



## PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

**February 28, 2013**

A special meeting of the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, February 28, 2013, at 5:30 pm, in the Town Hall Meeting Room, Main Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

**PRESENT:** Paul Caune, Acting Chair  
Justine Aaron  
Jeanette Andersen\*  
Tasia Alexis\*  
Cathy Browne  
Craig Langston  
Laura Mackenrot  
Jill Weiss (via conference phone)

**ABSENT:** Sheryl Byrne  
Paul Gauthier  
Greg Pyc

**ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor Geoff Meggs, Vancouver City Council  
Commissioner Melissa De Genova, Vancouver Park Board  
Parker Johnson, EEO  
Gillian Guilmant-Smith, Vancouver Public Library

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

\*Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

## **Leave of Absence Requests**

MOVED by Jill Weiss

SECONDED by Craig Langston

THAT, until December 7, 2014, the Persons with Disabilities consider leave of absence requests only under the following conditions:

- when the request is for an extended leave or multiple meetings, or
- when the person requesting the leave has missed three regular meetings in a row without leave.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(Tasia Alexis and Jeanette Andersen absent for the vote)

## **Approval of Minutes**

MOVED by Jill Weiss

SECONDED by Laura Mackenrot

THAT the minutes of the meeting of November 22, 2012, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(Jeanette Anderson absent for the vote)

### **1. Redevelopment of the Pearson Dogwood Site**

The Acting Chair provided an overview of issues surrounding the Pearson Dogwood site and plans for its redevelopment. In discussion, the Committee noted concerns with how the development responds to evidence from research regarding institutional vs. community living.

### **2. Pearson Dogwood Site – Staff Presentation**

Ben Johnson and Yardley McNeill, both from the Major Projects Group, provided an overview on the proposed redevelopment of the Pearson Dogwood site and the public consultation process to date. They explained there are multiple rezoning applications for the site and requested the

Committee's assistance in defining the concept of "institution" as it pertains to the development and identifying specific public benefits.

In discussion, the Committee suggested staff liaise with the Vancouver Resource Society, noted the need to make the development part of the community rather than insulating it, and to think about different forms of assistance. Mr. Johnson and Ms. McNeill noted Vancouver Coastal Health has not explicitly defined "a range of housing options" in their application and offered to return to the Committee as the application progresses.

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*The Committee recessed at 7:00 pm and reconvened at 7:10 pm with the same members present.*

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Following staff's presentation, the Committee discussed the need to meet again with staff in the next few months, and to get Vancouver Coastal Health Authority to define what "a range of housing options" means in their application.

The Committee agreed to provide research to staff regarding the definition of "institution", the need for supports and the maintenance of human rights and dignity for people with disabilities in assisted living environments.

### **3. Housing By-law Amendments - Update**

Jill Weiss provided an update on the amendments to the Housing By-law, noting they have reached an agreement with staff on what would be included and that the draft amendments will be going up shortly for public consultation. She also noted that the "internal" package is good, however the external requirements are lacking, especially in regards to requiring an accessible path to all new dwellings. She explained that Brian Jackson, General Manager of Planning and Development Services, has committed to having a process to consider having an accessible path to all new dwellings and are awaiting a timeline.

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*At 7:50 pm, Paul Caune left the Chair, and Craig Langston assumed the Chair.*

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#### **4. Meeting Time – Discussion**

MOVED by Jill Weiss  
SECONDED by Cathy Browne

THAT the following regular meeting dates be approved for the remainder of 2013:

March 28	September 26
May 23	November 28
July 25	

All meetings are to commence at 5:30 pm unless the Chair or Committee requests to start at 5:00 pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Paul Caune absent for the vote)

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Tasia Alexis  
SECONDED by Laura Mackenrot

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Paul Caune absent for the vote)

**Next Regular Meeting:**

DATE: Thursday, April 25, 2013  
TIME: 5:30 pm  
PLACE: Town Hall Meeting Room  
Main Floor, City Hall

The Committee adjourned at 8:00 pm

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