

**DOWNTOWN NEW WESTMINSTER  
PARKING COMMISSION**

**Wednesday, November 20, 2013; 11:30 am  
Committee Room #2, City Hall**

**MINUTES**

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bruce Clark	Community
Patti Goss	Chamber of Commerce
Nancy Puri	Community
Richard (Dick) Spring	Community

**NON-VOTING MEMBER PRESENT:**

Jeff Pearson	Impark
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**VOTING MEMBERS REGRETS:**

Karen Maynes	Douglas College
Alexander Csizmadia	Community
Harm Woldring	Downtown New Westminister BIA

**STAFF:**

Catalin Dobrescu	Utilities Engineer, Engineering Services
Kathy Prothero	Recording Clerk, Engineering Services

The meeting was called to order at 11:32.

**1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

No additions to the agenda

**2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

- 2.1 Adoption of Minutes of May 1, 2013**  
Tabled to next meeting.

**3.0 PRESENTATIONS**

**4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

## **5.0 NEW BUSINESS**

### **5.1 Request for Free Parking at the Parkade from the City for Family Day Event; February 10, 2014 – Mr. Catalin Dobrescu**

A brief discussion was held regarding free parking for Family Day. Impark stated that as this is a statutory holiday the revenue generated would be minimal. As the Parking Commission approved a similar request last year, members agreed that free parking would be granted at the Parkade for Family Day, February 10, 2014.

### **5.2 2014 Annual Call for Volunteers – Mr. Bruce Clark**

The Chair reminded members that if they wished to serve on this Commission or any City Committee for the 2014/2015 term, they must reapply and the application should be received in Legislative Services no later than Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Recording Clerk will provide applications to members before they leave the meeting.

### **5.3 Commission Policy/Practice-Free Parking Requests (received between meetings) – Mr. Dobrescu**

Mr. Dobrescu spoke to members about requests for free parking received between meetings.

The Chair asked for feedback from members and suggestions as to how a request should be handled if received between meetings as he does not feel that the Chair should be given sole responsibility to grant free parking. Staff advised the Chair of the process that was followed if there was no meeting scheduled and if there was minimal time prior to the event. New requests should be discussed with the Parking Commission. Staff have reiterated their request for organizations to provide the Commission with a written request at the beginning of the year listing the annual events for which parking is required. The Chair mentioned the December 7 Christmas Parade time change and members agreed that free parking should be approved.

The Chair would like to see a discussion on what action should be taken (depending on when requests are received) and this will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

### **5.4 Establishment of a Garden/Park on Parkade Upper Deck – Mr. Richard Spring**

Mr. Spring commented that during the summer there was little utilization of the upper deck of the Parkade due to the heat and raised planters could be utilized to grow food for the homeless. Volunteers would be required to service them and similar to the tie event, perhaps Royal City Jewellers would be interested in sponsoring the planters. He feels the only thing needed would be water and this effort was endorsed in Vancouver. Mr. Dobrescu commented that this would have to be engineered and approved. Consideration must also be given to vehicle circulation because we need to ensure that cars can maneuver around the upper deck, especially after the planned demolition of the west side.

One member stated that work on the railings should still be done in the area that will be left standing.

## 6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

Procedural note: Item 6.2 was discussed before 6.1.

### 6.2 Parkade Maintenance Report – Mr. Catalin Dobrescu

Mr. Dobrescu updated members on the Parkade maintenance:

#### Front Street Parkade:

- RFP issued for replacement of the remainder of the railings on eastern portions of A and B Deck. We anticipate that the work will be put out to tender in 2014.
- Fourth Street Overpass (to Westminster Pier Park) has been retendered. Once that construction is completed, we can discuss the membrane replacement.

#### Miscellaneous Update:

- There is nothing to report on painting of the pillars as it is not going forward based on the consensus received.
- The Pharmasave Parking Agreement (at grade level on Front Street) has expired and they want to sign another long term agreement. There have been many changes since the original agreement, one of them being the City's whistle cessation program. We are now contemplating closing their driveway to Front Street and as a result, the lot layout would have to be redesigned and a number of spaces would be lost.
- A brief discussion took place regarding the status of the walkway going to the ramp from the property recently destroyed by fire. Quotes to have it removed are currently being reviewed.
- The status of the Army and Navy walkway will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting

### 6.1 Parkade Operator's Report – Mr. Jeff Pearson

Mr. Pearson updated members on the October 2013 report:

- The fire has not significantly affected the monthly revenue to date.
- Daily parkers must pay for one hour of parking between 5:00 – 6:00 am and then pay the daily rate. She would like the option of purchasing both at once and Mr. Dobrescu will discuss this option with the Parking Services Supervisor.

One member spoke about the Sixth Street Overpass that would access the Quay and wondered if this would be eliminated depending on the Larco negotiations. Mr. Dobrescu advised that the latest design iteration does not reflect any overpass and these scenarios are pure speculation. One member stated that BIA conversations years ago was to remove Hyack Square so that traffic travelling south on Eighth Street would be able to access the market.

This is outside the scope of the Parking Commission.

**6 CORRESPONDENCE**

**7 NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, February 20, 2014  
Finance Boardroom, City Hall

**8 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 pm

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**BRUCE CLARK**  
**CHAIR**

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**KATHY PROTHERO**  
**RECORDING CLERK**

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