



**Temporary Modular Housing  
265 West 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Community Advisory Committee Meeting Notes**

**March 13, 2019, 5:30 to 6:05 pm | Creekside Community Centre**

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

- a) The Facilitator welcomed participants and led a round of introductions.
- b) The Facilitator introduced the notetaker and explained that the meeting notes are the official record of the meeting and will be published on the City of Vancouver website and the PHS website. CAC members can share the link to these notes with neighbours and community members who would like to read them.

**2. Review of Action Items from Last Meeting**

- a) Action Item 1: All CAC members will review and sign the Terms of Reference (ToR) and send back to PHS before the next meeting.
  - PHS will check whether all ToR forms have been submitted and will confirm at the next meeting.
  - One CAC member informed the group that they had not yet signed the ToR, but would do so and return the form to PHS in the next few days.
- b) Action Item 2: Contact info for 265 West 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Margaret Mitchell Place building managers will be circulated with the meeting notes.
  - Facilitator confirmed that this contact info has been circulated.

- c) Action Item 3: The PHS team will send the Needle Exchange Van to the Foundry and the Wall Centre and will provide representatives from these buildings with the contact info of the Needle Exchange Van.
- PHS confirmed that they have shared the contact information of the Needle Exchange Van with representatives from these buildings.
  - PHS distributed business cards with the contact info of the Needle Exchange Van to CAC members who attended the March 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.
  - PHS clarified that they would send out the van to the Foundry and the Wall Centre only upon request.
- d) Action Item 4: The VPD representative will provide their email contact info to CAC members.
- This action item will be forwarded to the next meeting.
- e) Action Item 5: The City of Vancouver representative will pass along small grant application information to CAC members who wish to organize welcoming initiatives for residents.
- The City of Vancouver representative explained that the small grants website will soon be updated with information about this year's Homelessness Action Week grants. Once the website has been updated, the link will be shared with CAC members.

### **3. Updates and Discussion**

#### **a) BC Housing**

- BC Housing has not heard from the community regarding the building.
- BC Housing informed CAC members about a review and evaluation of the TMH program that is being conducted in partnership with the City of Vancouver. The

team is currently compiling information gathered from the first three TMH sites to open in the City. This information has been collected through surveys and interviews with tenants, neighbours and staff that began six months after the sites had been tenanted.

- A report on the TMH review will be posted on the BC Housing website when it is complete. CAC members can also read reports on social and economic outcomes of other housing projects on the BC Housing website. Visit <https://www.bchousing.org/home> and navigate to Research Centre > Research Library.

#### **b) PHS Community Services Society**

- PHS reported that the 265 West 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue TMH Site is 90% tenanted.
- There are three units awaiting tenancing by three youth applicants that have been difficult to locate. This building has the mandate of prioritizing youth who are aging out of foster care.
- The name of the building will be Hummingbird Place. This name emerged from the initial design of the area as Garden City in the late 1960s and early 1970s, the building's relationship with Sole Food Street Farms, and the high quantity of hummingbirds that frequented the area in previous times.
- PHS is exploring ways to beautify the nearby storage building with a mural.
  - **Question from Community Member:** How will the mural be funded?
    - **Response from PHS:** The mural idea is currently in the conceptual phase. We could look into partnering with the Vancouver Mural Festival and we will research other funding opportunities.
- PHS is working in partnership with Sole Food Farms on opportunities for residents to become involved with the farm.

- The Clean Team is doing sweeps around the building and will be integrated with the nearby Margaret Mitchell Place (2132 Ash Street) Clean Team.
  - **Question from the Facilitator:** Can you explain what the Clean Team does, for those who may not know?
    - **Response from PHS:** The Clean Team is a paid employment program for TMH residents. Clean Team members go out into community and pick up refuse and biohazard waste if that were to be found.
- There have been no police calls to 265 West 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue.
  - When Margaret Mitchell Place was first tenanted, there were a lot of missing persons police calls to the building from staff. PHS has a strict policy of reporting tenants as missing if they have not been seen in 48 hours. This policy emerged from the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. It is important to remember that younger tenants may be more wide ranging, which can necessitate missing persons calls.
- PHS has heard concerns that the lighting of the emergency exits on the west side of the building is too bright. PHS is currently exploring ways to shade or angle this lighting so that the exits remain lit and safe while the brightness is reduced for site neighbours.
- PHS has received complaints about traffic congestion on West 1st Avenue caused by emergency vehicles and deliveries that arrive at 265 West 1st Avenue. PHS has asked delivery vehicles to use the parking lot to the west of the site. Emergency vehicles have their own parking procedures that cannot be adjusted by PHS.
- 265 West 1st Avenue has a number of tenants who are talented artists. The building is starting up an art program and a baking program. The sense of community is building rapidly.

- **Question from Community Member:** Has there been parking assigned to residents, and if so, would it be in the gravel lot?
  - **Response from PHS:** We do not have a lot of residents in the building with cars. There is a parking lot on Crowe Street.
  - **Question from Community Member:** Does the van that has been parked in that lot for weeks belong to someone in the building?
  - **Response from PHS:** I do not know who the van belongs to. It does not belong to anyone in the building.
  - **Comment from Facilitator:** The City of Vancouver will follow up with the resident who expressed concerns about the van.
  
- **Question from Community Member:** What is the food program in the building?
  - **Response from PHS:** We serve continental breakfast, which includes oatmeal, baked goods, fruit, and granola bars. Breakfast is available from early morning until dinner, which is served at 3:45 pm. The cooks work in one main kitchen offsite and produce about 1,000 meals a day. When dinner is delivered to the site, we finish the meal and portion it out to tenants. We try to make sure that there is always food available. Our tenants have non-normative hours, and our staff have non-normative hours, with shifts from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm, or 8:00 pm to 8:00 am. As most conventional food availability is geared to a 9 to 5 schedule, we make adjustments to reduce the barriers to food access and food security.
  - **Comment from Sole Food Street Farms:** We were able to assist two staff members from Sole Food in getting housing at 265 West 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue. One of our staff is very pleased to be able to go home for lunch every day.
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### c) City of Vancouver

- The City of Vancouver had nothing additional to report.

**d) Vancouver Coastal Health**

- The Vancouver Coastal Health CAC representative was absent.

**e) Vancouver Police Department**

- The Vancouver Police Department CAC representative was absent.

**f) Community Members**

- **Comment from Community Member:** Here in the Olympic Village, there are at least ten large buildings, and there are other buildings located on West 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue. They all have presidents and the presidents have a committee. I have been asked to be a liaison for the presidents' committee. I have circulated the notes from the last CAC meeting to the committee. I have also sent them to my own strata council and asked if they had any questions or concerns. I have not heard anything back.
  - **Comment from Community Member:** if there are no issues with the site, there are no concerns. It would be brilliant if we could have a report like this to the presidents that would filter down to the stratas.
  - **Response from Facilitator:** Our hope is that you do go out into your communities as CAC representatives to receive and share information.
  - Community member observed that the notes from last CAC meeting were marked "Draft and Confidential" when they were distributed. Facilitator assured the community member that this was an error and that the team will remember to remove "Draft and Confidential" in future meeting notes.

- **Comment from Community Member:** It was great to see the new plantings going in and I am excited to hear that there will be art in the area.
  - **Response from PHS:** We are working closely with Sole Food Street Farms and are hoping to identify people who could have employment opportunities on the farm. These opportunities would hopefully be geared to where tenants are at in terms of job readiness.
- **Comment from 265 West 1<sup>st</sup> Resident:** I appreciate that the committee has afforded a spot for a resident at the table. The people who developed the Terms of Reference should be commended for that. I see my role as sitting in, listening and responding to any concerns that people have.
- **Comment from Community Member:** Thanks for proposing to add art to the storage building. I look at it every day. The Clean Team is doing a great job.

**g) Sole Food Street Farms**

- Sole Food has scheduled a meeting with the 265 West 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue operations team and is looking forward to expanding their relationship with the building and contributing to projects that will support the community.

h) **Request from a Community Member:** if someone wants to join this committee, what would the process be?

- **Response from the City of Vancouver:** Please forward their name to me and I will include them to the waitlist.

**4. Action Items and Next Steps**

- a) The Facilitator concluded the meeting and discussed the frequency of meetings moving forward. The next meeting will be scheduled for a month from now, and the group will reassess meeting frequency at that time.
- b) **ACTION ITEM:** The next meeting will be scheduled for April. Once the date and location have been confirmed, CAC members will receive a meeting invitation by email.

c) Action items:

<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Responsible</b>
1. All CAC members will review and sign the Terms of Reference (ToR) and send back to PHS before the next meeting.	PHS will confirm at the next meeting that all signed ToR forms have been submitted.
2. The VPD representative will provide their email contact info to CAC members.	VPD
3. The City of Vancouver representative will pass along small grant application information to CAC members who wish to organize welcoming initiatives for residents once the small grants website has been updated.	City of Vancouver
4. The next meeting will be scheduled for April. Once the date and location have been confirmed, CAC members will receive a meeting invitation by email.	PHS