



PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

October 25, 2012

A meeting of the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, October 25, 2012, at 5:35 pm, in Committee Room 1, Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

PRESENT: Paul Caune, Vice-Chair
Justine Aaron
Tasia Alexis*
Jeanette Andersen
Cathy Browne
Sheryl Burns
Craig Langston
Greg Pyc

ABSENT: Matthew Porter (Leave of Absence)
Jill Weiss, Chair (Sick Leave)

ALSO PRESENT: Trustee Sophia Woo, Vancouver School Board
Anne Nickerson, Director, EEO

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Nicole Ludwig, Meeting Coordinator

* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Jeanette Andersen
SECONDED by Sheryl Burns

THAT the Committee approve a leave of absence for Matthew Porter for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Cathy Browne

SECONDED by Jeanette Andersen

THAT the minutes of July 26, 2012, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Community vs. Institutional Living

Professor Tim Stainton, University of British Columbia, provided a background on research on community vs. institutional living for people with disabilities, noting there are multiple ways of moving persons with disabilities into the community, and provided an overview of common issues. Professor Stainton reported that, overall, research shows community based living is far more beneficial to people with disabilities and the community than institutional housing for people with disabilities.

Professor Stainton offered to provide additional information via email to the Committee, through the Vice-Chair. The Committee thanked Professor Stainton for his time and the information he provided.

2. Accessibility Amendments to the Vancouver Building By-law

This item was withdrawn.

3. Comox-Helmcken Greenway

Douglas Scott, Active Transportation, Engineering Services, presented details on Section 1 of the proposed Comox-Helmcken Greenway, responded to questions and sought the Committee's advice. The Committee provided feedback and following discussion it was

MOVED by Greg Pyc
SECONDED by Craig Langston

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee generally supports the Comox-Helmcken Greenway as presented at the October 25, 2012, meeting, noting the following issues:

- accessible toilets;
- accessible parking especially for people with disabilities;
- accessible tables and benches;
- mid-block ramps;
- wayfinding signs;
- colour contrasting at ramps;
- audible pedestrian signals; and
- consultation with HandyDart.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. New Business

a. George Pearson Centre

The Vice-Chair reported that the Ministry of Health has allocated \$3 million to the City of Vancouver and Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) for the redevelopment of the George Pearson Centre and surrounding lands. He also noted he has been invited to consultations with VCH which will start in late November. Following the consultation process, building the redevelopment plans will take about 18 months and will be subject to City of Vancouver approval. Following discussion, it was

MOVED by Paul Caune
SECONDED by Justine Aaron

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee advises Council not to approve any redevelopment of the George Pearson Centre and surrounding lands that includes an institution for adults with disabilities.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Tasia Alexis absent for the vote)
(Jeanette Andersen abstained from the vote)

Subsequently, it was

MOVED by Craig Langston
SECONDED by Sheryl Burns

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee recommends Council incorporate accessible housing options other than institutional living for current George Pearson Centre residents as part of other developments, including those proposed along the Cambie Corridor.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Tasia Alexis absent for the vote)

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Paul Caune
SECONDED by Greg Pyc

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Tasia Alexis absent for the vote)

The Committee adjourned at 8:07 pm.

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Next Meeting:

DATE: Thursday, November 22, 2012
TIME: 5:30 pm
PLACE: Town Hall Meeting Room
Main Floor, Vancouver City Hall