



VANCOUVER CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

MINUTES

NOVEMBER 21, 2012

A meeting of the Vancouver City Planning Commission was held on Wednesday, November 21, 2012, at 12:13 pm, in Committee Room No. 1, Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

- PRESENT:** Peter Greenwell, Chair
Louise Blight*
Marian Brown
Caitriona Feeney
Karenn Krangle
Phil Mondor
John Weldon
Jiang Zhu
- ABSENT:** Rafael Aquino (Leave of Absence)
Canisius Chan (Leave of Absence)
Am Johal (Leave of Absence)
Arno Matis (Leave of Absence)
Jeffrey Rotin (Leave of Absence)
- ALSO PRESENT:** Elizabeth Ballantyne, VCPC Manager
- CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Tina Hildebrandt, Meeting Coordinator

* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

1. ADMINISTRATION

a) Attendance

MOVED by Commissioner John Weldon
SECONDED by Commissioner Marion Brown

THAT the Vancouver City Planning Commission approve Leaves of Absence for Commissioners Rafael Aquino, Canisius Chan, Am Johal, Arno Matis and Jeffrey Rotin for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Commissioner Louise Blight absent for vote)

b) Minutes of November 7, 2012, for Approval

MOVED by Commissioner Caitriona Feeney
SECONDED by Commissioner John Weldon

THAT the Vancouver City Planning Commission approve the Minutes of the meeting held November 7, 2012, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Commissioner Louise Blight absent for vote)

c) Notice of VCPC Meetings

Regular Meetings: December 5, 2012, January 9, 2013

MOVED by Commissioner Jiang Zhu
SECONDED by Commissioner John Weldon

THAT the Vancouver City Planning Commission cancel the December 5 2012, meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

* * * * *

VARY AGENDA

*MOVED by Commissioner Phil Mondor
SECONDED by Commissioner Karenn Krangle*

THAT the Vancouver City Planning Commission vary the agenda in order to consider Item 2 a) as the next order of business.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY
(Commissioner Louise Blight absent for vote)*

* * * * *

Note: The minutes are recorded in numerical order.

d) Manager's Report

The Commission Manager provided a brief verbal report on the status of the 2013 meeting schedule and appointments.

e) Urban Design Panel Report

The Chair reminded members that a new VCPC representative is required to serve on the Urban Design Panel (*Urban Design Panel By-Law No. 4722; Section 2 (d)*).

f) Reports from Liaison Members

None.

g) Reports from Commissioners

The Chair advised that he will be attending a lab on housing alternatives at The Hive this Thursday.

Commissioners Caitriona Feeney and Phil Mondor noted there will be a Co-operative City Conference taking place this Friday (Audain Gallery at SFU Woodward).

Commissioner Phil Mondor also noted that the Urban Land Institute is holding an event next week regarding the outlook for real estate.

2. BUSINESS MEETING

a) Presentation: Downtown Public Space Planning incl. Robson Square

Jennifer Sheel, Transportation Engineer, Streets Activities, and Michael Gordon, Senior Planner, Central Area Planning Branch, provided a presentation on Downtown Public Space Planning and responded to questions.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- overview of public space planning in the Downtown;
- strong public interest in public spaces;
- a report regarding a permanent public plaza at 800-block Robson Street will be going to Council on November 28, 2012;
- stakeholder concerns in regard to the proposed closure of the 800-block Robson Street include:
 - #5 Robson Bus re-route;
 - traffic congestion;
 - the need for inclusivity; and
 - impacts of programming choices.

b) Transportation Plan Committee

Commissioner Marian Brown provided a verbal update on the Committee's discussions on the Fraser Shoreline and greenways/blueways.

c) City-wide Plan Committee

Commissioner Caitriona Feeney reported that the Committee agreed to continue their readings on the Regional Growth Strategy and maintain their focus on the Regional Context Statement by the City required before July of next year. She also advised that the Committee agreed to discuss the idea of changing the committee's name to 'City-wide Planning Committee' at the Committee's next meeting. She noted that the current name of the committee is somewhat misleading as there is no comprehensive or physical city-wide plan process underway at this time.

3. NEW BUSINESS

a) Work Plan 2013 Review

The Chair suggested the Commission review the Work Plan for 2012 at the next meeting and update it for 2013. He also noted this will be the first meeting for newly appointed Commissioners; therefore, it would be beneficial for the two Committees to provide updates on their plans for the year.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Commissioner Louise Blight
SECONDED by Commissioner John Weldon

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting:

DATE: Wednesday, January 9, 2013
TIME: 12:00 pm
PLACE: Committee Room No. 1
Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall

The Committee adjourned at 1:42 pm.

* * * * *