



Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 11, 2019
6:00pm-8:30pm
Town Hall Room, City Hall

Council Members: Erica Commons, Clare Cullen, Gurjot Dhaliwal, Kaitlyn Fung, Tamer Mohamed Hussein, Delphina Kejo, Joey Liu, Martina Marsic, Marc Schutzbank, Darlene Seto, Sarah Siska, Andrew Stephens-Rennie, Kelsey Timler, Jesse Veenstra, Jason Yip

City appointed liaisons: Sarah Carten (Social Policy, CoV), Caitlin Dorward (Social Policy, CoV), Trustee Gonzalez (VSB),

Regrets: Councillor Bligh (City Council), Commissioner Dumont (Park Board), Heather Escobar, Meg Herod (Park Board Staff) Patrick Johnson, Emily Voong, Councillor Wiebe (City Council).

Absent: Evan Bowness

Agenda

1. Call to order

1.1 Land Acknowledgement

We gratefully acknowledge that we are meeting on the unceded homelands of the *ᓄᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ* (Musqueam), *ᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ* (Squamish), and *ᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂᓂ* (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations and give thanks for their generosity and hospitality on these lands.

1.2 Quorum

There is quorum at the meeting.

1.3 Roundtable introductions

Members and liaisons introduced themselves.

2. Consent agenda matters

2.1 Previous Minutes

MOTION: To approve minutes from the June meeting, as circulated.

Moved by Erica, seconded by Gurjot, carried unanimously.

2.2 Liaison Reports

2.2.1 CoV Councilor Liaisons Councillors Wiebe and Bligh

No update available.

2.2.3 Park Board Liaisons Megan Herod (Staff)

No update available.

2.2.3 VSB Liaison Trustee Gonzalez

Trustee Gonzales brought forward a motion to VSB to create an external working group on food to develop a holistic framework to replace the current patchwork. The motion will go to committee in September. The VSB has aging infrastructure that needs to be addressed, and students are not learning culinary skills while the industry is in need of chefs. Students are ordering food delivery rather than using the cafeteria. The working group would aim to improve students' relationship with food. The Long Range Facilities Plan is recreating what can be done with facilities. The VSB needs to be innovative with limited funding so that public assets are used for the public good and be able to feed students and prepare for a national school food program.

Discussion

- Trustee Gonzalez is the liaison for David Thompson and Prince of Wales schools, as well as their feeder schools.
- It was noted that line cooks often encounter challenges and a lack of benefits, which makes employment in that field not sustainable. It was agreed that it can be difficult for small businesses to pay higher wages, and suggested that industry associations could offer benefits.

2.2.4 Social Policy Staff Liaison Caitlin Dorward

- The Park Board has hired additional staff (Katelyn Ling) who will share the liaison role with Meg Herod.
- Beginning in August, there will be a staff liaison (Rachel) from the Sustainability Office, under the Planning Department.
- Members were reminded that the Hua Foundation is stewarding \$500 to be put toward reconciliation or food justice themes.
- If there are topics that members would like City staff to present on, let Caitlin know. ACTION: Caitlin will follow up with the Clerk's office re: reconciliation training at BCIT.
- Social Policy and Sustainability are working on a new project called Solutions Lab that will aim to increase uptake of diets that are healthy for people and the planet. This was inspired by the City's declaration of a climate emergency with the recognition that the City can play a greater role in reducing [Scope 3 emissions](#), as well as the release of the new [Canada Food Guide](#) and the [EAT Lancet report](#). The Solutions Lab is a new format that the City is using in different departments to address complex challenges where the City has not taken a role and where input to solutions is needed. Meetings will take place monthly for five months. The idea is for members to implement actions in their own organizations. A representative from the VFPC is welcome. ACTION: Caitlin will share details through email or through the drive. Clare, Kelsey, and Gurjot expressed interest. It was noted that the focus is on food access rather than production. The Park Board has confirmed a representative and one from the VSB is also being sought.
- Once the VFPC has determined its priorities, there is opportunity to work with a class from UBC's Faculty of Land and Food Systems, who are seeking to do research with community partners. Capacity to supervise and mentor students is needed.
- Three City plans are in development - the Broadway Plan (from Clark to past Arbutus) will host upcoming open houses; this is an opportunity to talk about food assets or planning needs. ACTION: CAITLIN will circulate dates. The Marpole Community Centre Renewal may include discussions around food programming (see open survey through Talk Vancouver). The Jericho lands (privately owned by the three first nations) are seeking options to develop it in the future. There will be a pop up tent at the Folk fest on July 20-21.
- Members are reminded that staff can provide updates either verbally in the meeting, or written in advance.
- The City runs a number of grant programs and is currently receiving applications for social innovation projects with a food focus that addresses issues of deep poverty. Organizational capacity building grants are also available. ACTION: Sarah will send links to these opportunities.
- The call to fill the two vacant seats on the VFPC reserved for indigenous people is now open. ACTION: Caitlin will send the link. It was noted the 2018 motion passed by the VFPC also included representation from the senior community.

Discussion

Community plans - As a council, a motion could be passed to provide specific input to those plans. Members are invited to lead a working group to respond. If interested, members can advise the Chairs that a motion will be brought forward. It was confirmed that a motion in August would not be too late, as the plans can take several months to be finalized.

3. Matters requiring discussion

3.1 Term Priority Planning

Members suggested ideas for the VFPC priorities, then arranged in groups with the following themes resulting: Waste, Access, Availability, Land Use, Climate, Food literacy, Food Strategy / GCAP, Institutions and school food, Edibles.

Discussion

- Retail - It is not clear how retail fits in with some categories - for example, there is no awareness of indigenous or local sourcing, or school food. A question was raised about what outreach is being done to businesses.
- Food Waste - how to redistribute, and institutionalize policies for those who are most likely to have wastage. It is also important to emphasize education to consumers. It was noted there is a tension between food recovery and dignified access to food, and can result in burdens for non-profits; control should happen more upstream. The City has worked on waste, and will continue to, with its [Zero waste strategy for 2040](#) that has food actions, and where the retail sector is a primary target.
- Federally, there is much discussion around the [national food policy](#), the VFPC should consider its role to help that conversation.
- Tools - The VFPC cannot create a program, but can provide input (proactive and reactive) to staff to help frame topics and recommend actions. Motions are a key tool to tell City Council what is important. The VFPC can also convene themed meetings, conduct trainings, host events, conduct research, and encourage dialogue. Staff work is directed by Council; if staff is not working on an issue, the VFPC can make a request to Council.
- For example, Caitlin can help connect with Erin Nichols who can come to a future meeting and explain her work on waste and seek input and feedback.
- Much of the City's work is related to ongoing issues, such as the GCAP for 2020-25 where VFPC input will be sought in the fall. It would be helpful to have point people on the VFPC, as it intersects with several issues and can be more strategic. This could be workshopped in September.

3.2 Review and revise ground rules established at June meeting Tabled until next meeting.

3.3 Council Administration-Member communications-Leadership structure In the past, both a model with two co-chairs and a model with a leadership team (an admin working group) have been used. A leadership team spreads the work load and allows for more redundancy and different skill sets, although there is more potential for conflict, which could be harder to make decisions.

Discussion

- Rotating chairs allow for different skills to be used. Chairs would also remain on their working groups.
- City Staff and the Clerk's office need one Chair to be identified to act as the main point of contact.
- The leadership team should be limited in number, but include both new and returning members, with staggered terms to keep institutional memory. The following members expressed interest: Erica, Marc, Clare, Sarah, Martina, Jesse, Kelsey, Tamer, Jason, Kaitlyn.
- Some roles are better if they are longer term - communications, agenda planning (including briefing members in advance), and external monitoring (responds to info@ email).

MOTION: To adopt the leadership framework below, to be reviewed in December.

Rotating roles: Food procurement, Co-Chairs

Ongoing roles: Agenda Support / staff liaison, External monitoring, IT / Social Media, Working groups liaison and long-term planning

Moved by Marc, seconded by Kelsey, carried unanimously.

MOTION: To assign the following roles on the leadership team:

Agenda support - Marc

External Monitoring - Jesse, Martina

Social media - Jason

Working group liaison and long-term planning - Clare, Erica

Moved by Marc, seconded by Darlene, carried unanimously.

Vicky will post agendas and content on the website. The leadership team will assign Chairs. Those who are not present can still express interest in a role. The food budget is \$100/meeting; Caitlin will provide a list of dietary restrictions. Jason offered to bring food from 7-11 and will try to minimize packaging.

ACTION: Darlene will create a Google doc with the suggested priorities to create working groups, and will work with Marc to facilitate a session next meeting.

MOTION: To have the August 2019 meeting closed to the public.
Moved by Jason, seconded by Gurjot, not carried.

It was noted that the Google doc will give a good sense of what the working groups will be. The public are observers to the meetings, and only engage during breakout discussions in meetings where they form a separate group facilitated by staff. Community input to the working group structure might be beneficial.

MOTION: To add an item to the August 2019 agenda to seek public feedback on the working group structure.
Moved by Erica, seconded by Kaitlyn; carried.

ACTION: Caitlin will look into what happens in the event of a tie vote.

4. Motion to Adjourn Meeting

Moved by Darlene, seconded by Andrew, carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43pm