



PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

September 13, 2018

A meeting of the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, September 13, 2018, at 5:15 pm, in Committee Room 1, Third Floor, City Hall.

- PRESENT:** Cathy Browne, Co-Chair
Jacques Courteau, Co-Chair
Tasia Alexis
Caitlin Anderson
Varun Banthia
Peter Brown
Mary Jo Fetterly
Leonor Vlug
Jane Vorbrodt
- ABSENT:** Paul Gauthier, Leave of Absence
Chelsea Hitchen, Leave of Absence
Laura Mackenrot, Leave of Absence
Anita Rudolph, Leave of Absence
- ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor Melissa De Genova, Council Liaison
Commissioner Michael Wiebe, Vancouver Park Board Liaison
Robyn Newton, Social Policy and Projects, Staff Liaison
Paul Storer, Branch Manager - Transportation Design Branch
Scott Ricker, Vice-Chair, Seniors Advisory Committee
- 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.

Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Varun Banthia
SECONDED by Mary-Jo Fetterly

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee approve leaves of absence for Paul Gauthier, Chelsea Hitchen, Laura Mackenrot, and Anita Rudolph for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Mary-Jo Fetterly
SECONDED by Peter Brown

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee approve the Minutes from the meeting of [July 26, 2018](#), with the addition of adding Tasia Alexis to the taskforce noted on page seven of the minutes.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Accessible City Strategy

Paul Storer, Branch Manager - Transportation Design Branch, provided an overview of work to date on the Strategy, noting staff's processes and timelines.

Mary-Jo Fetterly provided an overview on collaboration efforts done to date with City staff, and noted some areas of significance that will be outlined in a letter of support to Mayor and Council.

Jacques Courteau, Co-chair, clarified the Committee doesn't want to change anything in the report and the letter is to demonstrate the Committee's support,

as well as clarify the Committee's goal of having a dedicated full time staff member for the Strategy.

Committee members were very supportive and thankful for the many hours of effort put in by Mary-Jo Fetterly, Tasia Alexis, Peter Brown and Anita Rudolph, as well as staff members Robyn Newton and Paul Storer.

Following discussion it was:

MOVED by Mary-Jo Fetterly

SECONDED by Caitlin Anderson

WHEREAS

1. The Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee (PDAC) has advocated for years the need for a comprehensive and over-arching City strategy to provide and promote accessibility and inclusion for persons with disabilities;
2. PDAC approved a motion on April 5, 2018, to authorize the Co-Chairs of the Committee to send a letter, in principle, to the City Manager and relevant staff, outlining the need for an Accessibility and Inclusion Strategy in Vancouver;
3. Council unanimously passed a motion on May 2, 2018, directing staff to review current City policies and initiatives with respect to persons with disabilities, universal design and access, as well as options to advance implementation of accessibility throughout the city, potentially including a Vancouver-specific accessibility commitment and strategy, while continuing to address key accessibility issues;
4. Staff has prepared an Administrative Report to Council for the Regular Council meeting on September 18, 2018, with recommendations on moving forward with Phase I of an Accessibility Strategy, including a budget for implementation;
5. The Administrative Report on Phase I of the Development of the Accessibility Strategy is also the result of consultations with PDAC, the Seniors Advisory Committees, and Persons with Lived Experience accessibility for persons with disabilities; and

6. PDAC wants to ensure that the City will move forward with the development of such a Strategy.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Co-Chairs of the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee (PDAC) send a letter on behalf of PDAC to City Council outlining the Committees support the Administrative Report; and

FURTHER THAT the letter of support also clarifies areas of significant importance.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Note: Copy of letter on file

2. New Business

Cathy Browne provided a brief update on the Single Use Item Strategy, noting that staff may be approaching the Committee for further consultation.

Leonor Vlugg shared the Mayor's proclamation of September 23, 2018, as International Sign Language Day.

Adjournment

MOVED by Cathy Browne
SECONDED by Jacques Courteau

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting:

DATE: Thursday, November 1, 2018
TIME: 5:00 PM
PLACE: Committee Room 1
Third Floor, City Hall

The Committee adjourned at 6:50 pm.

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