



## RENTERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

April 13, 2015

A meeting of the Renters Advisory Committee was held on Monday, April 13, 2015, at 5:38 pm, in the Town Hall Meeting Room, Main Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

**PRESENT:** Amanda van Baarsen  
Peter Harvie  
Nicola Hill  
David Isaac  
Parveen Khtaria  
Mira Oreck  
Joshua Prowse  
Mark Regalado  
Karen Sawatzky  
Alvin Singh, Acting Chair  
Meseret Taye

**ABSENT:** Miran Aziz  
John Dub (Sick Leave)  
Angela Liu (Leave of Absence)  
Daniel Oleksiuk

**ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor Andrea Reimer, Council Liaison  
Councillor Tim Stevenson, Council Liaison  
Celine Mauboules, Housing Policy, Staff Liaison  
Edna Cho, Housing Policy, Staff Liaison

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Nicole Ludwig, Meeting Coordinator

#### Roll Call and Icebreaker

Councillor Reimer welcomed members to the Committee and explained the reasons for the creation of the Renters Advisory Committee.

Mayor Robertson welcomed all members to the Committee and thanked them for serving.

#### 1. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

The Committee agreed to appoint Alvin Singh as Interim Chair until the elections for Chair and Vice-Chair can be done at a future regular meeting.

## 2. Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Peter Harvie  
SECONDED by Parveen Khtaria

THAT Angela Liu be granted a leave of absence for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## 3. Approval of 2015 Meeting Schedule

MOVED by Amanda van Baarsen  
SECONDED by Peter Harvie

THAT regular meetings of the Renters Advisory Committee be held on the following dates at 5:45 pm:

- Monday, April 13, 2015
- Tuesday, May 19, 2015
- Tuesday, September 22, 2015
- Tuesday, November 24, 2015

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## 4. Administrative Overview

The Meeting Coordinator provided a brief overview of roles and responsibilities of committee members, and distributed the terms of reference and membership list, noting that more detailed information will be provided at the Council of Councils on April 27, 2015.

The Meeting Coordinator drew attention to the attendance policy. She noted, specifically, that if a member fails to attend four consecutive meetings without leave from the committee, their membership on the committee will be concluded. She requested that if members require a leave of absence for one of the regular meetings, they notify her or one of the staff liaisons as far as possible in advance of the meeting.

Councillor Reimer noted there are a number of documents that may be of interest to the Committee as work is done and she offered to set up a BaseCamp account for them to use in order to organize the information.

## 5. Workplan and Council Motion

Edno Cho and Celine Mauboules, both from Housing Policy, provided a presentation on rental housing and related City policies, and responded to questions. They agreed to compile links to reports and policies so that members can review them.

The Meeting Coordinator agreed to send the presentation to the Committee for their review, along with the information from staff liaisons.

Following the presentation, Councillor Reimer provided an overview of the Council motion approved on March 24, 2015, entitled "Increase Protections for Vancouver Renters", noting that the Committee has been directed to provide recommendations for immediate Council advocacy related to the Residential Tenancy Act to protect existing housing. She also noted that the timeline for reporting to Council is June 2015.

Following discussion, it was

MOVED by Joshua Prowse  
SECONDED by Mira Oreck

THAT a Residential Tenancy Act Review Subcommittee be created in order to address the March 24, 2015, direction from Council, entitled "Increase Protections for Vancouver Renters".

FURTHER THAT the following Renters Advisory Committee members be appointed to the Subcommittee:

- Peter Harvie
- Nicola Hill
- Parveen Khtaria
- Mira Oreck
- Joshua Prowse
- Alvin Singh
- Mark Regalado
- Karen Sawatzky
- Amanda van Baarsen

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Parveen Khtaria and Joshua Prowse agreed to coordinate the first Subcommittee meeting.

## 6. Reports from Elected and Staff Liaisons

These matters were dealt with earlier in the meeting.

## 7. New Business

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Nicola Hill  
SECONDED by Peter Harvie

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Next Meeting:**

DATE: Tuesday, May 19, 2015  
TIME: 5:30 pm  
PLACE: Committee Room 1  
Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall

The Committee adjourned at 7:36 pm.

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