

WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

May 8, 2012

A meeting of the Women's Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, May 8, 2012, at 5:30 pm in Committee Room 1, Third Floor, City Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Wendy Williams, Chair
Kamal Basra
Krissy Darch*
Jake Hassel-Gren
Jarrah Hodge
Ingrid Kolsteren
Fiona McFarlane, Vice-Chair
Marion Smith
Bif Walker
Julie Wong

ABSENT: Genesa Greening (Leave of Absence)
Margarita Pinillos (Leave of Absence)

ALSO PRESENT: Jennifer Dawkins, Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services,
Staff Liaison
Brenda Proskan, General Manager, Community Services
Commissioner Nicki Sharma, Park Board Liaison

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Terri Burke, Meeting Coordinator

* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

Leave of Absence Requests

Leaves of absence were approved for Genesa Greening and Margarita Pinillos.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the April 3, 2012, meeting were approved as circulated.

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The Committee agreed to vary the agenda in order to deal with items 3 and 4 prior to items 1 and 2. For ease of reference, the Minutes are recorded in numerical order.

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1. City of Vancouver - Jurisdiction

The General Manager, Community Services, provided a verbal presentation on the role of the Women's Advisory Committee within the City. She advised on the difference between the three levels of government (Municipal, Provincial and Federal), and where their responsibilities overlap. She also responded to questions.

2. City of Vancouver - Work Cycle

The General Manager, Community Services, provided a verbal presentation informing the Committee of the following:

- Vancouver City Council and their key priorities
- The organizations within the City of Vancouver and the services they provide
- The City's Business Plan
- The City's Civic Agencies
- Community Plans currently in progress.

The Committee was also informed that they will be receiving an invitation to the Council of Councils meeting on May 30, 2012, where members will be given additional information regarding their role.

Committee members were asked to bring an item/topic to the next meeting that they would like the Committee to focus on.

3. Fire and Rescue Services

Jennifer Dawkins, Staff Liaison, provided an overview of the following Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services (VFRS) matters:

- Staff Liaison role
- Hiring update
- Work needing to be done to make Fire Halls equally accessible for men and women, for example, most of the Fire Halls do not have washroom facilities for women
- Camp Ignite.

Ms. Dawkins agreed to arrange to have the September 11, 2012, Women's Advisory Committee meeting at the VFRS training facility, located at 1330 Chess Street.

4. Women Transforming Cities

Wendy Williams informed the Committee that the Women Transforming Cities Conference launch will take place on May 24, 2012, at Vancouver City Hall, Third Floor, Council Chamber.

5. Gender Budgeting Initiative

Wendy Williams provided an overview of gender budgeting and responded to questions. It was noted that data is often not separated by gender and this creates difficulty when determining who is benefiting from City spending.

6. Herstory Café

Wendy Williams noted a new date will need to be determined for the Herstory Café which was previously scheduled for October 18, 2012. She will advise when the date is selected.

7. Other Business

a) July Meeting Date

The Committee agreed to cancel the July 10, 2012, meeting date.

b) Transportation Committee

Marion Smith advised the Committee that comments on the Draft 2040 Transportation Plan need to be submitted by June 15, 2012. She asked Committee members to submit their comments to her by June 1, 2012. She informed the Committee that currently there is no gender lens being placed on the 2040 Transportation Plan.

The Committee adjourned at 7:38 pm.

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