



CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NEW WESTMINSTER

COUNCIL IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

May 12, 2008 2:35 p.m.
Committee Room 2, City Hall

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Mayor Wayne Wright
Councillor Jonathan Cote
Councillor Calvin Donnelly
Councillor Bill Harper
Councillor Bob Osterman
Councillor Lorrie Williams

REGRETS:

Councillor Betty McIntosh

STAFF:

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| Mr. Paul Daminato | - City Administrator |
| Mr. Rick Page | - Corporate Officer/Director of Legislative Services |
| Ms. Lisa Spitale | - Director of Development Services |
| Mr. Jim Lowrie | - Director of Engineering Services |
| Mr. Gary Holowatiuk | - Director of Finance and Information Technology |
| Chief Carl Nepstad | - Fire Chief |
| Mr. Dean Gibson | - Director of Parks and Recreation |
| Chief L. Zapotichny | - Police Services |
| Ms. Judi Turner | - Deputy Corporate Officer |

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

The following items were added to the Agenda:

- Fire Safety in Three-Storey Wood Buildings (added as Item 11)
- Residential Curbside Collection of Clean Green Materials (added as Item 12)
- Light Intrusion on Residential Properties (added as Item 13).

PRESENTATION

1. [Draft 2008 Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan – Director of Parks & Recreation](#)

- Staff Report dated May 12, 2008

The Director of Parks and Recreation introduced Eric Lees of Eric Lees and Associates and Brian Johnson, who were in attendance to make a presentation on the Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan. The delegations' presentation was circulated in paper on table (and will be added to the Agenda package).

Mr. Lees made his presentation and responded to questions throughout. During discussion, members made the following comments:

- Note that the West End is at a disadvantage for green space
- Consider open space and plazas in the Uptown area
- Consider the area from 23rd Street to Tenth Avenue for a natural walking area
- Consider lineal roads to make the city walkable
- Identify revenue sources for improvements to meet the needs for roads, infrastructure, and sewers
- Note the significant need to provide investment into maintaining current Parks and Recreation infrastructure
- Consider strategic upgrades to existing Parks and Recreation facilities
- Note a need for youth dedicated space in the community
- Consider a downtown multi-use facility
- Focus some efforts on facilities for young adults (e.g. fitness facilities)
- Consider what the future of the Canada Games Pool should be (renovate, rebuild)
- Look at opportunities to increase the amount of parkland in the city to accommodate expected population growth and to supply neighbourhood parks
- Report on how many municipalities have Tree Bylaws, how they are enforced, how the community is encouraged to keep trees, the value of having a Tree Bylaw
- Consider whether athletic fields and youth facility could be grouped together
- Consider whether school grounds which are unused on evenings and weekends could be used for parks purposes during those hours
- How do we break down barriers to participation for the City's culturally diverse population
- Preventive maintenance notion is positive
- Actively consider partnerships with business
- Note some neighbourhood parks are under-utilized – how can they be made more usable
- Is there other city property in our inventory that might be prime property for expansion of city parks

- What are the plans for Glenbrook Ravine – it has potential to be developed for park use
- Consider whether an improved bandshell as a cultural facility for the city is necessary and what it should offer
- Consider upgrades to the Brunette River
- Encourage the public to use Thornbridge park
- Consider use of church sites
- Consider how to use BC Hydro lands
- Look at GVRD parks and business parks and opportunities they might provide
- Consider how protection of single family home communities can contribute to greenery and open space in the city.

The Director of Parks and Recreation presented his May 12, 2008, report introducing the preliminary draft of the Parks & Open Space chapter of the 2008 Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan.

MOVED and SECONDED

***THAT** the May 12, 2008 report from the Director of Parks and Recreation regarding the Draft 2008 Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan be received.*

CARRIED.

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

REPORTS FOR ACTION

Director of Legislative Services:

2. [China Trade Delegation](#)

The Director of Legislative Services reviewed the May 8, 2008 report regarding a trade delegation visit to Lijiang, our Sister City in China and responded to questions. As well, Councillor Williams outlined educational opportunities that will be pursued on the trip. The Director circulated a press release for distribution on the opportunity and announced that the Mayor of Moriguchi has confirmed he will attend New Westminster's 150th anniversary next year.

MOVED and SECONDED

***THAT** the May 8, 2008 report from the Director of Legislative Services regarding Trade Delegation/Sister City Opportunity in China, be received.*

CARRIED.

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

Director of Finance & Information Technology:

3. Community Grant Considerations (verbal)

The Director of Finance and Information Technology discussed the following additional information about community grant requests and sought clarification:

- Whether the \$14,000 increase in the 2008 Hyack Festival Association grant can be used for enhancements to the float
- As the BIA Multicultural Festival is not in need of in kind services because of a move of venue, can the \$4500 in kind grant be a cash grant instead.

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

THAT the following clarification and change to community grants be approved:

- *The \$14,000 increase in the 2008 Hyack Festival Association grant is approved to be used for enhancements to the float*
- *The BIA Multicultural Festival is changed to be \$4,500 in cash grant rather than in kind.*

CARRIED.

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

Director of Development Services:

4. Tobacco Control Act/Smoking Control Bylaw

Keith Coueffin, Manager of Licensing and Integrated Services, reviewed the May 12, 2008, report from the Director of Development Services providing information regarding correspondence from a local business (Fever Nightclub) requesting the City to allow a smoking tent to be located on Church Street. During discussion, members made the following comments:

- The Province should regulate smoking control for the entire province.

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

THAT the City support the regulations encouraged by the Medical Health Officer by corresponding to the Provincial Government in order to lobby the government to adopt further restrictions on smoking in public places; and

THAT the City defer considerations to pursue amendments to the Smoking Control Bylaw until it is determined if there is interest from other communities in the Metro Vancouver area to pursue a coordinated approach to implementing progressive smoking bylaws.

CARRIED.

Opposed: Councillor Cote.

5. Licensing of Radio Controlled Model Car Racing Track for 2008

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

THAT Council approve the issuance of a license for the Vancouver Miniature Auto Racing Society to operate a radio-controlled model car racing track at 420 Wood Street for the period May 26 through November 2, 2008, subject to the required public notification process.

CARRIED.

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

6. [Membership for the proposed New Westminster Design Panel](#)

The Director of Development Services and Jim Hurst, Senior Planning Analyst, responded to questions regarding the May 12, 2008, report seeking direction regarding the proposed membership for the New Westminster Design Panel.

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

THAT the Terms of Reference of the New Westminster Design Committee be approved with a membership of four members from the AIBC, one member from the development industry, two members from the community, and two members from the BCSLA.

CARRIED.

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

7. **Downtown Community Plan Telephone Survey** (circulated separately)

Bev Grieve, Manager of Planning, reviewed the May 12, 2008, report from the Director of Development Services, informing of the launch of the telephone survey which is a component of the consultation program for the review of the Downtown Community Plan. During discussion, members made the following comments:

- Ensure that a good representation of residents from around New Westminster is captured in the survey sample.

Councillor Osterman left the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

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

THAT the telephone survey questions, which will form a component of the Downtown Community Plan consultation process, be approved.

CARRIED.

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

Councillor Donnelly left the meeting at 4:12 p.m. declaring a potential conflict of interest as he has a continuing interest in the proposed development.

8. [Development Permit 002 \(AC\) with Variances for 126, 128, 130 Agnes Street & 127 and 131 Dickenson Street, a portion of Dickenson Street, and all of Sarnia Street and Albert Crescent](#)

Jim Hurst, Senior Planning Analyst, responded to questions regarding the May 12, 2008, report from the Director of Development Services, providing an update on the outcome of the negotiations between the developer and the adjacent owner of 132 Agnes Street and advising on the processing of Development Permit 002 (AC). During discussion, staff was directed to:

- Contact the owner of the proposed locked in lot to consult with the property owner regarding the developer's offer respecting the property at 132 Agnes Street and report back to Council.

Councillor Osterman rejoined the meeting at 4:14 p.m.

**** MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT Council give notice that it intends to approve and issue Development Permit 002 (AC) with the following variance to allow development of an 18 storey apartment building with 114 units in the tower portion and seven townhouse units at the base of the tower at 126, 128, 130 Agnes Street and 127 and 131 Dickenson Street, a portion of Dickenson Street and all of Sarnia Street and Albert Crescent:

- *Creation of a locked in lot at 132 Agnes Street (having an existing residence) with the following dimensions: frontage of 33 feet (10.05 meters) on Agnes Street, a depth of 66 feet (20.1 meters) along Elliot Street, and an area of 2,178 square feet (202.3 square meters).*

CARRIED.

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

Councillor Donnelly rejoined the meeting at 4:21 p.m.

12. Residential Curbside Collection of Clean Green Materials - Director of Engineering Services

The Director of Engineering reviewed the May 12, 2008, report seeking approval to provide an interim service for clean green pick up from single family residences utilizing existing resources to improve compliance with the regional mandate of eliminating recyclable and organic materials from the solid waste stream. Jon McDonald, Manager of Engineering Operations, was present and responded to questions.

**** MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT an interim bi-weekly curbside green waste collection program be authorized for single family residential customers from June 2 through September 10 of 2008.

CARRIED.

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

9. [Affordable Housing Strategy – Follow Up](#)

**** MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT the amended workplan and budget submission of an additional \$15,000 to complete the Affordable Housing Strategy by late Fall 2008, be approved.

CARRIED.

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

COMMITTEE MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

10. [Electric Utility Commission meetings held December 18, 2007 & January 22, 2008.](#)

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the Electric Utility Commission meetings held December 18, 2007 & January 22, 2008, be received and adopted.

CARRIED.

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

NEW BUSINESS

11. **Fire Safety in Three-Storey Wood Buildings**

A member referred to a recent fire in North Vancouver in a wood frame building where three seniors lost their lives. The Fire Chief was directed to investigate the following and report back to Council:

- Weaknesses and strengths of three storey wood frame buildings
- How it can be ensured that such a fire will not occur in New Westminster
- What can be done with training and/or bylaws to make such situations as safe as possible
- Frequency of inspections
- Use of barbeques on balconies
- The cost of alarming units with smoke detectors within these buildings

13. **Light Intrusion on Residential Properties**

A member raised a concern over installation of bright lights in residential areas which negatively impact close neighbours and requested development of a bylaw to regulate the matter. The project should include patio and flood lights and an examination of all options to correct this intrusion onto neighbours.

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

THAT staff develop a light intrusion bylaw for residential properties in New Westminster and submit supporting research to Council with the proposed bylaw.

CARRIED.

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

14. Amendment to Schedule of Council Meetings

**** MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT the 2008 Schedule of Council Meetings be amended to add a Special Open Meeting on Wednesday, May 28, 2008, from noon to 2:00 p.m. to consider limited items only.

CARRIED.

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

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

Certified Correct,

WAYNE WRIGHT
CHAIR

RICK PAGE
CORPORATE OFFICER

****** Denotes recommendations referred to Regular Council meeting of May 12, 2008, for ratification.