This matter was referred to next meeting due to time constraints.

c) Joint meeting of North Vancouver and Burnaby PDACs

This matter was referred to next meeting due to time constraints.

5. New Business

None

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Jacques Courteau
SECONDED by Laura Mackenrot

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting:

DATE: Thursday, September 17, 2015
TIME: 5 pm
PLACE: Town Hall Meeting Room
Main Floor, Vancouver City Hall

The Committee adjourned at 8:05 pm.

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