



2SLGBTQ+ ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

MARCH 18, 2021

A meeting of the 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, March 18, 2021, at 5:35 pm, by electronic means.

PRESENT: Brooklyn Fowler, Co-Chair
Tribesty Nguyen, Co-Chair
Raj Alamchandani
Eddy Elmer
Jutta Kolhi
Rob McDowell

ABSENT: Stephanie Goodwin (Leave of Absence)
Nazanin Moghadami
Chase Willier (Leave of Absence)

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Rebecca Bligh, Council Liaison
Trustee Carmen Cho, Vancouver School Board Liaison
Paul Czene, Recreation Coordinator, Access & Inclusion,
Staff Liaison

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Denise Swanston, Meeting Coordinator

WELCOME

Brooklyn Fowler, Co-Chair, acknowledged we are on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.

Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Eddy Elmer
SECONDED by Jutta Kolhi

THAT the 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee approve leaves of absence for Stephanie Goodwin and Chase Willier for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Approval of Minutes – January 14, 2021

MOVED by Tribesty Nguyen

SECONDED by Raj Alamchandani

THAT the 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee approve the Minutes from the meeting of Thursday, January 14, 2020, with the following amendments:

- Under Item 3;
Accomplishments:
 - bullet 1 should read “Motions on facilitating hate crimes/incident reporting”
 - bullet 3, include example of queer seniorsFuture Goals:
 - bullet 1, replace the words “non-dominated” with “non-dominant”
 - bullet 3, remove the word “including”; remove the final “and”, and replace with “/”
- Item 4; strike the last sentence and replace with “The Meeting Coordinator agreed to circulate VPD contact information”
- Item 6; clarify “training” in first Council update as “anti-oppression and sensitivity training”
- Item 7; motion, remove repeated word “Committee”
- Item 8; replace the word “was” with “were”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Liaison Updates

Councillor Bligh, Council Liaison, provided brief updates on the following:

- Implementation of sensitivity training for Council and advisory bodies
- Improving street lighting motion passed unanimously at Standing Committee
- Resolution passed by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities related to strengthening Canada’s hate speech law
- Councillor Bligh agreed to circulate when available
- Enhanced enforcement on sound amplification devices report was referred back to staff for additional considerations
- Ongoing discussions with community policing and West End Business Improvement Area (BIA) regarding increase in unpredictable behaviour and negative activity at Jim Deva Plaza

Trustee Carmen Cho, Vancouver School Board (VSB) liaison, provided a brief update on the following:

- VSB undertaking review of police liaison program
- Roll out of racism and discrimination awareness training for all staff, and to be included in future onboarding

Paul Czene, Staff Liaison, provided a brief update on the following:

- Inclusion facilitator
- Drop-in Trans inclusive swim re-started at Templeton Pool, with discussions to include Trans inclusive yoga classes

2. Jim Deva Plaza

Councillor Bligh advised that the West End BIA began discussion to replace *fixed* tables and benches with tables and benches that can be brought inside each evening.

Councillor Bligh noted that the by-law associated with Jim Deva plaza indicates closing hours of 3 am to 6 am, which is likely because it is surrounded by nightlight. Because of COVID-19 and restrictions on clubs/restaurants (i.e. no nightlife), the plaza has taken on alternate uses. It is anticipated that the current usage of the plaza will be less of an issue as we return to our “new normal”.

Following discussion on Jim Deva Plaza, Brooklyn Fowler, Co-Chair, advised they had left a few voicemails for the Portland Hotel Society regarding biohazard containers in the area. Brooklyn agreed to follow up with the Committee when they hear back.

3. Hate Crime Reporting Updates

Eddy Elmer provided updates on ongoing discussions with Vancouver Police Department (VPD) Inspector Suzanne Muir in relation to the [Hate Crime Incident Reporting motion](#) approved by the Committee on September 17, 2020. Eddy agreed to send relevant information to the Committee.

In regards to online reporting of incidents, while discussions are ongoing, Eddy noted that the VPD felt online reporting would result in a loss of evidence and lag in the investigation. Eddy did note that the VPD reassured that they take all reported incidents very seriously and each is followed up on.

Regarding sensitivity training for 9-1-1 operators, it was noted that the operators are not VPD staff and therefore cannot prescribe training.

Eddy advised the VPD agreed to provide updates to the committee on hate crimes if so desired.

4. Anti-Racism Committee Meetings

Tribesty Nguyen, Co-Chair, summarized an email circulated from Chase Willier in relation to the Anti-Racism Committee Meetings. The email summarized progress on identifying:

- priorities in addressing racist incidents
- specific causes preventing racist incidents from being documented, recorded and followed-up with
- specific objectives and outcomes to ensure racist incidents are documented, recorded and followed-up with
- partners and organizations who are working to address these objectives

5. Bus Stop Removal

Brooklyn Fowler, Co-Chair, advised that a member of the public contacted them with concerns surrounding TransLink’s “Bus Stop Balancing” project; it was noted that the Seniors’ Advisory

Committee and the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee were also discussing the issue.

While the Committee felt they should be consulted on such changes, Councillor Bligh highlighted that the issue isn't really within the City's jurisdiction. Following further discussion, Councillor Bligh agreed to raise the issue as an enquiry at the next Council meeting.

6. Plan for Final Working Session

Being the final meeting of the appointed terms, the Committee agreed that creating some form of handover material relating to the current Committees achievements and goals would be helpful for the incoming 2SLGBTQ+ Committee. Tribesty and Brooklyn agreed to prepare something in advance of the final working session.

7. New Business

Earlier in the meeting, Eddy Elmer commented that lights on the Robson Street side of the Vancouver Public Library were more often off than on during late night hours; Paul Czene, Staff Liaison, agreed to follow up.

Tribesty shared an email from staff seeking volunteers to partake in an upcoming workshop to discuss a UN Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces initiative; subsequently, it was:

MOVED by Tribesty Nguyen
SECONDED by Rob McDowell

THAT the 2SLGBTQ+ Committee appoint Eddy Elmer, Brooklyn Fowler and Nazanin Moghadami (providing Nazanin accepts) as representatives of the Committee to attend the workshop.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Committee thanked Councillors Dominato and Bligh, Paul Czene and Bonnie Kennett for all their work and support to the Committee during their term.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Brooklyn Fowler
SECONDED by Rob McDowell

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting:

DATE: TBD
TIME: 5:30 pm
PLACE: WebEx Online

The Committee adjourned at 7:15 pm.

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