



“Wait for Me Daddy” Memorial Task Force

**Wednesday, February 19, 2014 – 2:00 p.m.
Council Chamber – City Hall**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Lorrie Williams	- Chair
Calvin Donnelly	- Member at Large
Andrew Conradi	- Member at Large
Julie Schueck	- Heritage and Community Planner
Bob Collyer	- United Church Representative
Robert McCullough	- Manager, Cultural Services
Allan De Genova	- Honour House Representative
Freda Hogg	- Honourary Member

MEMBERS REGRETS:

Mayor Wayne Wright	- Mayor
Lisa Spitale	- Chief Administrative Officer (Advisor)
Chief Dave Jones	- Police Services
Chief Tim Armstrong	- Fire & Rescue Services
Blair Fryer	- Communications
Rick Page	- Director of Legislative Services
Herb Hamm	- Curator, Canadian Forces Armoury
Kendra Johnston	- New Westminster Downtown Business Improvement Association

GUESTS:

Whitey Bernard

STAFF:

Ruby Campbell	- Community Projects Coordinator
Erin Cox	- Office Assistant

The meeting was called to order at 3:09 p.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the agenda be amended by adding Item 5.1 – Update on Veteran Interviews in Kamloops (Andrew Conradi).

CARRIED.

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of January 15, 2014

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the January 15, 2014 Wait For Me Daddy Memorial Task Force meeting be amended by:

- *Amending the word “building” to “site” in section 5.2; and,*
- *Amending Ruby Campbell’s title to read “Community Projects Coordinator.”*

AND THAT the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED.

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Whitey Bernard – Guest of Honour

Task Force members were invited to a ‘meet and greet’ with Warren “Whitey” Bernard, the young boy who is pictured in the original ‘Wait for Me Daddy’ photograph, prior to the meeting. Mr. Bernard was met by staff, directors, Mayor Wayne Wright, Councillors, Task Force members and members of the public.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Expression of Interest Update with Federal Secretariat, World War Commemorations

Ruby Campbell, Community Projects Coordinator, provided an update on the Expression of Interest with the Federal Secretariat and noted the following:

- The Expression of Interest grant was submitted on November 22, 2013;
- It was advised that there is no funding available for the ‘Wait for me Daddy’ project at this time;
- Ms. Campbell plans on contacting the Federal Secretariat regularly, as she was informed that there is a possibility for funding when the new federal budget is established; and,
- A Heritage Canada grant has been submitted for 2015.

Discussion ensued and the following comments were noted:

- It was noted that Heritage Canada has shown interest in the event and recognize that the statue will be of national significance;
- It was suggested that the local Members of Parliament (MP's) should be notified and invited by letter to the October 4, 2014 'Wait for Me Daddy' event; and,
- It was suggested that Colin Metcalfe, Director of Regional Affairs, should be notified and invited by letter to the October 4, 2014 'Wait for Me Daddy' event.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the local Members of Parliament be notified and invited by letter to the October 4, 2014 'Wait For Me Daddy' event.

CARRIED.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Colin Metcalfe, Director of Regional Affairs, be notified and invited by letter to the October 4, 2014 'Wait For Me Daddy' event.

CARRIED.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the oral report from Ruby Campbell, Community Projects Coordinator Re: Expression of Interest Update with Federal Secretariat be received.

CARRIED.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Update on Veteran Interviews in Kamloops

Andrew Conradi, Member at Large, provided an update on the status of the interviews with the veterans located in Kamloops and noted the following:

- Interviews with the two remaining veterans who were pictured in the original 'Wait for Me Daddy' photograph;
- The two veterans currently reside in Kamloops;
- The New Westminster Museum and Archives Curator plans on travelling to Kamloops to record the oral histories with both men;
- It was suggested that Mr. Conradi should attend the interviews, as the veterans are familiar with him; and,
- It was suggested that interviews should be arranged with veterans who will be in attendance at the upcoming British Columbia Regiment reunion.

Rob McCullough, Manager of Cultural Services, advised that there is an anonymous funder who is interested in the oral histories of the veterans who specifically expressed interest in providing financial support towards the project.

Ruby Campbell, Community Projects Coordinator, noted that *The Province* newspaper, along with other media outlets are also interested in interviewing the veterans. It was suggested that the interviews should be combined, and that media outlets should be asked to forward questions prior to the interviews so that the veterans are prepared.

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

6.1 Monument Status Report

Rob McCullough, Manager of Cultural Services, provided the following update regarding the status of the monument:

- City engineers are currently examining the site to identify a final location for the monument;
- Site constraints include the high water table, hydro lines, water mains, sewer lines and BC Electrical railway tracks;
- A geotechnical study on the site will be conducted in the near future;
- The molding of the statue is complete, with the next steps including the completion of the casting and wrapping of the statue;
- The statue will not be in the exact location of the 1940 photograph due to the storm line, the water main, and the property line; and,
- A building permit has been submitted to the city's Building Department.

Discussion ensued and the following comments were noted:

- It was suggested that the site plan should be forwarded to Andrew Conradi, Member at Large, once the final placement of the monument is determined so that the position of the soldiers can be organized;
- It was suggested that staff investigate the option of having materials and trades donated towards the construction of the monument and work with Mr. De Genova to try to secure the in-kind donations;
- It was noted that trades and materials are currently included in the artist's contract, and that Mr. McCullough will discuss the removal of the trades and materials from the contract with the Manager of Purchasing; and,
- It was noted that site remediation, which may be required, is not included in the artist's costs.

6.2 Update on Ab Ovo Relocation

Rob McCullough, Manager of Cultural Services, provided an update on the relocation of the Ab Ovo sculpture that is currently located in Hyack Square:

- The Ab Ovo will be relocated to Glenbrook Ravine Park;
- The tentative date for the relocation of the Ab Ovo is Spring 2014;
- The artist of the Ab Ovo is supportive of the new location; and,
- Mr. McCullough will continue to try to contact Chief Rhonda Larrabee in regards to the relocation of the Ab Ovo.

The Task Force suggested that there should be a re-dedication ceremony planned for when the Ab Ovo is relocated and Task Force members are encouraged to attend

6.3 Community Engagement Strategy

Ruby Campbell, Community Projects Coordinator, advised that there was a community information session held on January 21, 2014 with approximately 40 community members in attendance to discuss ideas with respect to increasing community involvement. Ms. Campbell provided the following details regarding the information session:

- School District #40 has expressed interest in creating a 'Wait For Me Daddy' book for local students;
- Kendra Johnston, Downtown Business Improvement Association, has expressed interest in leading the business engagement portion of the process;
- A marketing and communications strategy was discussed;
- It was suggested that social events pertaining to the project should be planned to raise awareness prior to the event, including dances and projects for seniors at Century House;
- New Westminster Television has expressed interest in being involved with the project and will potentially live stream the event; and,
- Cultural activities were discussed, including the planning of a possible 1940's themed fashion show to promote the event.

6.4 Communications Strategy

Ruby Campbell, Community Projects Coordinator, provided the following update regarding the communications strategy for the 2014 event:

- *The Province* newspaper has committed to sponsoring the Wait For Me Daddy project;
- *The Province* newspaper has agreed to include an insert and publish advertisements prior to the 2014 event and feature the event on the cover of the newspaper on the day of the event;
- *The Province* newspaper has expressed interest in conducting interviews with Warren “Whitey” Bernard and the veterans;
- Canadian Broadcasting Company (CBC) radio has also committed to sponsoring the Wait for me Daddy project;
- Belle Puri, CBC Vancouver, conducted an interview with Mr. Bernard on February 19, 2014, which was aired on the “Chek” Channel;
- A local supplier for the creation of a ‘Wait for Me Daddy’ website has been confirmed;
- Transit Shelters have been booked to display ‘Wait for Me Daddy’ advertisements from September 8, 2014 to October 6, 2014;
- Street Banners have been booked from the middle of August 2014 to the middle of October 2014;
- Peter Julian, MP, and Judy Darcy, MLA, have agreed to include inserts containing event information with their regular newsletter mail outs to the residents in their riding;
- The Record interviewed Mr. Bernard on February 19, 2014; and,
- An insert containing event information will be included with the New Westminster utility bill mail out in August and September rollout 2014.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Newspaper article of January 11, 2014 from Lee Berthiaume of Postmedia News Re: War commemorations may tax Canadian Forces resources

8.0 NEXT MEETING

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 23 2014, Committee Room #2, City Hall at 2:30pm

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting concluded at 4:19 p.m.

Certified Correct,

Lorrie Williams
Chair

Erin Cox
Office Assistant