



RACIAL AND ETHNO-CULTURAL EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

MARCH 10, 2022

A meeting of the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, March 10, 2022, at 5:30 pm, by electronic means.

PRESENT: Steph Kallstrom (Chair)
Stephanie Ameyaw
Gurleen Cheema*
Ritu Gill
Alexandra Gunn
Naomi Hudson
Juggy Sihota
Isaac Tomas
Austin Uzama
Dinushi Wickrama Arachchi
Kamika Williams*
Mohammed Zaqout

*indicates absent for part of the meeting

ABSENT: Ignatius But
Lerato Chondoma (Vice-Chair)
Danielle George

ALSO PRESENT: April Sumter-Frietag, Staff Liaison
Mumbi Maina, Staff Liaison
Trustee Allan Wong, School Board Liaison

Metha Brown, Social Planner
Julia Hulbert, Arts + Culture Planner
Sheena Jardine-Olade, Cultural Equity & Accessibility
Planner
Krystal Paraboo, Cultural Planner
Maya Preshyon, Organizer, Van Black Library

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Brian Fukushima, Committee Clerk

WELCOME

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

Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Alexandra Gunn
SECONDED by Mohammed Zaqout

THAT Daniellie George be granted a leave of absence.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Gurleen Cheema and Kamika Williams absent for the vote.)

Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Alexandra Gunn
SECONDED by Mohammed Zaqout

THAT the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee approve the Minutes from the meeting of January 13, 2022, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Gurleen Cheema and Kamika Williams absent for the vote.)

1. Adding a Black Library to Vancouver

Maya Preshyon presented on the Van Black Library, a nonprofit, black communal space currently fundraising through gofundme. The VBL aims to conduct workshops, support diverse communal knowledge and care initiatives. Maya Preshyon outlined the VBL's proposed budget.

Juggy Sihota asked if the VBL was seeking funding, which it is.

Metha Brown and Sheena Jardine-Olade noted that cultural services grants could be available for such a project.

2. REEAC Cultural Services Commemoration Policy

Metha Brown, Julia Hulbert, Sheena Jardine-Olade and Krystal Parahoo presented slides outlining the joint City and Park Board commemoration framework for monuments, memorials and naming. The policy aims to reckon with different histories, incorporate reconciliation and redress and engage with communities and storytellers.

3. Liaison Updates

Alan Wong discussed topics including the VSB Anti-Racism and Discrimination Strategic Plan, engagement report, School Board budget, upcoming election and the History of African Descent course.

Mumbi Maina provided an update on the Capital Planning process, which will conduct public engagement in April.

4. Motion of Support for Van Black Library

MOVED by Juggy Sihota
SECONDED by Austin Uzama

THAT the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee will draft a letter of support for the Van Black Library and send the letter to Council and the Vancouver Public Library for support.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Work Plan Discussion

The committee discussed items on their Work Plan, to be submitted to Council.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Juggy Sihota
SECONDED by Mohammed Zaqout

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting:

DATE: Thursday, May 12, 2022
TIME: 5:30 pm
PLACE: WebEx Online

The Committee adjourned at 7:13 pm.

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