



“Wait for Me Daddy” Memorial Task Force

**Wednesday, January 15, 2014 – 2:30 p.m.
Committee Room #2 – City Hall**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Lorrie Williams	- Chair
Mayor Wayne Wright	- Mayor
Chief Dave Jones	- Police Services (exited at 3:50 p.m.)
Chief Tim Armstrong	- Fire & Rescue Services
Calvin Donnelly	- Member at Large (arrived at 3:15 p.m.)
Andrew Conradi	- Member at Large
Bob Collyer	- United Church Representative
Robert McCullough	- Manager, Cultural Services
Allan De Genova	- Honour House Representative (arrived at 3:00 p.m.)

MEMBERS REGRETS:

Lisa Spitale	- Chief Administrative Officer
Blair Fryer	- Communications
Rick Page	- Director of Legislative Services
Herb Hamm	- Curator, Canadian Forces Armoury
Julie Schueck	- Heritage and Community Planner
Freda Hogg	- Honourary Member

GUESTS:

Kendra Johnston	- New Westminster Downtown Business Improvement Association
Leesa Strimbicki	- Urban Art Management

STAFF:

Alison Worsfold	- Committee Clerk
Ruby Campbell	- Community Projects Coordinator

The meeting was called to order at 2:40 p.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of November 13, 2013

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the Wait for Me Daddy Memorial Task Force meeting held November 13, 2013 be adopted.

CARRIED.

All members of the Task Force present voted in favour of the motion.

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Expression of Interest Update with Federal Secretariat, World War Commemorations

Ruby Campbell, Community Projects Coordinator, provided an update on the Expression of Interest with the Federal Secretariat and noted the following:

- The Expression of Interest was submitted to the Federal Secretariat on November 22, 2013;
- The Federal Secretariat indicated that there are no available funds to support the Expression of Interest at this time;
- It was suggested that the 'Wait for Me Daddy' program should apply for other grants such as the Canadian Heritage Grant or the Veterans Affairs Grant; and,
- It was advised that the Task Force should contact the Federal Secretariat again in the future to provide initiative updates and enquire about funds.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Community Information Session

Ruby Campbell, Community Projects Coordinator, provided the following information regarding the January 21, 2014 'Wait for Me Daddy' community information session:

- The goal of the session is to increase community involvement;
- There will be discussion around Hyack Square, the 'Wait for Me Daddy' exhibit, fundraising and business engagement;
- All Task Force members are invited to attend the forum; and,

- There are 26 people currently registered for the forum representing the following organizations:
 - Downtown Business Improvement Association;
 - Tourism New Westminster;
 - Douglas College;
 - Royal City Rotary;
 - School District;
 - New Westminster Arts Council;
 - Fraser River Discovery Centre;
 - Royal City Literary Arts Society;
 - Royal City Writers;
 - Quayside Community Residents Board;
 - Moody Park Residents Association;
 - The New Westminster Lions;
 - Massey Theatre;
 - Kiwanis Club;
 - Century House; and,
 - Royal Canadian Legion.

Procedural note: Allan De Genova arrived to the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

5.2 Business Engagement Strategy

Ruby Campbell, Community Projects Coordinator, provided an update on the Business Engagement Strategy and noted that the goal of the strategy is to engage local businesses in the 'Wait for Me Daddy' events and to encourage 'Wait for Me Daddy' themed storefront displays on Columbia Street. Ms. Campbell advised that she has started discussing ideas with Kendra Johnston of the New Westminster Business Improvement Association to the Task Force, and introduced Ms. Johnston to the Task Force. Ms. Johnston thanked the Task Force for inviting her to attend the meeting, and suggested that a lead sponsor should be established before seeking support from smaller businesses. Ms. Johnston noted that she is interested in leading the business engagement portion of the process.

Discussion ensued and the following comments were noted:

- It was suggested that 'Wait for Me Daddy' related stories should be compiled and included with the festivities;
- It was suggested that Army & Navy would be an ideal lead sponsor, as the site is one of the oldest in the downtown area; and,
- It was suggested that the Salvation Army should be contacted, as they may be willing to provide their truck that was once used to sell snacks to the soldiers during the war as a food vendor at the 2014 street festival.

Procedural note: Calvin Donnelly arrived to the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

Procedural note: Mayor Wayne Wright appointed Kendra Johnston of the Downtown New Westminster Business Improvement Association to the Task Force.

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

6.1 Monument Status Report

Rob McCullough, Manager of Cultural Services, distributed photographs of the progress of the 'Wait for Me Daddy' sculpture to the members of the Task Force while Leesa Strimbicki, Project Manager, provided the following details regarding the logistics of the initiative:

- Ms. Strimbicki and Ilona Banks, Project Managers, met with the landscape architect and structural engineer on December 10, 2013;
- The structural footing for the sculpture is now complete, and structural drawings have been sent to Joan Drabyk, Building Inspector, for review;
- Ventana Construction has been hired to cut the concrete and install the structural footing and sculpture, which is paid for by artist fees;
- The engineers aim to install the piece in eight hours several days prior to the unveiling;
- The sculpture will be wrapped in canvas and surrounded by fencing prior to the unveiling; and,
- The artists have considered hiring La Negra Lighting to complete the LED lighting around the sculpture.

Discussion ensued and the following comments were noted:

- It was agreed that the lights around the sculpture should be installed by a local company rather than La Negra Lighting;
- It would be beneficial to have the lights around the sculpture change colours to intensify the piece;
- It was suggested that Super Save Gas should be contacted in regards to donating fencing for around the sculpture prior to the unveiling to cut costs; and,
- It was suggested that there be an evening event on October 4, 2014 to coincide with the day festivities.

6.2 Update on Ab Ovo Relocation

Rob McCullough, Manager of Cultural Services, provided the following update on the relocation of the Ab Ovo sculpture that is currently located in Hyack Square:

- Staff have found two possible sites to relocate the Ab Ovo. One location being in Westminster Pier Park and the other in Glenbrook Ravine Park;

- The City is permitted to relocate the Ab Ovo according to the contract; and,
- It was suggested that the QayQayt First Nation Chief and Carlos Basanta, who is the creator of the Ab Ov, be contacted further regarding the relocation of the art piece.

The Task Force suggested that superimposed pictures of the Ab Ovo should be taken in the possible locations before the final decision is made, and that a ceremony should be planned for when the piece is relocated.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the following correspondence be received for information:

7.1 Letter of November 5, 2013 from President Jack Martin, Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada Re: Famous War Photo to be cast in Bronze

7.2 Email of November 26, 2013 from Karl McQuillan, Canadian Forces in regards to interest in involvement in ceremony

CARRIED.

All members of the Task Force present voted in favour of the motion.

Procedural Note: Chief Dave Jones exited at 3:50 p.m.

Andrew Conradi, Member at Large, briefed on the involvement of the British Columbia Regiment (BCR) and New Westminster Regiment at the 2014 and 2015 'Wait for Me Daddy' events and noted the following:

- Major Evans is the current Commanding Officer for the BCR;
- The BCR have expressed that they would like to focus on one of the events, with preference given to the 2015 march;
- The BCR and Royal Westminster Regiment have agreed to each provide 25 men, including officers and senior Commanding Officers, at the 2015 march;
- It was suggested that the Commanding Officers, Honourable Lieutenant Colonels and Colonels should be included as VIP's;
- Due to the fact that the 1940 march included a band, the BCR and Royal Westminster Regiment have offered to liaise as to which bands will participate in the events; and,
- The BCR will be out of town attending the St. Julien 100th Anniversary Battlefield Tour from mid-April until early- May.

Discussion ensued and the following comments were noted:

- It would be valuable to invite Whitey Bernard to New Westminster in the near future to meet with the Task Force;

- It was suggested that Staff should arrange interviews with the two known remaining members of the BCR who marched down the hill in 1940;
- It was suggested that a confirmed site plan and finalized measurements of the statue should be established prior to moving forward with finalizing site logistics;
- The October 4, 2014 event is planned to start at 11 a.m.;
- It was suggested that the Canadian Broadcasting Company (CBC) and Life Magazine should be contacted to report on the initiative prior to the events; and,
- Whitey Bernard's father's medals and the original negative of the photograph would be wonderful items to include in the 'Wait for Me Daddy' museum exhibit if possible.

Ruby Campbell, Community Projects Coordinator, advised that School District #40 plans on including a book regarding 'Wait for Me Daddy' into the grade 5 curriculum and also part of the grade 10 arts and drama program. Ms. Campbell noted that there are meetings scheduled between Staff and the Province of British Columbia and CBC in the near future.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 19 2014, Committee Room #2, City Hall at 2:30pm

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting concluded at 4:50 p.m.

Certified Correct,

Lorrie Williams
Chair

Alison Worsfold
Committee Clerk