



CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NEW WESTMINSTER

## COUNCIL IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

June 1, 2009 3:00 p.m.  
Committee Room 2, City Hall

### MINUTES

#### PRESENT:

Mayor Wayne Wright  
Councillor Jonathan Cote  
Councillor Bill Harper  
Councillor Bob Osterman  
Councillor Jaimie McEvoy  
Councillor Betty McIntosh  
Councillor Lorrie Williams

#### STAFF:

Mr. Jim Lowrie	- Acting City Administrator
Mr. Rick Page	- Corporate Officer/Director of Legislative Services
Ms. Lisa Spitale	- Director of Development Services
Mr. Gary Holowatiuk	- Director of Finance and Information Technology
Mr. Dean Gibson	- Director of Parks and Recreation
Ms. Judi Turner	- Assistant Corporate Officer
Ms. Donna Martin	- Committee Clerk

#### ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

The following items were added to the Agenda:

- Poplar Landing (added as Item 11(a))
- Transition Zones (Business/Commercial to Residential) (added as Item 22)

#### PRESENTATIONS

##### 1. [Bill Chu, President of Canadians for Reconciliation](#)

###### (a) Presentation

###### (b) Correspondence seeking the following:

- To proclaim "Chinese Heritage Week" in New Westminster
- To amend the Building Bylaw for excavations deeper than two feet in the historic Chinatown area

- To erect a memorial park on the grounds of New Westminster Secondary School

**Staff Comment:** *THAT the communications be received and referred to Staff for review and a report.*

Mr. Chu, President of Canadians for Reconciliation, was present representing many other Chinese to raise awareness of wrongs perpetrated on Chinese people throughout the Province and in New Westminster. He referred Council to his May 21, 2009 email, noting this is not an exhaustive list of wrongs. Mr. Chu urged reconciliation and invited the City to participate in a process of reconciliation. He suggested that reconciliation would include the following:

- Acknowledgement of truth
- An appeal to justice to restore a just relationship
- Mercy for victims and those involved in bondage of repression of others
- Apology with redemptive action.

Members of Council made responses to Mr. Chu, commenting on history and the need for redemptive action.

The Mayor noted that the City will work with staff to consider next steps.

#### **PROCEDURAL NOTE re Consent Agenda:**

The Mayor requested that members consider the newly introduced "Consent Agenda". The Corporate Officer explained how a Consent Agenda operates. (Members wishing to remove an item from the Consent Agenda may do so to permit debate or discussion, to vote in opposition to an item, or to declare a conflict of interest in relation to a particular item.) Following a discussion of the concept, it was determined that today's agenda items will be considered as independent items and not as a group.

#### **Director of Development Services**

#### **2. Downtown Sustainability Action Plan – Framework and Opportunities**

##### **(a) Presentation – Peter Whitelaw, HB Lanarc**

##### **(b) Report**

June 1, 2009 report seeking Council feedback on the Downtown Sustainability Action Plan, specifically conceptual framework; how Plan should be structured, environmental goals for Downtown; and the types of project opportunities to be pursued in the Plan.

Eric Westberg, Planning Analyst, presented context for the Downtown Sustainability Action Plan, outlining its scope, relationship to other plans, and the SAP development process.

Peter Whitelaw, HB Lanarc, made an illustrated presentation on the Plan:

- Background information
- Case studies,
- Application within the Downtown Community Plan
- Goals and Opportunities
- Policies and actions.

During discussion, members made the following comments:

- The definition is vague; a specific definition assists in the formation of future decisions
- Should include specifics on what is wanted (e.g. number of affordable housing units desired; need for park space and the amount)
- When looking at densification, look also at jobs and the ability to walk to work
- Look at day time and night time population and the need for activity
- Consider the need of the Downtown for commercial densification

**Downtown Specific Priorities:**

- Recognize animal, bird and fish life as part of the Downtown.

**Opportunities: Downtown Possibilities:**

- Look at installation of meters in the Downtown to avoid the ratchet system applied by BC Hydro
- Apply principles that created success in Fair Haven, Bellingham and Leavenworth, Washington; consider how to make the Downtown an attractive draw for residents and visitors to spend time (livable, economic, sustainable: places to eat and meet, walkability, interesting shops, themes); consider smaller achievable initiatives among the larger projects
- Street right of ways: add greenery where wide roads permit
- Alternative transportation: make community walkable to transit and bicycle friendly
- City owned waterfront park to meet recreational needs of the community but introduce strong elements about the Fraser River
- Are there power generation opportunities because of the sloping lands
- Rooftops can be seen on sloping lands; treat spaces to make them more visually friendly
- Consider dead zones in the Downtown and develop ideas to catalize, create interest, etc. for their use
- Sidewalks need to be more lively: street entertainment, vendors, etc.

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**MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**

*THAT the principle of the framework, structure and goals for the Downtown Sustainability Action plan be approved as identified in the Director of Development Services' report of June 1, 2009.*

Opposed: Councillor Harper.

## CONSENT AGENDA

### PROCEDURAL NOTE:

Earlier in the meeting, it was agreed to proceed with the entire Agenda as standing items and not as part of a Consent Agenda.

### 3. West Nile Virus Program 2009 - Director of Engineering

June 1, 2009 report informing Council of the options for the City's 2009 West Nile Virus Program and requesting appointment of a Councillor to the Local Advisory Committee for adulticiding should the Health Authority deem it necessary to implement this as a control measure.

Members suggested that the City be proactive rather than reactive to the reality of a future threat of West Nile Virus and suggested the City continue its past practices. Discussion ensued and staff responded to questions.

\*\* **MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**  
*THAT Option 1 as outlined in the Director of Engineering's June 1, 2009 report regarding the City's 2009 West Nile Virus Program, be approved.*

Opposed: Councillors McIntosh and Williams.

\*\* **MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**  
*THAT Councillors Betty McIntosh and Lorrie Williams be appointed to sit on the Local Advisory Committee for adulticiding should the Health Authority deem it necessary to implement this as a control measure.*

All members of committee voted in favour of the motion.

### **MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the June 1, 2009 report from the Director of Engineering Services, informing Council of the options for the City's 2009 West Nile Virus Program and requesting appointment of a Councillor to the Local Advisory Committee for adulticiding should the Health Authority deem it necessary to implement this as a control measure, be received.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

### 4. 2008 Water Quality Monitoring Report - Director of Engineering

June 1, 2009 report presenting the 2008 Annual Water Quality Monitoring Report.

### **MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the 2008 Annual Water Quality Monitoring Report be received for information.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

**5. City Hall Interior Renovations – Director of Engineering**

June 1, 2009 report presenting the general scope of work proposed for the City Hall interior renovation project and seeking approval to proceed with a construction management approach to project delivery.

Staff was directed to establish a second functional Councillor's Office.

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**MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**

*THAT staff is directed to solicit proposals from up to four qualified firms for the provision of construction management services for the proposed interior renovation program for the City Hall.*

All members of committee voted in favour of the motion.

**6. Community Grant Program – Addition of Environmental Component-  
Director of Engineering**

June 1, 2009 report offering information on the opportunity to add an environmental grant to the City's grant Program beginning in 2010 and providing modifications to the Community Grant Terms of Reference, Application Form, and Guidelines.

Members discussed the grant programs and made the following comments:

- Consider creating a separate grant for an Environmental Program that is not a part of any other grant group
- Consider means to fund this as a new granting committee – for future discussion
- Ensure committee members have the expertise necessary to examine requests in light of City goals and for appropriate environmental value.

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**MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**

*THAT a separate Environmental Grant Program be established.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

**MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**

*THAT staff report back to Council with recommendations on a selection process for members of a committee for an Environmental Grant Program.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

**7. Application for Cemetery Designation – New Westminster Secondary School Site – Director of Engineering**

June 1, 2009 report providing a copy of the submission being made to the regulating authority for formal designation of a portion of the New Westminster Secondary School lands as a cemetery.

Staff confirmed that it is a School District responsibility to undertake a public consultation process.

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the June 1, 2009 report from the Director of Engineering regarding the submission being made to the regulating authority for formal designation of a portion of the New Westminster Secondary School lands as a cemetery be received for information.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

**8. Draft Metro Vancouver Regional Growth Strategy - Director of Development Services**

June 1, 2009 report providing feedback from the City to Metro Vancouver on the Draft Regional Growth Strategy and detailed comments from the City's public consultation meeting.

Staff was encouraged to keep Metro Vancouver aware of New Westminster's issues and concerns in relation to the NFPR.

**\*\* MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**

*THAT Metro Vancouver Board be advised that a further Draft Regional Growth Strategy that incorporates concerns and comments submitted by local governments, other agencies and the public through the consultation process be released for another round of municipal and public review and consultation with the Fraser Health Municipal Advisory Committee prior to the initiation of the formal bylaw adoption process; and*

*THAT the June 1, 2009 Director of Development Services report, including Attachment 1 regarding "Preliminary Comments: Draft Regional Growth Strategy" be forwarded to Metro Vancouver's Board.*

All members of committee voted in favour of the motion.

**9. Development Permit 026(Q) for Port Royal Rowhouses, Phase 2A -Director of Development Services**

June 1, 2009 requesting Development Permit 026 (Q) for Port Royal Rowhouses, Phase 2A, be approved for issuance.

**\*\* MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**

*THAT the Development Permit 026 (Q) for Port Royal Rowhouses, Phase 2A, be approved for issuance.*

All members of committee voted in favour of the motion.

**10. Royal Towers Hotel / Outstanding Bylaw Issues – Director of Development Services**

June 1, 2009 report providing information regarding outstanding bylaw issues relating to the Royal Towers Hotel.

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the June 1, 2009 report from the Director of Development Services outlining outstanding bylaw issues regarding the Royal Towers Hotel be received for information.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

**11. Downtown Community Plan Update – Parks and Open Space Workshop – Director of Development Services**

June 1, 2009 report providing an update on the Downtown Community Plan Parks and Open Space Workshop held May 13, 2009.

Staff was directed to consider the following and report to Council:

- Inclusion of Saint Mary's site
- Show lands owned by the City that would be suitable for pocket parks.

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the June 1, 2009 report from the Director of Development Services providing an update on the Downtown Community Plan Parks and Open Space Workshop held May 13, 2009.*

All members of committee voted in favour of the motion.

**11(a). Poplar Landing**

Councillor Harper proposed the following motion.

**\*\* MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**

***WHEREAS** the City has taken a clear policy position on the need for more non market affordable housing in New Westminster;*

***WHEREAS** there is an agreement between the city and GVRD regarding the development of Poplar Landing to develop a park and sustainable affordable housing project on the site; and*

***WHEREAS** there are new opportunities with the Federal and Provincial governments, and private partners to build affordable housing;*

***NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** staff proceed to review the project and bring to Council a report on the feasibility of building non market affordable housing and development of a park at Poplar Landing.*

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

**12. 841 Royal Avenue – Application for Heritage Revitalization Agreement: Preliminary Report – Director of Development Services**

June 1, 2009 report advising Council of a Heritage Revitalization Agreement application for 841 Royal Avenue.

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the June 1, 2009 report from the Director of Development Services advising of a Heritage Revitalization Agreement application for 841 Royal Avenue be received for information.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of committee voted in favour of the motion.

**13. Municipal Heritage Designation of 340 Fifth Street (Bylaw No. 7329, 2009) – Director of Development Services**

June 1, 2009 report requesting Council designate the house and land at 340 Fifth Street as a municipal heritage site.

Members discussed the proposal including siting of the dwelling.

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**MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**

*THAT Heritage Designation Bylaw (340 Fifth Street ) No. 7329, 2009 be referred to the Regular Council Meeting of June 1, 2009 for consideration of first and second readings.*

All members of committee voted in favour of the motion.

**14. 128 Harvey Street – Demolition Application**

June 1, 2009 report providing Council with a copy of the demolition application for 128 Harvey Street.

**\*\* MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**

*THAT a demolition permit be issued for 128 Harvey Street; and THAT staff work with the applicant to document the building with photographs and drawings.*

All members of committee voted in favour of the motion.

**15. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: the Environment Advisory Committee meeting of April 8, 2009**

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the Environment Advisory Committee meeting minutes of April 8, 2009 be received and adopted.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of committee voted in favour of the motion.

**16. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: the Seniors Advisory Committee meeting of May 14, 2009**

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the Seniors Advisory Committee meeting minutes of May 14, 2009 be received and adopted.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of committee voted in favour of the motion.

**\*\* MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**

*THAT funding in the amount of \$4,000 be approved for 2009 for the Celebrating Seniors Festival.*

All members of committee voted in favour of the motion.

**REPORTS FOR ACTION**

**Director of Engineering**

**17. Seven Day Operation of Parking Meters**

June 1, 2009 report informing Council of the results of the public consultation on the proposed implementation of parking meters to seven days a week and proposing a solution to the parking problem that exists in specific areas of the City.

A member pointed out that the original motion to table consideration of this report was made to permit consultation with churches and that this has not yet been accomplished. It was noted there exists an Inter-Ministerial Association in New Westminster that would be suitable for the purpose.

**\*\* MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**

*THAT staff is authorized to implement a two hour parking limit at parking meters located within commercial and institutional precinct areas on Sundays and holidays as described in the June 1, 2009 report from the Director of Engineering.*

Before the question on the motion was called, it was...

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the foregoing motion be tabled.*

**CARRIED.**

All Committee members present voted in favour of the motion.

## Director of Development Services

### 18. Restricting the Sale of Firearms - Updated Zoning Proposal (Bylaw No. 7276, 2008)

June 1, 2009 report requesting the First and Second Reading of Bylaw 7276, 2008 be rescinded; Bylaw No. 7276, 2008 be amended; and that the amended Bylaw 7276, 2008 be forwarded to Council for consideration of First and Second Reading.

- \*\* **MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**  
*THAT first and second readings of Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 7276, 2008 be rescinded;*  
*THAT Bylaw No. 7276, 2008 be amended to add Pawnshop; and*  
*THAT Bylaw No. 7276, 2008, as amended, be forwarded to the Regular Council meeting of June 1, 2009 Regular City Council meeting for consideration first and second readings, as amended.*

All members of the Committee voted in favour of the motion.

## Director of Finance and Information Technology

### **19. 2009 City Partnership Grants – Update**

June 1, 2009 report providing additional information on the Elizabeth Fry Society's 2009 City Partnership Grant application, presenting new grant requests from the Holy Trinity Cathedral and BC Senior Services and Housing Information Society, and requesting staff direction regarding pending 2009 City Partnership Grant requests.

The Director of Finance and Information Technology reviewed the June 1, 2009 report.

#### **MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT a grant to the Holy Trinity Cathedral not be approved.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

- \*\* **MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**  
*THAT a grant in the amount of \$5,000 be approved for the Elizabeth Fry Society*

All members of the Committee voted in favour of the motion.

Members were advised that the BC Seniors Services and Housing Information has received a grant in the amount of \$23,000 for 2009. A further grant was not approved.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**20. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: Community Heritage Commission meeting of April 9, 2009.**

**MOVED and SECONDED**

**THAT** the April 9, 2009 minutes of the Community Heritage Commission be received and adopted.

**CARRIED.**

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

**a) Demolition Sub-Committee Guidelines**

**\*\* MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends THAT the proposed new Demolition Subcommittee Guidelines and the appointment of Jim Hutson as Subcommittee Chair be approved.**

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

**b) Recommendation to order brochure titled “New Life, Old Buildings” from the Vancouver Heritage Foundation (cost is \$2.00/brochure)**

**\*\* MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends THAT the purchase of 200 copies of the brochure titled ‘New Life, Old Buildings’ at \$2.00 per copy, for distribution at City Hall and the Museum be approved.**

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

**21. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: Special Services and Access Committee meeting of April 30, 2009.**

**MOVED and SECONDED**

**THAT** the April 30, 2009 minutes of the Special Services and Access Committee be received and adopted.

**CARRIED.**

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

**a) Pruning of Shrubs and Bushes Along City Sidewalks**

**\*\* MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends THAT staff be directed to look into methods of education and enforcement dealing with the growth of shrubs along City Sidewalks to rectify issues of accessibility; and**

*THAT a request be forwarded through the Federal of Canadian Municipalities and Union of BC Municipalities that an Accessibility Act for Canada be developed that is similar to the Americans with Disabilities Act.*

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **22. Transition Zones (Business/Commercial to Residential)**

#### **MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the Committee of the Whole Committee meeting proceed beyond 6:00 p.m.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

A member advised regarding a concern raised by Dr. Lemke in a recent letter about transition zones between business/commercial/industrial and residential. The matter was referred to staff for review and a report.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**ON MOTION**, the meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Certified Correct,

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**WAYNE WRIGHT  
MAYOR**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**RICHARD L. PAGE  
CORPORATE OFFICER**

\*\* Denotes recommendations referred to Regular Council meeting of June 1, 2009, for ratification.