



WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

July 18, 2017

A meeting of the Women's Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, July 18, 2017, at 5:32 pm, in the Business Centre Meeting Room, Second Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

- PRESENT:** Miranda Mandarino*, Chair
Terran Bell
Andrea Canales Figueroa
Lindsay Clark*
Missy Johnson
Rebecca McNeil
Christine O'Fallon
Paola Quiros
Shirley Ross
Margot Sangster
Rhonda Sherwood, Vice-Chair
Andrea Thompson*
- ABSENT:** Erin Arnold (Leave of Absence)
Desaraigh Byers
Najmah Mohamed
- ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor Andrea Reimer, Council Liaison
Commissioner Catherine Evans, Park Board Liaison
Deb Gale, Director, HR Business Partnerships, Staff Liaison
- CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Maria Castro, Meeting Coordinator

*Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

Acknowledgement

Councillor Reimer acknowledged that we are on the unceded traditional territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tseil-Waututh First Nations.

Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Rebecca McNeil
SECONDED by Andrea Thompson

THAT the Women's Advisory Committee grant a leave of absence to Erin Arnold, for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Miranda Mandarino absent for the vote)

Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Andrea Thompson
SECONDED by Christine O'Fallon

THAT the Women's Advisory Committee approve the Minutes from the meeting held on May 11, 2017, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Miranda Mandarino absent for the vote)

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The Committee agreed to vary the order of the agenda in order to deal with item 2 as its next item of business. For ease of reference, the agenda items are minuted in numerical order.

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1. Gender Equality Strategy Update

Anne Nickerson, Director, Equal Employment Opportunity Program, provided a progress update and noted that staff will be developing recommendations, with possible Quickstarts. The report is scheduled to go forward to Council on October 31. Ms. Nickerson thanked the Committee for all their feedback and responded to questions.

2. Updates

Councillor Reimer provided an update on the inquiry hearings of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, recognizing the difficult and emotional nature of the process and the support measures needed for the families involved in the work ahead. She also noted there is a strong sense of need for reinstating the Mother's Day pow wow.

Councillor Reimer also provided an overview of Canada 150+ Celebrations and noted the Housing and Homelessness Strategy Reset is coming back to Council in the Fall. She also mentioned the by-election will be taking place this Fall.

a) **Miranda Mandarino, Chair, to provide updates.**

The Chair provided an update on the Annual Advisory Committee Chairs Meeting she recently attended. She also reminded the group to let her know by the end of the month if anyone is interested in joining a subcommittee, and to indicate if interested in the role of Chair or Vice-Chair. She also noted Basecamp is no longer available and that IT is working on an alternate web platform tool.

Paola Quiros agreed to take the lead on a Bio exercise, which would be a great opportunity to learn more about each of the Committee members.

b) **Committee members to provide updates on events attended in May and June.**

Christine O'Fallon noted she attended the annual "Rethinking the Region" conference, co-hosted by the SFU Urban Studies Program and the Vancouver City Planning Commission. The forum provided an opportunity to discuss the role of citizen advisory bodies in shaping urban policy in Metro Vancouver. Detailed notes are available from Ms. O'Fallon for anyone interested in viewing them.

Margot Sangster provided an update on the "Gender Equality Now Symposium" she recently attended, which included a panel of women who have championed gender equality. The panelists included Betty Levy, Emilia Reyes and Mobina Jaffer.

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The Committee recessed 6:33 pm and reconvened at 6:49 pm.

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Lindsay Clark attended a stakeholder workshop for the Millennium Line Broadway Extension Project, and noted TransLink staff presented an overview of the project and gathered feedback on design and construction impacts. Next steps for the project were also discussed.

Ms. Clark responded to questions and in discussion, she and Shirley Ross agreed to write a letter to TransLink to further discuss the project.

The Chair and Ms. O'Fallon attended the "Advisory Bodies Roundtable" organized by the Vancouver City Planning Commission where they learned of similar interests and concerns amongst advisory committees, as well as an opportunity for information sharing and a need to increase collaborations.

Commissioner Evans noted there is an online survey regarding Vancouver's Waterway Recreation Strategy, and to register on Talk Vancouver in order to participate.

3. New Business

a) Nordic Model

Vice-Chair Sherwood informed the Committee of The University Women's Club of Vancouver Status of Women and Human Rights Committee, and their support of the Nordic Model approach to prostitution and sexual exploitation. The University Women's Club of Vancouver has requested to meet with the Committee to speak about the Nordic Model.

b) Facebook Adding Events

The Chair discussed the possibility of posting the Committee meetings as events on the Committee's Facebook page in order to buildup connections and public awareness of the Committee and its meetings. Rhonda Sherwood advised she can no longer maintain the Facebook account on her own, and therefore, Rebecca McNeil offered to step in. The Committee then thanked Rhonda Sherwood for her help in managing the account over the past three years.

c) Social

The Chair and Rebecca McNeil both offered to organize an upcoming social for the Committee.

Adjournment

MOVED by Shirley Ross
SECONDED by Andrea Canales Figueroa

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Andrea Thompson absent for the vote)

Next Meeting:

DATE: September 26, 2017
TIME: 5:30 pm
PLACE: Committee Room 1
Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall

The Committee adjourned at 7:34 pm.

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