

## **Family Court Committee**

**Wednesday, February 27, 2013 – 1:00 pm**  
**Committee Room No. 2**  
**City Hall**

### **MINUTES**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillor Betty McIntosh	- Chair
Silvana McNulty	- Community Member
Dorothy Shiu	- Community Member
Sanda Turner	- Community Member (arrived at 1:07 p.m.)
Molly Jeschke	- Community Member
Ronne Sun	- Family Justice Centre
Sarah Barone	- NW Law Courts
Paul Johanssen	- Community Member (departed at 2:02 p.m.)
Brian Fiddler	- NW Victim Assistance

#### **REGRETS:**

Scott White	- Community Member
Lisa Graham	- School Board Trustee
Gertrude Gaviola	- Community Member

#### **STAFF:**

Ruby Campbell	- Volunteer Coordinator
Sukhwinder Maghera	- Engineering Operations
Nancy Miller	- Engineering Operations
Kelly Sims	- Committee Clerk

#### **Guests:**

Roberta Dobbie, Douglas College Practicum Student

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m.

#### **1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

4.2 Family Law Court Updates

4.3 Committee Work Plan

6.3 Family Day Letter

## **2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

### **2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of January 16, 2013**

#### **MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the Family Court Committee meeting minutes of January 16, 2013 be adopted.*

**CARRIED.**

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

## **3.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

No items.

## **4.0 NEW BUSINESS**

### **4.1 Family Day 2013 Review**

Councillor Betty McIntosh, Chair, informed the Committee of a recent meeting between the Fraser River Discovery Centre and representatives of the River Market. Councillor McIntosh advised that the meeting supports building a strong relationship between the two entities and the Committee.

Councillor McIntosh spoke to the success of the first Family Day Celebrations hosted by the City, and noted the following points:

- Attendees were lined up prior to the opening, and an estimated two thousand people attended the event;
- Monitoring of the line-up indicated that people were in line for an average of thirty minutes, and that the lineup lasted for over three hours;
- City staff were employed to work on a statutory holiday, which added costs to the event;
- Non-profit organizations advised that they were reluctant to staff due to it being schedule don a statutory holiday. The event the event was primarily organized and administered by City staff resources and corporate sponsorship.
- The Family Day celebrations assisted in marketing the Fraser River Discovery Centre – a venue that is often over looked;
- Public engagement between the public and resident associations was minimal.

Ruby Campbell, Volunteer Coordinator, provided further background regarding the City's role in planning and hosting the City's first Family Day celebrations.

Ms. Campbell advised that an audit is being conducted to determine the amount of City space that was used for the event and the total number of attendees. The audit will help to assess the capacity and logistical requirements for future events. Other points noted regarding the Family Day Celebrations included:

- The need for more volunteers;
- The cost of using the River Market for the event;
- Healthy food options were provided at the River Market for families;
- That youth 9-10 year olds were well represented, and those 11-17 were less represented;
- That there were a lot of in-kind donations regarding the budget - the Committees thousand dollar contribution was used.

Discussion ensued and the Committee made note on the following points:

- Staff's use of social marketing and coordination help make the event a success;
- Timing of recruitment for new Committee members (January) and timing of the holiday (February) makes it challenging to coordinate efforts - planning of the event will continue with the current timeline and those who are not reappointed can support the event through volunteering;
- The City should consider partnering with youth leaders for the Canada Day celebrations;
- Thank you letters should be sent to sponsors, such as Donald's' Market.

Councillor McIntosh advised that the Committee's budget should be increased to support other events. It was noted that other Committees like the Seniors Advisory Committee also hosts events that require funding, and that by reserving some of the budget for other Committees allows opportunities for more events.

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the Family Court Committee develop a February 2014 Family Day Event.*

**CARRIED.**

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

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the Family Court Committee would assist the Seniors Advisory Committee with their budget to plan events if it was so requested.*

**CARRIED.**

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

**4.2 Family Law Court Updates**

Sarah Barone, New Westminster Law Courts, noted that many changes have been made to the Family Law Court and suggested that these changes be brought up and added to the next Family Court Committee agenda.

**4.3 Committee Work Plan**

Councillor, McIntosh advised that a work plan should be developed to help guide the Committees goals for the year. It was also suggested by members of the Committee that a meeting should be scheduled with the youth centre, and that Faith Bodnar, BC Association of Community Living should meet with the Committee to discuss her work.

## 5.0 PRESENTATIONS

### 5.1 Committee Oaths and Orientation – Stephanie Lam

Stephanie Lam, Committee Clerk, welcomed the 2013 Family Court Committee members and advised them on the following items:

- Amendments to the Rules of Conduct: Advisory Committees & Bodies of Council importance of quorum, Committee Terms of Reference, recruitment; recommendations to council and process, minutes and circulation, need to RSVP, revisions to the minutes; and
- Social Media Policy, FOI forms, and Schedule – online at [www.newwestcity.ca](http://www.newwestcity.ca).

Stephanie Lam, Committee Clerk, conducted the oath to the 2013 Family Court Committee.

For the record, Ms Lam made note that Scott White, Paul Johanssen, Lisa Graham, and Gertrude Gaviola would still be required to affirm their oath and sign the required forms prior, to becoming full voting members of the Committee.

It was noted by staff Councillor Betty McIntosh, Chair, that the Family Court Committee does not currently have a designated staff liaison. It was also noted a letter should be sent from the Committee to Naseem Hassanali, Executive Assistant to the Mayor, regarding her retirement.

Ronne Sun, Family Justice Centre, also noted that in reference to the Family Court Committee Terms of reference and Voting Members that the word “Burnaby” should be removed from “Representative from the Burnaby/New Westminster Family Justice Centre”.

**Procedural note:** Silvana McNulty, Community Member, exited the meeting at 2:40 p.m.

## 6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

### 6.1 Communities Embracing Restorative Action - CERA

Councillor Betty McIntosh, Chair, advised that there were no new items regarding CERA as the next report is not due until June. CERA’s mandate is to work with low risk (minor or first offender) youth and young adults to resolve conflict and crime through restorative justice. It was noted that a member of the Committee is appointed to CERA as a community liaison.

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT Sanda Turner be appointed the as the FCC liaison to CERA.*

**CARRIED.**

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

**6.2 Member's Reports –**

Councillor Betty McIntosh, Chair, informed the Committee that the public will have an opportunity to provide input on March 11, 2013 regarding the City's five year budget, which is mandated by provincial agreement. It was noted that the meeting would be televised and that members could also forward their comments to the City through regular correspondence.

**6.3 Family Day Letter**

Councillor Betty McIntosh, Chair, advised the Committee that a letter (Family Court Committee Correspondence – Received January 21, 2013) has been received from Pat Bell, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training and Minister Responsible for Labour regarding Family Day advised that the Province will administer Family Day events through a contracted consulting company - Inventa. It was clear if the role Inventa will take in funding or planning Family Day events.

Discussion ensued and members of the Committee made note that a comprehensive letter should to enquire Inventa's input with respect to future Family Day events, and how/who funding/budgets will be managed by, and what type of support the Province would provide.

Councillor McIntosh advised that the Committee has authority to write a letter directly to a provincial ministry with a signature of the Chair. It was also noted that hard copy of a letter written should be sent to the City's Legislative Services Department for information.

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the Family Court Committee write a comprehensive letter to Minister Pat Bell, Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training and the Ministry Responsible for Labour to provide clarity on the role the consultant Inventa will take in assisting in planning future Family Day events, and how the Province will support the next Family Day event.*

**CARRIED.**

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

**7.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

**7.1 Helping Hands Brochure – On Table**

The Helping Hands Brochure was received for information by the Committee.

**8.0 NEXT MEETING**

April 24, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. – Committee Room 2, City Hall

**9.0 ADJOURNMENT**

**ON MOTION**, the meeting adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

Certified Correct,

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**Councillor Betty McIntosh**  
Chair

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**Kelly Sims**  
Committee Clerk