



COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

May 3, 2015: 5:30 p.m.
Committee Room 2, City Hall

MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillor Jaimie McEvoy	- Chair
Norah Andrew	- Community Member
Brynn Bourke	- Community Member
Tammy Dewar	- Community Member
Michael Folka	- Community Member
John Hooker	- Community Member
Jason Lesage	- Community Member
Nadine Nakagawa	- Community Member
Pamela Ralston	- Community Member
Deanna Tan	- Fraser Health Representative (Alternate)

REGRETS:

Jason Campbell	- Community Member
Jeremy Perry	- Community Member
Peter Rautenbach	- Community Member
Lisa Zetes-Zanattas	- Fraser Health Representative

GUESTS:

Sebastian Merz	- SFU Centre for Dialogue
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STAFF:

John Stark	- Senior Social Planner
Tristan Johnson	- Planning Analyst
Lauren Blake	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

There were no additions.

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of March 1, 2016

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the March 1, 2016 Community and Social Issues Committee meeting be adopted.

CARRIED.

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

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Public Engagement Focus Group

Sebastian Merz, SFU Centre for Dialogue, provided an on-table PowerPoint presentation regarding a proposed public engagement focus group and summarized the on-table document regarding the draft principles for public engagement for New Westminster.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee noted the following comments:

- It was suggested that the City could go door to door to engage the public rather than requesting the public come to City events;
- Door to door public engagement could also engage residents who may not have the ability to engage otherwise;
- Residents may often only engage with the City when there is an issue to address;
- As language may be a participation barrier, it was suggested that digital information could be translated. However, it was noted that translated documents would still require literacy and access to a computer to facilitate participation;
- It was suggested that the City could develop a database indicating residents who would like to receive City information; and,
- It was suggested that there could be an engagement ladder demonstrating the various levels of engagement.

The Committee was requested to provide examples of City events that either succeeded or did not succeed at addressing the chosen draft principles for public engagement.

- The Newcomer Connect Day was inclusive and successful at addressing the needs of people as an integrated whole;

- Love Our City provided an opportunity to engage residents regarding housing options by focusing on broad issues, then specific issues, and then focused discussion;
- The Child and Youth Friendly Community Strategy was successful at involving children in decision making through class based assignments and providing surveys with simplified text and illustrations. The importance of engaging residents from a young age was noted;
- Official Community Plan workshops have been casual and provide a variety of information in different ways;
- Scheduling meetings in locations that are accessible can encourage participation; and,
- Positive public engagement should include individuals with different opinions.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Social Equity Policy Update

John Stark, Senior Social Planner, reported that the focus of the Social Equity Policy has been narrowed in response to comments received at the March 3, 2016 Community and Social Issues Committee meeting. Mr. Stark advised that a draft policy will be brought forward at the November meeting for additional feedback.

4.2 Child Care Strategy: Proposed Actions

John Stark, Senior Social Planner, summarized the on-table documents regarding the proposed actions of the Child Care Strategy. Committee members can submit feedback regarding the Strategy to Lauren Blake, Committee Clerk, via email to lblake@newwestcity.ca.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Renovictions and Enhancing Public Awareness

John Stark, Senior Social Planner, summarized the information included with the agenda package regarding renovictions.

5.2 Upcoming Presentation – IDEA Centre (Economic Health Care Cluster) and Child Care, Housing and Other Social Considerations – September 20, 2016

John Stark, Senior Social Planner, advised that a presentation regarding the IDEA Center and Child Care, Housing and other social considerations of the Economic

Health Care Cluster at the September 20, 2016 Community and Social Issues Committee meeting.

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

6.1 Public Engagement Workshop

This item was discussed as part of item 3.1.

6.2 Renovictions Research

This item was discussed as part of item 5.1.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

September 20, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chamber

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting concluded at 7:04 p.m.

Certified correct,

Councillor Jaimie McEvoy
Chair

Lauren Blake
Committee Clerk