

COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE (CSI)

**December 4, 2018 – 5:30 p.m.
Committee Room 2, City Hall**

MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Jaimie McEvoy	- Co-Chair, Council Member
Councillor Nadine Nakagawa	- Co-Chair, Council Member (Arrived at 6:05 p.m.)
John Hooker	- Community Member
Maggie House	- Community Member
Sukhdeep Jassar	- Fraser Health Representative
Vanessa Woznow	- Community Member

VOTING MEMBERS REGRETS:

Dee Beattie	- Community Member
Chinu Das	- Community Member
Wesley Everaars	- Community Member
Tasha Henderson	- Community Member
Ramya Hosak	- Community Member
Simka Marshall	- Community Member

GUESTS:

Maura Chestnutt	- Catalyst Community Developments
Michelle Hoar	- Catalyst Community Developments
Quirina Gamblen	- SD40 Representative

STAFF PRESENT:

John Stark	- Senior Social Planner
Claudia Freire	- Housing/Social Planner
Carilyn Cook	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 p.m.

As quorum had not yet been reached, the meeting began with *Presentation Item 3.1 – Hey Neighbour Collective*.

1.0 ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO AGENDA

New Business Item 5.1 – Committee Meeting Start Time was added to the Agenda.

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of September 4, 2018

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the September 4, 2018 Community and Social Issues Committee meeting minutes be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED.

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

3.0 PRESENTATION

3.1 Hey Neighbour Collective – Michelle Hoar and Maura Chestnutt, Catalyst Community Developments

Michelle Hoar and Maura Chestnutt of Catalyst Community Developments (CCD) shared that CCD partners with non-profit organizations and municipalities to create new, affordable rental homes and community spaces.

Mses. Hoar and Chestnutt introduced the Hey Neighbour Collective initiative which, amongst other things, increased residents' sense of "neighbourliness" and community by connecting with their neighbours in various ways.

Procedural note: Councillor Nakagawa arrived at 6:05 p.m. and quorum was achieved.

In response to questions from the Committee, Mses. Hoar and Chestnutt provided the following comments:

- Incentives for the housing industry includes:
 - Engaged tenants result in lower turnover rate, improved maintenance and lower property management fees;
 - Social connectedness which may result in residents working things out amongst themselves instead of going to the property manager; and,
- Research will include impact on tenants, housing businesses, and built form;
- The Collective is currently in the fundraising stage and will eventually be housed at SFU's Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue; and,
- Full funding can support existing groups and up to five new pilot projects per year.

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the Community and Social Issues Committee recommends to Council that the City of New Westminster become a partnering municipality in the Hey Neighbour Collective which is aimed at increasing the social ability and resiliency in multi-unit residential buildings and that the City contribute \$5,000 per year over the next three years to this partnership which would include Hey Neighbour initiatives in New Westminster.

The following discussion ensued:

- A donation of \$5,000 per year over the next three years is in line with what a smaller community, such as New Westminster, could contribute;
- The City could request that the funds be allocated for a specific item or allow it to be spread over a number of items;
- The Collective will be looking to implement the initiative in at least one building in New Westminster;
- Rental buildings could be prioritized as they tend to have lower income residents with lower engagement; and,
- The initiative is open to stratified buildings which often have a combination of renters and owners.

CARRIED.

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

At this point in the meeting, *Item 2.1 Adoption of the Minutes* was completed and the Committee addressed *Unfinished Business Item 4.1 – 838 Ewen Avenue Modular Housing Update*.

3.2 Social Equity Policy – John Stark, Senior Social Planner

Mr. Stark provided a presentation on the City’s Social Equity Policy.

Discussion ensued with the Committee noting the following:

- Fraser Health has developed a document ‘Community Planning Tool: Applying a Healthy Equity Lens to Program Planning.’ This was developed in consultation with the City of Surrey Healthy Communities Department and may be a helpful tool when implementing a social equity policy as it provides process guidance;
- People with precarious immigration status and those involved in the overdose crises should also be considered; and,
- Residents need to see themselves reflected in their government.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 838 Ewen Avenue Modular Housing Update – Claudia Freire, Housing/Social Planner and John Stark, Senior Social Planner

Ms. Freire and Mr. Stark provided the following update with respect to the 838 Ewen Avenue Modular Housing project:

- The recently established Community Advisory Committee will meet monthly for the first four months;
- Groundwork has begun at the site with anticipated completion in May 2019;

- An update on the progress thus far will be sent to residents; and,
- The current access road will be decommissioned.

In response to questions from the Committee, staff provided the following comments:

- Queensborough Residents for Responsible Community Planning (QRRCP) and the EFS met with staff to compile a list of possible Committee members, with the goal to make the Committee as inclusive as possible. Each community group will nominate a delegate to sit on the Committee; and,
- It was noted that, with the modular housing project in Marpole, many of the concerns initially raised did not come to fruition.

At this point in the meeting, *Presentation Item 3.2 Social Equity Policy* was addressed.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Committee Meeting Start Time – Councillor McEvoy

Members discussed the current meeting start time and shared that 5:30 p.m. would be more accommodating for some, while 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. would be better for others. Another member stated that earlier would be more suitable.

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

6.1 New West Community Action Team Opioid Response Update – Sukhdeep Jassar, Fraser Health Representative

Ms. Jassar provided the following update for members:

- The Community Action Team (CAT) met last week to discuss their work plan, which will be circulated to Committee members for their input;
- A peer coordinator has been hired to work on peer engagement;
- The Purpose Society has a mobile drug checking van, which is funded by the Fraser Health Authority; and,
- Focus will continue on stigma reduction.

Ms. Cook will forward the work plan and drug checking poster to members.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

To be determined.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Certified Correct,

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Councillor Jaimie McEvoy
Co-Chair

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Carilyn Cook
Committee Clerk