

Family Court Committee

September 25, 2013 at 1:00 p.m.
Committee Room No. 2
City Hall

Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Betty McIntosh	- Chair
Brian Fiddler	- NW Victim Assistance
Molly Jeschke	- Community Member
Silvana McNulty	- Community Member
Dorothy Shiu	- Community Member
Ronne Sun	- Family Justice Centre

REGRETS:

Sarah Barone	- NW Law Courts
Gertrude Gaviola	- Community Member
Lisa Graham	- School Board Trustee
Paul Johanssen	- Community Member
Sanda Turner	- Community Member
Scott White	- Community Member

STAFF:

Lauren Blake	- Committee Clerk
Ruby Campbell	- Parks, Culture and Recreation Department

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 p.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- 1.1 The agenda was amended by:
- Adding new item 6.2

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of June 19, 2013

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the June 19, 2013 minutes of the Family Court Committee be amended by:

- *Correcting the name of Janet Gant in item 5.1 on page three*
- AND THAT the minutes be adopted as amended.*

CARRIED.

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

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Family Day

Ms. Ruby Campbell, Parks, Culture and Recreation Department, provided an update regarding Family Day 2014. Ms. Campbell and Councillor Betty McIntosh will view the Fraser River Discovery Centre and the River Market on Friday, September 27, 2013 to determine if there will be adequate space to host the Family Day event in 2014. Ms. Campbell reported that some of the entertainment from last year's event, including the magician, Mike's Critters and the Samson V sternwheel snagpuller, have been booked for Family Day 2014. It was noted that the event will require many volunteers, as the event will operate between two venues and is expected to bring in thousands of attendees. Ms. Campbell will communicate with the School District with respect to offering students volunteer opportunities, as volunteer hours are a requirement for graduation. In addition to volunteers, Ms. Campbell will enquire about having auxiliary staff present to assist with the event.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

6.1 Communities Embracing Restorative Action (CERA) – Sanda Turner

Ms. Turner was not present to provide an update regarding CERA. It was suggested that Councillor Puchmayr be invited Family Court Committee meetings, as he is the Council representative to CERA.

6.2 UBCM Resolutions – Councillor Betty McIntosh

Councillor McIntosh attended the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, held September 21 to 25, 2013. Councillor McIntosh met with the Premier and the Ministers of Transportation, Health and Heritage and the following items were discussed:

- The Royal Columbia hospital redevelopment project;
- Heritage, including what tools can be developed to aid New Westminster in preserving quality heritage houses;
- The regulation of marijuana for medical purposes;
- Sustainability;
- The fiscal future;
- Mental health, including the future of Riverview Hospital in Coquitlam.

7.0 MEMBER REPORTS

7.1 Ms. Molly Jeschke reported that she received a \$500 dollar grant from the Vancouver Foundation of Family Services. The grant was used towards an

event titled "From a Couple to a Single Again", an event for individuals starting over as single as a result of divorce. The event is to help build self-esteem and discuss issues faced by single individuals. The event was held on Friday, September 20, 2013 at Century House in New Westminster and Ms. Jeschke reported that the event was a success.

- 7.2** Mr. Brian Fiddler reported that the New Westminster Police Department now have on staff a mental health officer. It was noted that this addition has had a positive impact on interactions between the police department and individuals with mental health issues.
- 7.3** Ms. Ronne Sun reported on "Partnering after Separation", a three hour program to aid divorced individuals co-parent their children. The course is available online in English, Chinese and Punjabi. Ms. Sun stated that individuals requiring further information regarding the program can contact her if they are located in New Westminster or they may contact local Family Court if they are located outside of New Westminster.
- 7.4** Ms. Sylviana McNulty extended an invitation to RiverFest, a celebration of the Fraser River. The event will be held at the Fraser River Discovery Centre.

Procedural Note: Brain Fiddler left at 1:59 p.m.

8.0 CORRESPONDENCE

- 8.1 Letter from Councillor McIntosh to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General – Concern for budget cuts in School District 40**

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the correspondence be received as circulated.

CARRIED.

All members of the committee present voted in favor of the motion.

9.0 NEXT MEETING

Next meeting November 6, 2013 in Council Chambers

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Certified correct,

Councillor Betty McIntosh
Chair

Lauren Blake
Committee Clerk