



YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 23, 2017, 5:00 p.m.
Century House, Oak Room

MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Maggie Chen	- Co-Chair; NWSS Representative
Selena Uppal	- Co-Chair; NWSS Representative
Samia Khan	- Fraser River Middle School
Madelyne Lemieux	- NWSS Representative
Keona Lighthall	- NWSS Representative
Joelle Pinvidic	- NWSS Representative
Nelson Roy	- Ecolé Glenbrook Middle School
Ian Zhou	- Fraser River Middle School

VOTING MEMBERS REGRETS:

Shawn Lichtmann	- NWSS Representative
Wala Saidan	- NWSS Representative

NON VOTING ADVISORS PRESENT:

Patrick Johnstone	- Council Representative
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NON VOTING ADVISORS REGRETS:

Heather Lynch	- DPAC Representative
Karon Trenaman	- ICBC Representative

STAFF PRESENT:

Ruby Campbell	- Intergovernmental and Community Partnerships Manager
Lynn Roxburgh	- Planning Analyst
Robyn McGuinness	- Manager of Seniors and Youth Services
Ryan Weber	- Youth Services Coordinator
JoAnn Tosh	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 5:09 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 23, 2017

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the January 23, 2017 Youth Advisory Committee meeting minutes be adopted.

CARRIED.

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

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Ice Breaker

Procedural note: Item 3.1 was addressed following item 3.3

Ryan Weber, Youth Services Coordinator, provided the following ‘ice breaker’ questions to the Committee:

Question: If you could change, fix, or upgrade one thing about your community (or all of New Westminster as a whole) what would you change or improve?

Discussion ensued, and the Committee noted the following comments:

- Additional street lights throughout the city;
- Additional public water fountains that could have the water bottle refill function;
- A pedestrian bridge from Queensborough to the Quay;
- Additional crosswalks, including scramble crosswalks at busy intersections;
- Repair work to the road, particularly in Queensborough;
- Improved bylaw enforcement, particularly regarding smoking in public places;
- Wayfinding signs throughout City parks; and,
- Additional green space throughout the city.

3.2 Official Community Plan

Procedural note: Item 3.2 was addressed following item 3.3

Lynn Roxburgh, Planning Analyst, provided an On-Table PowerPoint presentation regarding the City’s Official Community Plan (OCP).

In response to the following questions, the Committee provided the following feedback:

Does your housing meet your family's needs?

Overall the Committee is satisfied with their housing situation as the majority live in single family homes. It was noted that living in Queensborough is less desirable because the homes are located in close proximity to each other.

Where do you want to live after high school?

The Committee expressed support for single family homes; however, concerns were expressed regarding affordability in the city.

Is it easy to get around in your neighborhood without a car?

Overall the Committee felt that they could either walk or take public transit throughout the City, however, it was noted that public transportation from Queensborough is a challenge.

What else should the City focus on over the next 25 years?

The Committee expressed interest in turning Poplar Island into a park and introducing a bike sharing program similar to the bike sharing program in downtown Vancouver.

3.3 Innovation Week 2017

Procedural note: Item 3.3 was address following item 2.1

Ruby Campbell, Intergovernmental and Community Partnerships Manager, provided an On-Table document regarding Innovation Week 2017 and the Hackathon that will be taking place at City Hall on February 25, 26, 2017.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There were no items.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

There were no items.

7.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

7.1 Councillor Report

Procedural note: Item 7.1 was address following item 3.2

Patrick Johnstone, Council Representative, provided the following report:

- It is anticipate that the Official Community Plan (OCP) will be completed by summer 2017;
- Council is working with staff to finalize the provisions for the Heritage Conservation Area in Queen's Park;
- There are two open houses for the Queen's Park Conservation Area planned for March 8, 2017 at City Hall from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and March 11, 2017 at City Hall from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.;
- Council passed a whistle cessation resolution on February 6, 2017 for the crossing at Begbie Street and Front Street and at Fourth Street and Front Street;
- It is anticipated that by summer 2017, a passenger ferry will be in service running from the Quay to Queensborough;
- The New Westminster Police Department (NYPD) and Council are aware of the recent hate crimes throughout the city and the NYPD is following up on these events;
- Following the collapse of the Arenex, the City is trying to relocate the programs to other facilities throughout the city; and,
- City officials are looking at options to build a temporary facility to run the Arenex programs out of for the next several years until a permanent facility is built.

7.2 ICBC Representative Report

There was no update.

7.3 District Parent Advisory Committee Report

There was no update.

7.4 Youth Coordinator Report

Ryan Weber, Youth Coordinator, advised that the Pink Shirt Day challenge was well received throughout the City and that Youth Services staff will be reviewing

the submitted photos to decide a winner. Mr. Weber also advised that the New Westminster Youth Firefighter Program is now accepting applications for the 2017 program. The program is designed for grade 10 – 12 students who are interested in the Fire Service. Students will be placed in a Fire Academy situation featuring classroom review, workplace experience, and live-fire combat. Additional information can be located on the Youth Services website at www.newwestyouth.ca. The application deadline is Friday, May 26, 2017.

Mr. Weber asked the Committee what topics they would like to discuss at future Youth Advisory Committee meetings.

Discussion ensued and the Committee provided the following suggestions:

- Bylaw Enforcement;
- New Westminster Secondary School replacement project; and,
- Future volunteering options to youth.

It was also noted that the Committee could be interested in organizing a city wide event to coincide with the Canada 150 celebrations.

7.5 Member Reports

Selena Uppal reported that she is involved with the NWSS Create Change, a club dedicated to addressing poverty issues in Ghana. The group recently had a successful fundraiser to raise awareness for girls' education in northern Ghana.

Keona Lighthall reported that she is volunteering for the Art in the Streets Community public art program as well as volunteering for a Shakespeare camp during Spring Break.

Samia Khan reported that it is the off-season for her sports programs and is focusing on her high school course selection for the upcoming year.

Ian Zhou reported that he is a member of the student council at Fraser River Middle School and will be leading a tour of visitors throughout the school at an upcoming visit. Mr. Zhou is also eagerly awaiting his Pre IB test results.

Nelson Roy reported that he is following up on his Human Rights complaint to provide all boys the right to free vaccinations for the HPV virus. Mr. Roy also noted that his soccer team is advancing to the regional finals this weekend.

Joelle Pinvidic reported that she performed in the NWSS production of Legally Blonde. Ms. Pinvidic is also training for the hammer throw with her track and field club.

Maddie Lemieux reported that she participated in the Miss New Westminster pageant where she received the Royal City History and Knowledge Award.

Maggie Chen reported that she is the leader of the NWSS Create Change Club. Miss Chen noted that the club empowers youth to build marketing skills and recently had great success when approaching local businesses for sponsorship. Miss Chen is also focusing on her Pre IB course selection for next year.

7.0 NEW BUSINESS

There were no items.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

April 20, 2017, 5:00 pm. Century House, Oak Room

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

Certified Correct,

Maggie Chen
Co-Chair

JoAnn Tosh
Committee Clerk