



## **PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES**

**SEPTEMBER 25, 2014**

A meeting of the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, September 25, 2014, at 5:31 pm, in Town Hall, Main Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

**PRESENT:** Jill Weiss, Chair  
Jeanette Andersen  
Sheryl Burns  
Craig Langston  
Laura Mackenrot  
Tom Patch  
Leonor Vlug

**ABSENT:** Tasia Alexis  
Cathy Browne, Vice-Chair  
Guillaume Dufresne  
Paul Gauthier  
Greg Pyc

**ALSO PRESENT:** Commissioner Melissa De Genova,  
Park Board  
Parker Johnson, EEO

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Tina Hildebrandt, Meeting Coordinator

## **Approval of Agenda**

MOVED by Laura Mackenrot  
SECONDED by Jeanette Andersen

THAT the agenda be amended to strike “Approval of Working Session Notes – August 27, 2014”, as the notes are not available yet.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **Approval of Minutes – June 26, 2014**

MOVED by Laura Mackenrot  
SECONDED by Craig Langston

THAT the minutes of the meeting held June 26, 2014, be approved as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **1. Wheelchair-Accessible Housing Report**

Tom Patch provided an update on progress, noting the following:

- a strategic planning session is scheduled for October 27<sup>th</sup>, which will include decision makers in the non-profit housing sector such as the City of Vancouver, disability groups and Vancouver Coastal Health;
- the goal of the session is to address the shortage of affordable wheelchair accessible housing;
- in the process of securing a facilitator for the session.

In discussion, members agreed to invite Valerie Durant, the City’s Social Infrastructure Planner, to the strategic planning session.

MOVED by Laura Mackenrot  
SECONDED by Craig Langston

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee invite Valerie Durant, Social Infrastructure Planner, City of Vancouver, to the strategic planning session on wheelchair accessible housing to be held October 27, 2014.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **2. Review of Draft Event Accessibility Guidelines**

The Chair provided background on the Draft Event Accessibility Guidelines and members suggested significant revisions to improve accessibility for blind and deaf persons. The Chair will circulate a revised draft for additional feedback.

In discussion, concern was expressed in regard to time constraints surrounding approval of the guidelines and the Committee agreed to revise the 2014 meeting schedule as follows:

- change the regular meeting on October 23, 2014, to a working session in order to finalize the draft guidelines; and
- schedule a regular meeting on November 27, 2014, to approve the draft guidelines.

MOVED by Laura Mackenrot  
SECONDED by Craig Langston

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee revise the 2014 meeting schedule as follows:

- change the regular meeting on October 23, 2014, to a working session; and

- schedule a regular meeting on November 27, 2014.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **3. Other Business**

#### **a) Outreach to Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community**

Leanore Vlug sought the Committee's feedback on ways to implement some form of outreach to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community about the Committee's work.

In discussion, members expressed support but noted that the Committee recently decided to focus on only a few issues: wheelchair accessible housing, Pearson and TransLink, because of very limited resources.

It was agreed the Committee currently does not have the capacity to address this or any other additional issues.

Ms. Vlug offered to draft a summary of the Committee's work to circulate to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community and the Chair offered to review it.

#### **b) Access to Auditory Information**

Leanore Vlug raised concern regarding issues in accessing the City's auditory information for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community and sought the Committee's feedback.

In discussion, Parker Johnson noted the Staff Liaisons are in the process of conducting an accessibility audit within the City and suggested this matter could be included in the audit.

Ms. Vlug agreed to do some research to identify which sources provide auditory information and follow-up with the Staff Liaisons.

MOVED by Leonor Vlug  
SECONDED by Tom Patch

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee recommend that the Staff Liaisons include accessibility issues for people who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing in the City of Vancouver's Accessibility Audit.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

In response to a comment concerning the scope of the audit, Parker Johnson agreed that the Staff Liaisons will provide the Committee with an overview at the next meeting.

MOVED by Laura Mackenrot  
SECONDED by Jeanette Andersen

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee recommend that the City of Vancouver's accessibility audit in regard to physical sites and processes be designed in collaboration with the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**c) Event Guidelines**

MOVED by Laura Mackenrot  
SECONDED by Sheryl Burns

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee thank Cathy Browne for her extraordinary efforts in creating the draft event accessibility guidelines.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Laura Mackenrot  
SECONDED by Leonor Vlug

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **Next Working Session:**

DATE: Thursday, October 23, 2014  
TIME: 5:30 pm  
PLACE: Committee Room No. 1  
Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall

### **Next Regular Meeting:**

DATE: Thursday, November 27, 2014  
TIME: 5:30 pm  
PLACE: Town Hall Meeting Room  
Main Floor, Vancouver City Hall

The Committee adjourned at 8:01 pm.

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