



## **PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES**

**May 10, 2018**

A meeting of the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, May 10, 2018, at 5:11pm, in Town Hall Meeting Room 110, Main Floor, City Hall.

**PRESENT:** Cathy Browne, Co-Chair  
Jacques Courteau, Co-Chair  
Tasia Alexis  
Caitlin Anderson  
Varun Banthia  
Peter Brown  
Mary-Jo Fetterly  
Jane Vorbrodt

**ABSENT:** Paul Gauthier (Leave of Absence)  
Rebeca Hernandez (Leave of Absence)  
Chelsea Hitchen (Leave of Absence)  
Laura Mackenrot (Leave of Absence)  
Anita Rudolph (Unable to participate due to technical difficulties)  
Leonor Vlug (Leave of Absence)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Robyn Newton, Social Policy and Projects, Staff Liaison

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Denise Swanston, Meeting Coordinator

### **WELCOME**

The Chair acknowledged that we are on the unceded homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations and we give thanks for their generosity and hospitality on these lands.

## **Welcome to New Members**

The meeting commenced with roundtable introductions of Committee members and staff.

## **Leave of Absence Requests**

MOVED by Varun Banthia  
SECONDED by Peter Brown

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee approve leaves of absence for Paul Gauthier, Rebeca Hernandez, Chelsea Hitchen, Laura Mackenrot, and Leanor Vlug.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **Approval of Minutes**

MOVED by Peter Brown  
SECONDED by Tasia Alexis

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee approve the Minutes from the meeting of April 5, 2018, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **1. Presentation – Parking By-law Updates**

John Turecki from Engineering Services presented an update to parking regulations and by-laws, noting a report will be going to Council on July 24, 2018, and a survey will launch on Talk Vancouver on May 11, 2018. Mr. Turecki indicated the changes relate broadly to the city, as well as some specific updates to the downtown core. Mr. Turecki also responded to questions and comments.

The Committee provided the following concerns:

- Accessible parking for individuals with accessibility needs, as well as their caretakers and visitors;

- Accessible parking spaces need to be physically accessible themselves;
- Residential accessible parking should be held in perpetuity (e.g. in apartments/condos);
- Current limited accessible parking spaces downtown; data presented does not back up proposed plans to reduce the number of parking spaces;
- Most alternatives to private car ownership are not accessible (e.g. bicycling, car- and ride-sharing).

Overall, the Committee felt that there was a glaring gap in terms of accessibility in relation to the presented plan and noted they did not feel their needs were taken into account and would not support the plan in its current state. The Committee urged staff to consider how some of these changes will contribute to the marginalization of the city's most vulnerable populations. The Committee felt discouraged that the City is proposing to take away aspects of accessibility and not ensuring adequate alternatives or replacements.

## **2. UN Youth Dialogue Application**

MOVED by Mary-Jo Fetterly  
SECONDED by Caitlin Anderson

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee approves, in principal, for Varun Banthia to apply to speak at the Youth Dialogue on May 30, 2018, as a representative of the Committee to speak on topics related to access and inclusion in relation to youth and employment and education.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **3. Subcommittee Reports**

### **a. Accessible City subcommittee**

Mary-Jo Fetterly, Chair, Accessible City subcommittee, provided an update, noting that Council approved a motion to create an Accessibility Strategy. The Committee broadly discussed the strategy,

noting that there should be a subgroup of PDAC members to act as “point people” between the development of the Strategy and Committee.

Robyn Newton, staff liaison, noted she touched base with staff in Toronto in regards to Toronto’s Accessibility Strategy. Ms. Newton, also noted the Vancouver strategy will look at a broad range of disabilities (physical, mental, economic, etc.) Ms. Newton agreed to send out her notes to the Committee, and will follow up with the City Manager regarding the Strategy’s implementation.

**b. Housing subcommittee**

Ms. Fetterly, Housing subcommittee, provided an update regarding Pearson-Dogwood Plaza C, noting the following:

- No clarity on bike lane issue
- Pick up/Drop-off area for therapeutic pool
- General issues with topography/grading
- Smaller garden space than originally discussed and now shared between residents and public
- Oddly small size of the plaza compared to number of residents

Members felt, there was a lot of information, but no concrete plans or assurances.

**c. Transportation subcommittee**

Varun Banthia, Co-Chair, Transportation subcommittee, provided updates on the following:

- New B-line buses
- Upgrades to Cambie Street Bridge
- West End Business Improvement Association wants to keep decommissioned bus stop at Davie and Jervis closed, and create “parklet”.
- Closure of Granville Station escalators for two years

MOVED by Varun Banthia  
SECONDED by Caitlin Anderson

THAT the Committee authorizes the Co-Chairs of the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee to send a letter to TransLink, with copies to the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation, British Columbia's Ministries of Health and Transportation, and TransLink's Access Transit Department outlining recommendations for HandyDART and the service's new operator.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **4. Reports from Liaison Members**

None.

#### **5. November Committee meeting**

MOVED by Cathy Browne  
SECONDED by Varun Banthia

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee agrees to vary the Committee's meeting schedule and move the November 8, 2018, meeting to November 1, 2018.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **6. Accessible Path Discussion**

The Committee noted that this discussion will take place in June.

#### **7. New Business**

Peter Brown is involved in creating a mentor group for people with Cerebral Palsy. Mr. Courteau suggested that he connects with the Social Inclusion subcommittee.

Tasia Alexis agreed to step in as acting Chair of the Social Inclusion subcommittee; Caitlin Anderson noted she would like to participate on the subcommittee as well.

### **Adjournment**

MOVED by Peter Brown  
SECONDED by Caitlin Anderson

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **Next Meeting:**

DATE: Thursday, July 26, 2018  
TIME: 5:00 pm  
PLACE: Committee Room 1  
Third Floor, City Hall

The Committee adjourned at 7:07 pm.

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