

Economic Development Advisory Committee

Friday, October 3, 2014 – 8:00 a.m.
Committee Room #2
City Hall

NOTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Bill Harper	- Chair, City Council
Andy Bradshaw	- Downtown Business Improvement Association
Reg Nordman	- Community Member
Marie Szklarz	- Community Member
Chuck Stewart	- Community Member (arrived at 8:58 a.m.)

MEMBER REGRETS:

Mayor Wayne Wright	- Council Member
David Moulton	- Community Member
Patrick O'Shaughnessy	- Community Member
Bart Slotman	- New Westminster Chamber of Commerce
Dana Woods	- Community Member

STAFF:

Blair Fryer	- Manager, Communications and Economic Development
Andréa Khan	- Economic Development Coordinator
Tristan Johnson	- Planning Analyst
Lauren Blake	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 8:07 a.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

There were no additions.

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Minutes of June 13, 2014

Due to the absence of quorum, this item was tabled to the December 5, 2014 meeting.

3.0 NEW BUSINESS

There were no items.

4.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

4.1 Economic Development General Work Update

The Committee discussed the Economic Forum held on October 2, 2014, and noted the following comments:

- The Anvil Centre was an excellent forum, however, there could have been additional tours provided to showcase the amenities the Centre has to offer the community;
- There was a good mix of formatting for the presentations;
- It was suggested that an individual with a higher media presence, such as an author, be approached to be the MC for future forums;
- It was suggested that information in all presentations should be directly connected to New Westminster;
- It was suggested that additional attention be paid to business rather than development at future forums; and,
- It was noted that there were issues with the Wi-Fi at the Anvil Centre.

Andréa Khan, Economic Development Coordinator, advised that an analysis of attendance at the Forum will be provided at the December 5, 2014, meeting.

Blair Fryer, Manager of Communications and Economic Development, provided a general update on economic development in the city and reported the following information:

- The Economic Development Office has been working with Mark Allison, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Sustainability, and Carolyn Armanini, Planning Analyst, to develop the Good Neighbor Protocol;
- The protocol would be required to be followed during construction projects that impact a neighboring business or home;
- The protocol will be tested during the Front Street Parkade Demolition;
- Columbia and Front Street business, the Downtown Business Improvement Association and Downtown Residents' Association representatives provided input with respect to the protocol;
- The Planning department has commenced work with respect to the Official Community Plan, and the Economic Development Office will hold economic visioning workshops to determine the economic goals of the City; and,
- Council did not to proceed with the Whitecaps' proposal for Queen's Park Stadium

With respect to the issue regarding recycling material at the Green By Nature and Merlin Plastics location, Mr. Fryer advised that the recyclable material will be cleaned and kept indoors, and pest control will be maintained once per month. Mr. Fryer noted that the Bylaw department has not received a complaint regarding the site since June 2014.

4.2 Intelligent Cities Advisory Committee

Blair Fryer, Manager of Communications and Economic Development, provided an update regarding the Intelligent City Advisory Committee, and noted the following information:

- The consultant will present two options during the final presentation to Council, including fiber to premises and fiber to premises and homes;
- The City would own the fiber as a utility and sub-lease it to a telecommunications company;
- The Intelligent City Advisory Committee (ICAC) will be following the Intelligent City Forum model with respect to becoming an intelligent city;
- An application has been submitted for the Intelligent City Forum; and,
- It was noted that Robert Bell, Intelligent City Forum, provides a master class regarding the pillars of the Intelligent City Forum.

4.3 Maker's Café

Reg Nordman, Committee Member, advised that the Maker's Café program has been affected changes in administration at Douglas College.

5.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.1 Metrics

Tristan Johnson, Planning Analyst, provided a PowerPoint presentation summarizing Andrew Ramlo's presentation at the Economic Forum (attached).

Discussion ensued and the Committee noted the following comments:

- It was suggested that network hubs be established with offices and meeting rooms to provide a flexible space for local businesses to work from;
- It was noted that children are the biggest gap in the metrics document;
- It was suggested that there be a mandatory size for apartment units to attract families and retirees to New Westminster;
- It was suggested that New Westminster consider the Tokyo model of accommodating families in apartment buildings by including children centers in the design; and,

- It was suggested that New Westminster consider implementing a program similar to the Landing Pad Grant in Kitchener, Ontario.

6.0 PRESENTATIONS

There were no items.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Brain Gain (book for distribution)

Andréa Khan, Economic Development Coordinator, distributed the book *Brain Gain* by Robert Bell, John Jung and Louis Zacharilla to the Committee.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

December 5, 2014 at 8:00 a.m. – Committee Room #2, City Hall

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

Certified correct,

**COUNCILLOR BILL HARPER
CHAIR**

**LAUREN BLAKE
COMMITTEE CLERK**