A meeting of the Seniors’ Advisory Committee was held on Friday, March 11, 2016, at 9:37 am, in Committee Room No. 1, Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

PRESENT: Colleen McGuinness, Chair
Thomas Crean
Beatrice Ho
Gudrun Langolf
Dellie Lidyard
Jim McCully
Scott Ricker, Vice-Chair
Brian Tucker
Eva Wadolna
Jacqueline Weiler

ABSENT: Eva Beda (Leave of Absence)
Eddy Elmer
Bob Worcester

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Elizabeth Ball (Council Liaison)
Commissioner Erin Shum (Park Board Liaison)
Stephanie Kripps, Branch Head, Accessible Services (Library Liaison)
Taryn Scollard, Director, Streets Division (Staff Liaison)

CITY CLERK’S OFFICE: Tina Hildebrandt, Meeting Coordinator

* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.
Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Beatrice Ho
SECONDED by Dellie Lidyard

THAT the Seniors’ Advisory Committee approve a leave of absence for Eva Beda for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Scott Ricker
SECONDED by Dellie Lidyard

THAT the Seniors’ Advisory Committee approve the minutes from the meeting held January 15, 2016, as amended on page 4 (f) Draft letter re BC Transit, to strike and replace the words “This item was postponed” with “The Chair and Beatrice Ho will draft a letter to send to Mayor and Council”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Committee agreed to postpone approval of the meeting notes from the working session held February 19, 2016, until the next meeting.

1. Business arising from the minutes

(a) BC transit letter to Mayor and Council

MOVED by Scott Ricker
SECONDED by Jacqueline Weiler

THAT the Seniors’ Advisory Committee approve the BC Transit Letter to Mayor and Council.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
2. Committee Liaison Updates

(a) Council Liaison

Councillor Ball provided updates on the following:

- a Motion on Gender Equality will be considered by Council on April 5, 2016, which recommends a policy to ensure appointment of women to City advisory committees be equal or greater than 50%, and encouraged the Committee’s feedback;

- the Committee’s concerns on not having adequate time to review projects that involve matters related to seniors before those projects go before Council for decision.

In response, the Staff Liaison advised that she will bring this to the attention of Engineering and Planning and Development Services staff.

There was a discussion on the Age-Friendly City Strategy presentation which has been postponed a number of times and Councillor Ball agreed to follow-up. In addition, the Meeting Coordinator will look into options on how the Committee could be notified of Council agendas once they are public.

(b) School Board Liaison

None

(c) Park Board Liaison

Commissioner Shum provided an update on a Motion “Serving Our Seniors” which was considered at the Park Board meeting on February 22, 2016, and noted a friendly amendment was accepted by the mover, Commissioner Kirby-Yung, to include Persons with Disabilities, Seniors’ Advisory Committee and Community Centre Associations as community stakeholders. She also reviewed next steps.
(d)  Vancouver Public Library Liaison

Stephanie Kripps advised that the VPL is embarking on a new cycle for strategic planning giving priority to older adults and seniors. In response to questions, she agreed to follow-up on whether the Committee could be included in upcoming meetings with stakeholders.

Ms. Kripps also advised that she has been hired as the Branch Head of the DTES Strathcona Branch Library which is scheduled to open in September of this year and that there will be a replacement VPL Liaison to SAC in the next few months.

(e)  Staff Liaison

In response to a question regarding potholes, the Staff Liaison noted that it is very helpful when members of the public report such issues as potholes and abandoned vehicles.

In response to a concern raised regarding wayfinding signage issues, she agreed to follow-up.

3.  Subcommittee and Working Group Updates

(a)  Communication - Eddy Elmer

None

(b)  Community Engagement - Beatrice Ho/Jackie Weiler

Beatrice Ho provided a brief update.

(c)  Housing - Scott Ricker and Chris Morrissey

None

(d)  Social Isolation and Loneliness - Brian Tucker

Brian Tucker noted the West End Seniors Network did a review on social isolation and the Committee expressed an interest in inviting representatives to a future meeting to provide further details.
(e) Transportation and Mobility - Dellie Lidyard

Dellie Lidyard provided a brief update noting she will be the liaison to the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee.

In addition, she requested the issue of bus passes be added to a future agenda to consider sending a letter to TransLink requesting restoration of the initial bus pass system for seniors and persons with disabilities.

(f) Draft letter re BC Transit

See Item No. 1 (a) of these minutes.

4. Other Business

(a) Lon LaClaire, Acting Director, Transportation Division

- Transportation 2040 Plan & 2016 Downtown Bike Network Expansion

  Paul Storer, Manager - Transportation 2040, presented an update and, along with Mr. LaClaire, Neal Peacock, Strategic Transportation Planning, and Dylan Passmore, Active Transportation, responded to questions.

- 800 Robson Street

  Mr. Peacock provided a brief update, reviewed project timelines and responded to questions.

  The Chair stressed the need for further discussions on implications related to the proposed closure. Staff confirmed the project is in the early stage and that there will be further opportunity for Committee input.

- West 10th Avenue

  Due to time constraints, it was agreed to postpone this matter to the working session on April 15, 2016.
The Chair reviewed the Committee’s concerns regarding matters related to seniors, including access to healthcare, pick-up and drop-off and stressed the need to ensure these matters are a priority in the planning for West 10th Avenue.

(b) TransLink Matters

The Chair along with Beatrice Ho raised concerns with a number of TransLink matters regarding bus route survey materials printed in English only and changes to the bus route for the No 26 along 49th Avenue. Mr. LaClaire responded.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Beatrice Ho
SECONDED by Dellie Lidyard

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Working Session:

DATE: Friday, April 15, 2016  
TIME: 9:30 am  
PLACE: Committee Room No. 1  
Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall

Next Regular Meeting:

DATE: Friday, May 20, 2016  
TIME: 9:30 am  
PLACE: Committee Room No. 1  
Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall

The Committee adjourned at 12:10 pm.

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