



RENTERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

NOVEMBER 10, 2021

A meeting of the Renters Advisory Committee was held on Wednesday, November 10, 2021, at 5:30 pm, by electronic means.

PRESENT:

Jenny Tan (Co-Chair)
Tanya Webking (Co-Chair)
Eva Ciesielska
Adam Huizinga*
R. Paul Kerston
Steve Kim
Robert Penkala
Mitchell Prost*
Victor Rizov*
Kit Sauder
Aidan Shirley
Oliver South

ABSENT:

Michael Biskar
Liam Menard
Jacint Simon (Leave of Absence)

ALSO PRESENT:

Councillor Jean Swanson, Council Liaison
Trustee Estrellita Gonzalez, Vancouver School Board
Liaison
Jennifer Hales, Social Planner, Homelessness Services
and Affordable Housing, Staff Liaison

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Terri Burke, Meeting Coordinator

* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

WELCOME

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

Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Jenny Tan
SECONDED by Aidan Shirley

THAT the Renters Advisory Committee approve a leave of absence for Jacint Simon, for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Adam Huizinga, Mitchell Prost, and Victor Rizov absent for the vote)

Approval of Minutes – September 15, 2021

MOVED by Jenny Tan
SECONDED by Robert Penkala

THAT the Renters Advisory Committee approve the Minutes from the meeting of September 15, 2021, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Adam Huizinga, Mitchell Prost, and Victor Rizov absent for the vote)

1. 2022 Meeting Schedule

MOVED by Jenny Tan
SECONDED by Aidan Shirley

THAT the Renters Advisory Committee approve the following meeting dates and times for 2022:

Month	Day	Time	Meeting Type
January	19	5:30 pm	Regular
February	16	5:30 pm	Working Session
March	9	5:30 pm	Regular
April	20	5:30 pm	Working Session
May	25	5:30 pm	Regular
June	29	5:30 pm	Working Session
July	13	5:30 pm	Regular
August	Summer Break (no meetings)		
September	14	5:30 pm	Regular

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Adam Huizinga and Mitchell Prost absent for the vote)

2. Liaison Updates

Trustee Gonzalez, Vancouver School Board (VSB) liaison, provided updates on the following:

- The focus of the VSB is to get children back to school after COVID-19 absences;
- The Strategic Plan for the next five years has begun;
- A major project for 2022 is the Anti-Racism and Non-Discrimination Plan.

Trustee Gonzalez also responded to questions.

Councillor Swanson, Council Liaison, provided information on the Report dated November 4, 2021, entitled “Vacancy Control Regulations in Single Room Accommodation (SRA) Designated Properties”, which is scheduled for the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on November 17, 2021.

Councillor Swanson also responded to questions.

3. Discussion of Councillor Jean Swanson’s Single Room Occupancy (SRO) Vacancy Control Motion

The Committee discussed the Report dated November 4, 2021, entitled “Vacancy Control Regulations in Single Room Accommodation (SRA) Designated Properties”, which was related to Councillor Swanson’s Motion entitled “[Slowing the loss of the law low income SROs in Vancouver](#)”, approved at the Council meeting December 10, 2019.

Tanya Webking, Co-Chair responded to questions from Committee members. It was noted that Tanya had previously agreed to speak on behalf of the Committee on this issue. The Committee discussed the main points to be highlighted when Tanya speaks at the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on November 17, 2021, to the Report entitled “Vacancy Control Regulations in Single Room Accommodation (SRA) Designated Properties”.

MOVED by Kit Sauder
SECONDED by R. Paul Kerston

THAT the Renters Advisory Committee draft a letter to be sent to each member of Council in their consideration of the Report dated November 4, 2021, entitled “Vacancy Control Regulations in Single Room Accommodation (SRA) Designated Properties”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Discussion of Committee Priorities

a) Discussion of Work Plan Structure

Committee members discussed priorities and the development of the work plan.

MOVED by R. Paul Kerston

SECONDED by Mitchell Prost

THAT the Renters Advisory Committee approve the Co-Chairs, or their delegates, to facilitate a Survey Monkey to determine the priority action items of the Committee for 2022.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b) Civic Engagement and Communications Set-up

The Committee discussed options for civic engagement.

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During discussion, it was

*MOVED by Jenny Tan
SECONDED by Kit Sauder*

THAT the meeting be extended until 7:40 pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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MOVED by Kit Sauder
SECONDED by Mitchell Prost

THAT the Renters Advisory Committee adopt social media accounts on Twitter and Facebook, specifically focused on:

- Broadcasting policy discussions and staff reports relating to renters and renting in the city of Vancouver, and items of interest relating to renters and renting in national and international news;
- Reposting and sharing City Channels and non-City channels when approved that are communicating these issues;
- Soliciting feedback and engagement from citizens;
- Communicating the actions and positions of the Renters Advisory Committee *only* after the Committee has approved action through a formal motion; and
- Acknowledge that the sharing and posting of content does not mean that it is endorsed by the Committee.

FURTHER THAT delegation of Social Media management will be delegated at the discretion of the Co-Chairs.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. New Business

a) Discussion of Attendance Participation at Future Meetings

It was agreed that the Committee would meet via Webex for their next meeting.

b) Broadway Plan

It was agreed that Aidan Shirley would represent the Committee at a joint Committee meeting regarding the Broadway Plan on November 22, 2021.

7. Grassroots Organizing and the Vancouver Tenants Union (VTU)

Due to time constraints, the Committee did not discuss this item.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Kit Sauder
SECONDED by Tanya Webking

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting:

DATE: Wednesday, January 19, 2022
TIME: 5:30 pm
PLACE: Webex Online

The Committee adjourned at 7:40 pm.

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