



PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

January 20, 2022

A meeting of the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, January 20, 2022, at 5:30 pm by electronic means.

PRESENT: Peter Brown (Co-Chair)
Laura Mackenrot (Co-Chair)
Tasia Alexis
Caitlin Anderson
Alfiya Battalova
Nathan Bragg
Amelia Cooper*
Jacques Courteau
Salina Dewar
Michael Frazer
Paul Gauthier*
Yat Li*
Chris Morrissey

ABSENT: Denny Bilac
Michelle Chakraborti (Leave of Absence)

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Michael Wiebe, Council Liaison
Trustee Janet Fraser, School Board Liaison
Karen Liebel, Vancouver Public Library
Paul Storer, Director, Transportation (Staff Liaison)

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Ana Denissenko, Committee Clerk

*Denotes absence from a portion of the meeting.

WELCOME

Co-Chair Brown acknowledged we are on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.

Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Laura Mackenrot
SECONDED by Tasia Alexis

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee approve a leave of absence for Michelle Chakraborti.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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VARY AGENDA

*MOVED by Laura Mackenrot
SECONDED by Salina Dewar*

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee vary the agenda to have endorsement of Motion by Councillor Dominato as first agenda item.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

For convenience, the minutes are recorded in chronological order.

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Approval of Minutes – September 9 and November 18, 2021

The Committee agreed to move the approval of the September 9, 2021, meeting minutes to the March 10, 2022, regular meeting.

MOVED by Jacques Courteau
SECONDED by Alfiya Battalova

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on November 18, 2021, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Approval of the Agenda as amended

MOVED by Paul Gauthier
SECONDED by Laura Mackenrot

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee approve the agenda for the January 20, 2022 regular meeting, as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Motion by Councillor Dominato

MOVED by Paul Gauthier
SECONDED by Tasia Alexis

THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee endorse the motion "Cutting Red Tape: Making Homes Accessible," submitted by Councillor Dominato to Vancouver City Council.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Elections Presentation

Staff:

Danielle Johnston, Election Outreach Manager
Jessica Nelson, Manager, Business and Election Services

Danielle Johnston provided a presentation and subsequently responded to questions and comments.

After the presentation the Committee members voiced concerns regarding accessibility for the upcoming elections. Suggestions and comments were made to improve accessibility, including:

- Importance of telephone voting;
- Providing covered areas for outside voting spaces;
- Providing audio explanation of voting procedures;
- Importance of ESL options at all voting locations;
- Ensuring voting spaces are wheelchair accessible;
- Drive-through voting for people with disabilities;
- Ensuring feedback that the staff receives onsite is conveyed to the Elections office;
- Importance of training staff on using the accessibility voting machine;
- Hiring people with disabilities to work at the election sites;
- Ensuring accessibility in all elections materials, including ESL captions in videos and website translations;
- Need to provide persons with disabilities an option to expedite the voting process.

3. Discussion of a motion from Seniors' Advisory Committee

Following discussion, it was

MOVED by Chris Morrissey
SECONDED by Laura Mackenrot

WHEREAS the mandate of the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee, to advise Council and staff on enhancing access for inclusion of persons with disabilities to fully participate in City services and civic life, applies to all such affected individuals, regardless of age.

AND WHEREAS advancing age often leads to disability and ultimately results in diminished opportunity for seniors to remain full participants in City services and civic life.

AND WHEREAS the Seniors' Advisory Committee, within their motion "Advancing Efforts for an Age Friendly City of Vancouver," has identified the need to create resources and a plan to promote an age friendly city, which will assist in eliminating barriers that seniors with disabilities currently face in pursuing or maintaining full participation in all aspects of civic life.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee strongly endorses the Seniors' Advisory Committee's motion "Advancing Efforts for an Age Friendly City of Vancouver," as an initiative aimed at enhancing the abilities of seniors with disabilities to fully participate in civic life.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Paul Gauthier absent for the vote)

4. Vancouver Park Board Presentation

Staff:

Nalon Smith, Planner II, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation
Emily Dunlop, Senior Planner, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation
Brian Gould, Civil Engineer II, City of Vancouver

Nalon Smith provided an update on Stanley Park temporary bike lane, public engagement and survey results, Stanley Park mobility study outline, and subsequently responded to questions and comments.

Following the presentation, the Committee members expressed concerns listed below:

- Lack of consultation with Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, and Urban Indigenous groups;
- A detour from Park Drive to the accessible washroom at Ceperley Park, which has diminished access to the washroom as a result of the 3.5 km detour from the park, into the West End and back into the park;

- The Committee members highlighted their continued position that the detour referred to above needs to be eliminated and original access along Park Drive from Second Beach to the parking lot at Ceperley Park, by one way traffic, should be restored;
- Lack of consultation with the neighbourhood;
- Wording in report presented to Council states that the project is done “in consultation with the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee”; needs to be changed to “after consultation with the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee,” so that the report does not imply that the Committee agreed with the project;
- Overrepresentation of persons with disabilities was singled out in the engagement report;
- Mobility study is conducted during the pandemic, which favors pushing the study forward, but access to the park was not typical during the pandemic;
- Seniors are not well-represented in the survey.
- The Committee is strongly opposed to Stanley Park becoming a car free park.

Emily Dunlop responded to questions and comments and reassured the Committee members that a permanent car free park is not being considered by Park Board.

5. New Business

Councillor Weibe informed the Committee that Council voted to return elements that had been removed from the City budget, to ensure that the Accessible Strategy is funded, and thanked Committee members for their work and dedication.

Trustee Fraser and Karen Liebel provided Liaison updates in written form prior to the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Laura Mackenrot
SECONDED by Caitlin Anderson

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Paul Gauthier, Yat Li, and Amelia Cooper absent for the vote)

Next Meeting:

DATE: Thursday, March 10, 2022
TIME: 5:30 pm
PLACE: Webex Online

The Committee adjourned at 7:58 pm.

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