



VANCOUVER FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, June 20th 2017
Fire Hall #1 Board Room
900 Heatley Avenue

In Attendance:

Shannon Barrows – Chair
Ross Greenwood
Justin Lu
Greg White

Ray Greenwood
Anthony Kupferschmidt
Jacquie Miller

Regrets:

Nila Akter
Dave Pasin

Yanni Alexandropoulos
Geoff Pegg

Ex Officio Member & Guests:

John McKearney, Fire Chief
Darrell Reid, Fire Chief

Recorder:

Charmaine Susanthan

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1740 hrs. by Chair Shannon Barrows.

ADOPT AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as presented.

ADOPT MINUTES

Minutes of the May meeting were adopted as presented with one revision:

- Omit Dave Pasin from Regrets

CORRESPONDENCE

Certified true copies of the amended Bylaws and Constitution for Vancouver Fire Rescue Foundation – forwarded by CoV Legal department

Fire Chief Darrell Reid was introduced to the Committee.

OLD BUSINESS:

▪ Vancouver Fire Foundation

- The cross-references in the new bylaws and constitution were updated and a final version was provided to the registrar for filing. A copy was also circulated to the legal team, Shannon and the Chief.
- The next steps are to review the draft CRA application and make a few final decisions on content. Once the application is finalized, it will be submitted to CRA for review and comment.
- Shannon to follow up with the Fire Chief.

▪ Committee Mandate & Activities Sub-committee

The Committee will be speaking at the BCEHS Board meeting on June 29th. Both Ray and Lorna Berndsen will be attending.

New Sub-Committee: VF&RS and Seniors' Centers

This committee met and discussed the scope and potential action items. There was an inventory of the state of existing knowledge, those identified as vulnerable and needing help in the event of an emergency, and those that are

vulnerable that need help in advance of the emergency. Mirror VFRS' model for this, pursue the opportunity for a pilot project in the West end by attending the strawberry festival and having a table for the Home Safety Check program. Anthony to follow up with Jonathan Gormick.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Report from the Fire Chief
 - New Apparatus – Minor delays in deployment due to outfitting issues
 - Opioid Crisis is a factor to the increase in medical calls – increase of 9% each year.
 - Firehall Relocation Study – waiting for Union response.
 - Balmoral closure – Increased Fire Prevention staffing. A success story for VF&RS
 - Short-term rentals – VF&RS plans to synergize with this regulatory effort to increase fire life safety checks.
 - Brief discussion on building safety – post Grenfell apartment fire in the UK. SROs are retrofitted and up to date on precautionary measures, i.e. sprinklers but not up to building code standards due to the age they were built.
 - New scheduling system will go live by the end of July 2017,
 - New VF&RS radio system – delay in implementation.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Fobbed entrances in buildings: Chief Reid mentioned that, in Calgary, a 3rd party does an annual audit of fobbed entrances in buildings. This is too expensive for the public purse and needs to be at the cost of the buildings using the fobbed entrances.
- The Fall Prevention Program: Costly but a very valuable program. Chief Reid can provide more information if needed.
- Ability to respond to an aggressive fire in a 60-storey tower: Chief Reid noted many of these new buildings have fire defense built in -intercom/communications centre in the lobby, water access, etc. Cities are recommending the building owner have an all hazards plan in place, which involves voluntary standards and legal accountability.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 1900 hrs.

NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, September 26th 2017
Fire Hall #1 Board Room
900 Heatley Avenue