



YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 25, 2016 - 5:00 p.m.
Oak Room, Century House

MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Christine Mendoza	- Co-Chair
Yolanda Calderon	- Co-Chair
Bianca Blackwell	- NWSS Representative
Tyller Cordoviz	- NWSS Representative
Lindsay Gesner	- NWSS Representative
Simran Jagpal	- NWSS Representative
Kayoko Mayede	- NWSS Representative
Raunaq Singh	- Member at large
Marissa Smith	- NWSS Representative
Ian Zhou	- Connaught Heights Elementary School

VOTING MEMBERS REGRETS:

Yasmeen Alghreibawi	- NWSS Representative
Lina Dockman	- NWSS Representative
Amy Frost	- NWSS Representative
Alex Hatch	- NWSS Representative
Elena Kuzma	- NWSS Representative
Giselle Whittaker	- NWSS Representative

NON VOTING ADVISORS PRESENT:

Patrick Johnstone	- City Council
Heather Lynch	- District Parent Advisory Committee Representative (arrived at 5:20 p.m.)
Karon Trenaman	- ICBC Representative (arrived at 5:39 p.m.)

GUESTS:

Stephen O'Shea	- Arts Council of New Westminster (exited at 5:46 p.m.)
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STAFF:

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:11 p.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions.

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of January 28, 2016

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the January 28, 2016 Youth Advisory Committee meeting be adopted.

CARRIED.

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

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Ice Breaker

Ryan Weber, Youth Services Coordinator, provided the following 'ice breaker' question to the Committee:

What is your favourite thing about your community?

Discussion ensued, and the Committee provided the following answers:

- The Library;
- The band department at New Westminster Secondary School;
- The Salvation Army Church;
- Drop In programs at elementary schools in New Westminster;
- The Youth Center;
- Canada Games pool, and the outdoor pool;
- Moody Park and Queens Park;
- Queensborough Landing;
- The accessible nature of the community; and,
- The strong sense of community, despite the larger population.

3.2 Momentum Youth Arts Festival

Stephen O'Shea, Arts Council of New Westminster, provided a brief summary of his professional background and the Arts Council's role in New Westminster.

Mr. O'Shea reported that the Momentum Youth Arts Festival (Momentum) is an event partnered by the Arts Council and the Massey Theatre. The festival would be created, curated and presented by New Westminster youth members. Mr. O'Shea advised that he would be requesting the Committee's feedback regarding the festival, and was also interested in obtaining volunteers for the event.

Following questions from the Committee, Mr. O'Shea provided the following information:

- Momentum would be held in October, 2016;
- Youth volunteers would gather once or twice a month to create and plan for the festival;
- Volunteers and performers would not need to reside in New Westminster;
- Ideal candidates to assist in the planning of Momentum would need to have an interest in the arts and their community; and,
- Members of the Arts Council and the Massey Theatre would act as mentors to help youth members achieve their goals for the festival.

Mr. O'Shea requested feedback from the Committee with regard to the following questions:

How can the Momentum Youth Arts Festival attract more attention from youth members in the city?

- A interactive visual representation of the event was suggested as a unique way to attract attention to the festival;
- Social media, Snapchat or a flash mob could all generate interest;
- Well-designed posters could be implemented throughout New Westminster schools;
- A mini-festival before the date of the event was suggested;
- Specific areas could be targeted to showcase a few of the artists before the festival;
- The Youth Center, Skytrain station and New Westminster malls are all areas that youth members frequently visit. Advertising in these areas was suggested;
- Targeting local bands to participate in the event was suggested;

- Reaching out to teachers in the area could help increase student's knowledge of the event;
- Bands performing in the festival could be showcased on the PA system at school; and,
- Broadening the festival to include all different forms of the arts (such as dance and poetry) was suggested.

Where should the Momentum Youth Festival take place?

- The Anvil Center was suggested;
- The event could be a street festival, similar to Sapperton Festival;
- Hosting a satellite festival in the Queensborough area could create a more inclusive festival; and,
- Providing more than one location for the event with a shuttle service between locations was suggested.

Mr. O'Shea enquired if there was a member of the Committee who would be interested in acting as a representative on the Momentum Youth Festival Committee. Bianca Blackwell volunteered for this position.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Kids Day at Moody Park

Ryan Weber, Youth Services Coordinator, summarized a discussion from the November 25, 2015 meeting with regard to the Kids Day at Moody Park event. Mr. Weber enquired how the committee would like to proceed with the planning for the event. Discussion ensued, and the Committee agreed to form a Subcommittee to plan the event.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Youth Advisory Committee form a Subcommittee to manage the Kids Day at Moody Park event.

CARRIED.

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

Yolanda Calderon, Lindsay Gesner, Marissa Smith, Christine Mendoza and Kayoko Mayede all volunteered to serve on the Subcommittee.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Canada Day Sub-Committee Youth Representative

Debbie Johnstone, Committee Clerk, reported that the Canada Day Subcommittee would require a Youth representative to sit on the committee. Meetings would be monthly, and the Subcommittee would be responsible for the cultural planning of the event.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Tyller Cordoviz be selected as the Youth Advisory Committee representative for the Canada Day Sub-Committee for 2016.

CARRIED.

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

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

6.1 Council Representative Report

Councillor Patrick Johnstone, Council representative, reported the following information:

- Council is currently working on the 2017 Budget, the Official Community Plan and the Master Plan document for the City. Statistics indicate that there will be a large influx of people moving into New Westminster in the coming years and Council is working to prepare for these changes;
- The Q2Q Bridge project would connect Queensborough to Quayside. Planners have experienced jurisdictional issues therefore the original timeline for completion (2017) may be delayed; and,
- The Canada Games Pool replacement project would require public consultation in Summer/Fall of 2016. Council is currently touring other facilities in the lower mainland to acquire additional information and ideas for the project.

6.2 ICBC Representative Report

Karen Trenaman, ICBC representative, reported the following information:

- December was pedestrian safety month for ICBC. Pedestrian visibility is often a contributing factor for accidents. Reflectors could be a way to ensure that pedestrians have better visibility on the road ;

- ICBC collaborated with the New Westminster Police department to congregate at SkyTrain stations to remind passengers that they are re-engaging as pedestrians and to be cautious of their surroundings;
- The next campaign that ICBC will be promoting (in collaboration with the Police Services and the Provincial Government) would be targeted at distracted drivers;
- Provincial statistics indicate that in the last decade, impaired driving has equaled distracted driving for vehicle accidents; and,
- In March there would be an increase in roadside awareness, with volunteers and police officers targeting distracted drivers.

6.3 District Parent Advisory Committee Report

Heather Lynch, District Parent Advisory Committee (DPAC) representative, reported that DPAC would be holding a Child and Youth Mental Health Forum. Issues such as anxiety, and depression would be the focus for the forum. Ms. Lynch advised that DPAC would be requesting that a volunteer from the Youth Advisory Committee participate in the planning of this event.

6.4 Youth Coordinator's Report

Ryan Weber, Youth Services Coordinator, reported the following information:

- Attendance for the Youth Center has been steady;
- Youth Services had an outdoor lounge at the Rogers Hometown Hockey event;
- An intergenerational jeopardy game had been hosted by Youth Services on Family Day;
- Events would be held at the Youth Center over spring break. The Youth Center would also be promoting neighbourhood events for pre-teens in the area; and,
- A report would be presented to Council in April with regard to the Youth Centre name and signage. If approved by Council, this signage could be implemented for Youth Week in May.

6.5 Member Reports

Ranauq Singh, Member at Large, expressed concerns regarding the implementation of the updated smoking bylaw in New Westminster. Mr. Singh reported that this would be an issue affecting the entire community, and suggested that the City look into how to better implement this Bylaw.

Robyn McGuiness, Manager of Seniors and Youth Services, furthered the discussion, explaining that this was not just an issue in the downtown area, but also in New Westminster parks.

Councillor Johnstone suggested that a Bylaw officer and someone from the cessation department in Fraser Health attend the next meeting to provide additional information regarding this topic.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT a member from Fraser Health and the Bylaw Department come to speak to the Youth Advisory Committee at the next meeting.

CARRIED.

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

Yolanda Calderon, Co-Chair, reported that she would be traveling to El Salvador to aid in a mission that had been started at the Children's Hospital. Ms. Calderon would be gathering toys and clothes to bring as donations and encouraged others to contribute to the cause.

Bianca Blackwell, NWSS Representative, reported that she had a recommendation for the Canada Games Pool replacement project. Ms. Blackwell suggested that the facility consider implementing a rock climbing wall, or a rock climbing gym.

The Committee expressed support for this idea, and stated that implementing a recreation element to the center could provide additional attention to the facility.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council consider implementing a rock climbing wall, or rock climbing gym in the redesigned Canada Games Pool.

CARRIED.

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

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

~~Thursday, March 24, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. in Oak Room, Century House T.B.A.~~

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Certified Correct,

Yolanda Calderon
Co-Chair

Debbie Johnstone
Committee Clerk