



2SLGBTQ+ ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

NOVEMBER 26, 2020

A meeting of the 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, November 26, 2020, at 5:35 pm, by electronic means.

- PRESENT:** Tribesty Nguyen, Co-Chair
Raj Alamchandani
Kyle Demes
Eddy Elmer
Stephanie Goodwin
Jutta Kolhi
Sylvia Machat
Nazanin Moghadami*
Linnea Strom
Aisha Tejani
Chase Willier*
- ABSENT:** Brooklyn Fowler, Leave of Absence
Rob McDowell, Leave of Absence
- ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor Lisa Dominato, Council Liaison
Constable Dale Quiring, Police Liaison
Paul Czene, Recreation Coordinator, Access & Volunteer Services, Staff Liaison
- CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Bonnie Kennett, Meeting Coordinator

* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

WELCOME

The Co-Chair acknowledged we are on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tseil-Waututh Nations.

1. Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Raj Alamchandani
SECONDED by Aisha Tejani

THAT the 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee approve leaves of absence for Brooklyn Fowler and Rob McDowell, for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Chase Willier absent for the vote)

2. Approval of Minutes – September 17, 2020

MOVED by Nazanin Moghadami
SECONDED by Stephanie Goodwin

THAT the 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee approve the Minutes from the meeting of Thursday, September 17, 2020, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Chase Willier absent for the vote)

3. Appointment of Acting Co-Chair

Linnea Strom agreed to assist Tribesty Nguyen, Co-Chair, during Brooklyn’s absence.

4. 2021 Meeting Schedule

The Committee discussed meeting dates for 2021.

MOVED by Jutta Kolhi
SECONDED by Nazanin Moghadami

THAT the Committee approve the following meeting dates for 2021:

Meetings take place on Thursday of each month (except for August) at 5:30 pm.

ALL THURSDAYS	Meeting Type	Meeting Room
January 14	Regular Meeting	Online via WebEx
February 18	Working Session	Online via WebEx
March 18	Regular Meeting	Online via WebEx
April 22	Working Session	Online via WebEx
May 27	Regular Meeting	Online via WebEx
June 24	Working Session	Online via WebEx
July 22	Regular Meeting	Online via WebEx
September 16	Regular Meeting	Online via WebEx
October 14	Working Session	Online via WebEx
November 25	Regular Meeting	Online via WebEx
December 16	Working Session	Online via WebEx

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Vary Agenda

MOVED by Kyle Demes
SECONDED by Stephanie Goodwin

THAT the Committee vary the order of the agenda in order to deal with New Business next.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Chase Willier absent for the vote)

Note: For clarity, the minutes are recorded in chronological order.

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5. Jim Deva Plaza

MOVED by Eddy Elmer
SECONDED by Aisha Tejani

WHEREAS

1. The 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee is appointed by Vancouver City Council to provide advice on enhancing access and inclusion for two-spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer communities so they may participate fully in civic life;
2. The Jim Deva Plaza at Davie and Bute Streets opened in 2016 to commemorate Mr. Deva's extensive advocacy work on free speech and gay rights;
3. The plaza was intended to be a safe space for community members to hold special events and to socialize, which is especially important for those who do not have access to private outdoor spaces;
4. Since the plaza opened, and especially over the past year, community members have expressed concern about smoking, public intoxication, aggressive behaviour, human waste, discarded needles, and general litter in the plaza and immediate vicinity;
5. Businesses have voiced concerns that their entryways have been impeded;
6. Community residents no longer feel that this is a safe and welcoming space for everyone.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee recommends that Council request staff to consider the following:

1. Work with community partners and businesses to explore ways to improve health, safety, and security for everyone in the plaza;

2. Install prominent signage reminding visitors that the plaza is intended to be a safe space for everyone and that they should not disturb the peace;
3. Consider brighter lighting;
4. Increase frequency of sanitation, including ensuring that the public washroom across the street is functional at all times and that needle disposal units are provided and emptied on a timely basis;
5. Work with community partners to improve liaison and referral services for people who seek shelter in the plaza;
6. Explore ways to animate the space and attract more people (e.g., schedule more live entertainment and art displays);
7. Allow restaurants to extend patios into and around the plaza; and
8. Engage more with local businesses to enable their full participation in the space.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Urban Indigenous Peoples Advisory Committee

MOVED by Chase Willier

SECONDED by Sylvia Machat

WHEREAS

1. The 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee is appointed by Vancouver City Council to provide advice on enhancing access and inclusion for two-spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer communities so they may participate fully in civic life;
2. One of the Committee's terms of reference is to work with other advisory committees on issues of mutual interest and concern;
3. On November 23, 2017, the Committee voted to establish a closer working relationship with the Urban Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee, recognizing the common concerns shared by the two committees;
4. On July 7, 2020, the Urban Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee passed a comprehensive motion calling for meaningful and immediate action to address issues concerning racism and reconciliation, with a focus on (but not exclusive to) Indigenous people; and
5. The 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee recognizes that Indigenous people who are also sexual and gender minorities are at particularly high risk for experiencing racism and hate crimes.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT The 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee endorses the motion passed by the Urban Indigenous Advisory Committee at its July 7, 2020 meeting;

FURTHER THAT the 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee recommends that the following be communicated to staff as the Committee's request for consideration:

1. Review the Urban Indigenous Advisory Committee motion and provide comment by March 31, 2021;
2. Consult with both the 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee and the Urban Indigenous Advisory Committee as they work to implement the recommendations in the motion;

AND FURTHER THAT the present motion be sent to the Urban Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee, the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee, and other relevant advisory committees for their information and possible endorsement.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Anti-Oppression/Sensitivity Training for Councillors

Tribesty, Co-Chair, and Linnea Strom provided a brief update on their meeting with Councillor Hardwick regarding Anti-Oppression / Sensitivity training for Council, which identified the need for an external agency to provide in person training as there is a gap in training Council members on this topic. There was also discussion that this type of training would be beneficial for all staff throughout the City. Paul Czene, Staff Liaison, suggested that the newly hired Chief Equity Officer may have some suggestions and input to provide on this matter. Tribesty and Linnea will follow up with Councillor Hardwick regarding the need for an external source for training.

8. Liaison Updates

Constable Dale Quiring, VPD Liaison, provided a brief update which included work on creating a virtual online engagement platform that is still in its infancy stages of development and will require feedback from the community.

Councillor Dominato, Council Liaison, provided a brief update which included her recent conversation with Chief Palmer regarding hate crimes and incidents, the Park Board motion regarding the washroom strategy addressing the lack of access, safety and accessibility that was recently passed, and her Lighting motion that will be going forward at the December 8, 2020, Council meeting.

Paul Czene, Staff Liaison, provided a brief update which included the recruitment of a new TGD2S Inclusion Facilitator at the Park Board that is currently underway and the Park Board Washroom Strategy that was passed on November 2, 2020, which focuses on gender neutral spaces, accessibility and safety, and includes outdoor washrooms for newer buildings and gender neutral spaces with options (stalls or private rooms).

9. Subcommittee and other Member Updates

The Aging Subcommittee will meet to review the checklist on Inclusive Housing.

10. New Business

a) VPD Neighbourhood Response Teams

The Committee briefly discussed the VPD's new neighbourhood response teams and their impact on the 2SLGBTQ+ community. The Committee agreed that it would be nice to invite Inspector Suzanne Muir to come to a future meeting to provide more information and answer questions.

Kyle Demes, Stephanie Goodwin, Nazanin Moghadami, Tribesty Nguyen and Chase Willier struck a working group who will liaise with Inspector Muir to discuss concerns relating to the neighbourhood teams.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Kyle Demes
SECONDED by Linnea Strom

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Nazanin Moghadami absent for the vote)

Next Meeting:

DATE: Thursday, January 14, 2021
TIME: 5:30 pm
PLACE: WebEx online

The Committee adjourned at 7:23 pm.

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