



YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**November 26, 2015 - 5:00 p.m.
Spruce Room, Century House**

MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Christine Mendoza	- Co-Chair
Yolanda Calderon	- Co-Chair
Yasmeen Alghreibawi	- NWSS Representative
Tyller Cordoviz	- NWSS Representative
Lina Dockman	- NWSS Representative
Amy Frost	- NWSS Representative
Lindsay Gesner	- NWSS Representative
Alex Hatch	- NWSS Representative
Kayoko Mayede	- NWSS Representative
Giselle Whittaker	- NWSS Representative
Ian Zhou	- Connaught Heights Elementary School

VOTING MEMBERS REGRETS:

Simran Jagpal	- NWSS Representative
Marissa Smith	- NWSS Representative
Elena Kuzma	- NWSS Representative
Bianca Blackwell	- NWSS Representative

NON VOTING ADVISOR REGRETS:

Patrick Johnstone	- City Council
Karon Trenaman	- ICBC Representative

GUESTS:

Mary Wilson	- Community Member
-------------	--------------------

STAFF:

Robyn McGuinness	- Manager of Seniors and Youth Services
Ryan Weber	- Youth Services Coordinator
Lauren Blake	- Committee Clerk
Debbie Johnstone	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

1.0 PRESENTATION

Procedural Note: Item 1.1 was discussed after Items 2.1 and 2.2

1.1 Fun Day for Kids Event

Mary Wilson, Community Member, discussed the Fun Day for Kids event at Moody Park and provided the following information:

- The event was started in 2013, by a local boy named Nur Elmarsi;
- The event utilized grant funding and was provided at no cost to participants;
- The event was open to all children in New Westminster; and,
- Attendance levels for the first Fun Day for Kids event had over 500 participants, and the attendance increased the following year.

Ms. Wilson advised that Mr. Elmarsi no longer resides in New Westminster, and requested suggestions from the Committee regarding potential organizers who could continue the event.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee provided the following comments:

- The event was commended for be inclusive of all children in New Westminster;
- New Westminster is recognized as being a people-oriented city, and as such should carry on with the event; and,
- It was suggested that the Parks and Recreation department for the City of New Westminster work in partnership with the Youth Committee to continue this event.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the City, in partnership with the Youth Advisory Committee, assume responsibility for the Fun Day for Kids Event at Moody Park.

CARRIED.

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

2.0 NEW BUSINESS

Procedural Note: Items 2.1 and 2.2 were discussed prior to item 1.1

2.1 Orientation/ Committee Oaths & Permission Forms

Lauren Blake, Committee Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to the Committee members.

Ms. Blake reviewed the following documents with the Committee members:

- Social Media Policy;
- Terms of Reference; and,
- Permission Forms.

Members are to contact Debbie Johnstone, Committee Clerk, regarding attendance at each meeting. If a member is unable to fulfill their duties, they are asked to notify staff as soon as possible so the position can be refilled.

2.2 Election of Chairs

Lauren Blake, Committee Clerk, requested volunteers to serve as the Co-Chairs for the 20126 Committee term. The following Committee members' names were put forward for the position of Co-Chair:

- Lina Dockman
- Christine Mendoza
- Yolanda Calderon

Ballots were cast by the Committee members.

Christine Mendoza and Yolanda Calderon were elected Co-Chairs for 2015/2016.

Procedural Note: Christine Mendoza assumed the Chair.

2.3 Youth Advisory Committee 2015/2016 Topics of Interest and Goals

Robyn McGuiness, Manager of Seniors and Youth Services, and Ryan Weber, Youth Services Coordinator, requested potential topics of interest that the Committee would like to focus on during their elected term.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee suggested the following topics be discussed throughout the 2015/2016 term:

- How to help and support Syrian refugees coming to New Westminster;
- Opportunities for New Westminster youths to help with less privileged individuals in the community;

- Available options to keep or maintain the New Westminster skate park;
- Better lighting for dog parks in New Westminster; and,
- An interest was expressed in having an 'Our City 2041' presentation.

Goals for the 2015/2016 term were tabled and would be discussed at the next meeting.

2.4 BC Youth Parliament

Ryan Weber, Youth Services Representative, spoke about the B.C. Youth Parliament Committee. Mr. Weber noted that the Committee meets in Victoria throughout the year, and follows the same format as Victoria parliament. Committee members were encouraged to apply and additional information would be available upon request.

3.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1 Adoption of the Minutes of May 28, 2015

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the May 28, 2015 Youth Advisory Committee meeting be adopted.

CARRIED.

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

4.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

4.1 Member Reports

Lindsay Gesner, NWSS Representative, informed the Committee that there would be a Town Hall meeting on Sunday, November 29th. The purpose of the meeting was to provide information to those wanting to assist Syrian refugees coming to the community.

Ryan Weber, Youth Services Representative, advised that a transportation service called the DUC had been created by the Community Shelter. The shuttle service aims to provide assistance to seniors in the downtown and uptown New Westminster area. Currently, services are only provided during school hours; however, Mr. Weber felt that there was an opportunity for students to also benefit from this service.

7.0 NEXT MEETING

Thursday, January 28, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. at Century House

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Certified Correct,

Christine Mendoza
Co-Chair

Debbie Johnstone
Committee Clerk