

**Britannia Board Meeting**

**June 10, 2015**

**Board Room – Information Centre**

**PRESENT:** Gwen Giesbrecht, Chairperson; Alex McKechnie, Craig Ollenberger, Jenny Jung, Beth Davies, Mary Arakelyan, Tyrus Tracey, Aaron Giesbrecht, Freya Kristensen, Beth Davies, Brendan Boylan, Susanne Dahlin, Jenny Jung, Heather Hay, Ye Chu, John Flipse

**STAFF:** Cynthia Low, Brenda Coombs (recording); Craig Smith, Mike Evans,

**REGRETS:** Oles Andrienko, Geoff Taylor, Natalie Bailey, Scott Clark

**GUEST:** Megan French Smith, Erin Shum, Vancouver Park Board

The meeting was called to order by Gwen Giesbrecht, President. 6:03 and introductions were done.

**1. Agenda**

**MOTION:** TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, WITH CORRECTION ON APRIL 8TH MINUTES OF THE BOARD SHOULD SAY MAY 13 MINUTES and MAY 27 FOR APPROVAL.

Ingrid Kolsteren/Brendan Boylan

CARRIED

**2. Minutes of May 13, 2015**

**MOTION:** TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 13, 2015 AND THE MAY 27, 2015 MEETING (MEETING FOLLOWING THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING) WITH THE ADDITION OF FREYA KRISTENSEN AS A GUEST AT THE MAY 13, 2015 MEETING AND TO CHANGE THE LIBRARY REPORT TO READ: "WE WILL NOT BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FROM 8:30 AM TO 9:00 AM."

Ingrid Kolsteren/Freya Kristensen

CARRIED

Brendan Boylan Abstained

**3. New Business**

Orientation – The Board orientation will be held on Wednesday, June 17, 6:00 pm in the Board room. At the meeting this evening we are circulating for information:

- Meeting procedures; and
- Conflict of interest guidelines for information.

The Board meets 10 times a year and the Board package is mailed out the week prior to the meeting. Board members should try and go through the package prior to the meeting. If you wish to pick up your package please let Brenda know and we will not mail. Briefing notes will accompany the agenda; these provide a brief explanation of the topic with a recommendation for consideration. We try to operate by consensus base. We use Robert's Rules of order.

When you wish to bring something to the Board, you should let Cynthia or Brenda know so the item is on the Agenda and if there are materials they need to be handed in to staff so they can be circulated with the Board package. By operating this way we are providing everyone a chance to review and prepare for the meeting.

You should also review the conflict of interest policy. The Board is required to be transparent and to ensure that there is no conflict or perceived conflict in our decision making process.

Media policy will be presented at the orientation and will be reviewed. Gwen Giesbrecht, as President, is the spokesperson for the Board. Cynthia Low, Executive Director speaks on any staff issues.

#### **b) Society Meeting Motion and Youth Matter**

At the Annual General Meeting the following motion was put forward:

"That the membership directs the Board and staff of Britannia to develop a comprehensive place based inclusion strategy to reach out and involve all the vulnerable children in the Britannia Area in the activities of the centre."

The bylaws of the centre were examined and Section 13 would apply to a motion passed at a meeting of the Society. Section 13 states: Ordinary resolutions passed at a meeting of the Society shall not be binding on the Board.

After discussion the following was moved.

**MOTION: TO RECEIVE THE MOTION AS PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.**

*"THAT THE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTS THE BOARD AND STAFF OF BRITANNIA TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE PLACE BASED INCLUSION STRATEGY TO REACH OUT AND INVOLVE ALL THE VULNERABLE CHILDREN IN THE BRITANNIA AREA IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRE."*

**Brendan Boylan/Craig Ollenberger**

**CARRIED**

New Board members would like information on Place Based Practice. How does Britannia operate at present and is this Place Based Strategy the best practice for Britannia. Also the Board asked if we are looking at a targeted population for a Place Based approach. Is there a long term solution.

**AGREED: THAT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WORK WITH YOUTH MATTER COMMITTEE TO DO A PRESENTATION IN THE FALL OF 2015 WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SPECIFIC ACTIONS THAT THE BOARD CAN LOOK AT.**

Heather Hay and Ye Chu would like to be informed of the date of the Youth Matter meetings so they may attend.

#### **c) Board Meeting Calendar**

The Calendar of yearly meetings was circulated for Board approval. The Board meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month, in November that will be a stat holiday, so the Board discussed an alternate date and agreed to November 4<sup>th</sup> and to hold the 2016 AGM on May 25<sup>th</sup> 2016.

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE CALENDAR WITH THE NOVEMBER MEETING BEING ON NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> AND MAY 25<sup>TH</sup> AS THE AGM FOR 2016.

Brendan Boylan/Craig Ollenberger

CARRIED

#### **d) Guest: Breaking the Silence Conference – Megan French Smith**

The previous Board provided a donation towards sending Britannia students to a conference on Breaking the Silence that was held at the University of Saskatchewan earlier this year. Megan said the process that ended in the attending of the conference started with the Queer Straight Alliance where we had a PHD student come in and talk to us. Because of the connection with her we got to present at SFU to a class on the issues and this lead to the opportunity to attend the Breaking the Silence conference. We were offered the opportunity to talk about the VSB policy. We went with two other clubs (Lord Byng, University Hill). We talked about why the policy was so controversial. On the first day we went to Rainbow Café, “Gab Youth” is a place where people gather to talk. We were able to participate in their ceremony, and be part of a feast, a smudge ceremony.

One student talked about the group saving her as she was at the point where without the group she would not be here. Break out groups offered an opportunity to ask questions. Adults asking us how to deal with transgendered youth felt positive. We met with David Forbes the Education Critic and he interviewed us for 1.5 hrs. on the policy and Vancouver and what Saskatoon could learn from Vancouver. A letter was circulated that the NDP are introducing a bill “the Student Bill of Rights Act, a bill to guarantee students better learning conditions. Why the policy was important was discussed and outcomes that could come from the weekend. We received the evaluations from the weekend. We received an idea of what the participants learned about us. We got to meet allies and other youth from our community. We sent out a link on the CBC interview. Gender neutral washrooms and why they are important was a topic for discussion.

We are hoping that the conference will be in Vancouver in the next two years. QSA is in a bit of a rut, we have a maximum of 5 at our meetings. I bring in articles. I try not to focus on just LGBT youth. Tomorrow we will be showing a documentary on two spirit people. Posters in the hallway on what two spirited people are. Gender identity discussion help to make you understand. Event will be tomorrow at lunch you are welcome to come.

#### **4. OLD BUSINESS**

- a) Park Board - Erin Shum** – the Park Board liaison asked to present her report to the Board as she needed to be excused. (Report is attached to the package.)

- b) **Carving Pavilion** – Cynthia circulated the community consultation report on the Britannia Carving Pavilion from October 2014. Cynthia updated that the construction for phase I is pretty well complete. There is an inspection on Friday which should provide us with an occupancy permit. There are ten recommendations in the report. Cynthia went through the recommendations, three recommendations on protocol; three recommendations on practice and four recommendations on programming of the facility. She requested that the Board receive the report and proceed with the next steps.

As Board members did not have an opportunity to review the report prior to the meeting they requested that endorsement of the report be on the September Agenda for the Board.

MOTION: THAT THE BRITANNIA BOARD RECEIVE THE REPORT AND PROCEED WITH THE NEXT STEPS AS OUTLINED IN THE REPORT.

Craig Ollenberger/Heather Hay

CARRIED

Agreed the background on the Pavilion will be provided at the Orientation. There was a discussion on the opening for the pavilion. The Ad Hoc Committee is looking at Aboriginal Day activities for the Pavilion. We received \$15,000 from the City to host a carving project as a gift to our Sister City in Guangzhou. There will be activities happening in July and August at the Pavilion.

- c) **1739 Venables** – this building was formerly known as Astorinos it was put up for sale and when sold; the purchaser is looking at the areas for development which is quite a bit in the future. So Britannia was able to lease the building for our purposes. It is a project that is supposed to be self-funding; we are currently about \$3,000 in deficit. The latest financials will be presented to the Finance Committee.
- d) **ActiveNet** – Is the new Recreation software implemented for the fall program, the front office staff and activity coordinators will begin training at the end of June. We are doing fall registration on August 24<sup>th</sup> so the bugs should have been worked out. West End and Coal Harbour went live in June and they say it went well. Cash will be in the accounts within 3 to 5 days. Membership is being reviewed.
- e) **Pool and Rink operations** –the pool and rink facilities are maintained by Vancouver School Board at present. The City of Vancouver and Society staff have been working on a transition of the work to City workers for October 2015.

## 5. Partner Reports

- a) **Park Board** – report circulated with the Board mailing. Victoria Day we did have a skate from 1:00 to 3:30; Youth report is on page 20 and continues on page 22 formatting problem. The question was asked as to why Britannia Rink is not part of the city wide shift pick process for auxiliary workers. It was stated that Britannia Rink has different staffing than other rinks.
- b) **Library** – report circulated with the Board mailing. The summer reading club has a rocket ship (transformed pillar) and staff working hard at promoting. We are launching the Summer of Learning and it is promoting learning opportunities at cultural and academic institutions. We have been working with community events, talking to the

organizers of Italian Days long term planning for next year, the library is about partnerships. There is also a Teen Summer reading club.

- c) **Vancouver School Board** – Mike Evans circulated his report (attached)

Britannia Elementary Principal Ian Cannon is leaving Britannia and we will have a new Principal in September. Britannia Business Club has been named the top business club in B.C. for the last five years.

Britannia Support Society was originally set up to bring in scholarships. Three years ago organized with a mandate to raise money and connect with Britannia grads. They provide bursaries, it is a society and we hold an Annual General Meeting. ECE graduates held a ceremony today and some students went through grad last night.

Jennifer Scott the new Education Coordinator was invited to the Orientation of the Board.

The Board wished best of luck and thank you so much to Mike for your service to Britannia. Mike you will be missed.

## 6. Committee Reports

- a) **Executive** – meets on the 24th of June
- b) **Finance** – meets on the 24th of June and Financial Review is ongoing.
- c) **Board Development** – Susanne is the Chair – any interested members.
- d) **Arts and Cultural Committee** – Ingrid reported on the involvement with Italian Day, then Draw Down then East Feast lunch and then picks an artist. Committee met last week. Meseret has joined the committee and Jill Weaving the City Arts and Cultural Coordinator and Doug Durand they were very helpful. Funding guidelines and protocol were discussed. Call them if you need assistance; they have great info and experience. Protocols will come back to the Board. Protocols and guidelines will be an ongoing process and will take time to work out... See the amazing Rocket and there is an amazing Aboriginal Artist displayed art in the Gallery. Committee meets 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month 7:00-9:00 pm
- e) **Program Committee** – the mandate was circulated. Brendan talked about the committee and stated he would chair as the Board member. For the chairs of the committees it was noted Program Committee meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday and Brendan would like to attend your committee meetings to hear what the committees are doing. Met last night minutes are not yet produced.

Mandate: the Board Development Committee should look at this prior to the Board.

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE PROGRAM AND SPECIAL EVENT COMMITTEE  
MANDATE IN PRINCIPLE  
CHANGE BULLET TWO UNDER MANDATE FROM INPUT ON TO INPUT FROM.  
Brendan Boylan/Frey Kristensen CARRIED

They meet the second Tuesday of every month except July and December.

**f) Planning and Development**

We did not have a meeting in May. Because we are meeting with the City they asked us to slow down the process. Citizens Assembly is also meeting and doing their mandate. Two things happened in May; some members went on a field trip to some of the Libraries and we went to Hillcrest which is a great sports complex. We are meeting this Tuesday at 7:00 pm re engagement with the city, we need to develop website for communication. We are working on programming principles. We started before Peter left and we need to work with Community Recreation Coordinator and the Programming Committee. We now have a couple of new people every meeting.

The process: 1<sup>st</sup> year principle outlines – 4 year time line, shovels in ground probably 3<sup>rd</sup> year.

**g) Seniors Committee** – we need a new Board rep.

Alex was excused.

**h) Youth Matter** - Scott Clark not available this evening no report

**7. Administrators Report**

**a) Executive Director** – report in the package.

Administrative Manager – retiring on Friday 12:30 start wine and cheese. Page 27 is Cynthia's report. Natalie is preparing for BCGEU bargaining. Stay around for the Executive to talk about the Manager of Administrative Services position.

**b) Child Care** – Craig stated his report was circulated in Board package. First report to the Board. Still being oriented to the childcares and Britannia.

Highlights include summer programming all set and moving forward. Met with child care centres and their Boards. Eagles received a \$1,000 grant for summer field trips. Lord Nelson part of the school Carnival.

Just on my side there has been a lot of support at Britannia. A nice kind of pace. The community here is really strong. I really am excited to be a part of this community. Craig is looking for input from the community. Committee meets June 23 at 6:00 pm Tuesday agenda will be about Collective Bargaining.

MOTION: TO RECEIVE THE REPORTS.

Brendan Boylan/Ingrid Kolsteren

CARRIED

Infant care was discussed.

**8. Other**

**a) Appreciations** – What went well: we finished at 9:00 pm

**b) Car Free June 21**

MOTION: TO ADJOURN 9:00 P.M. TO AN IN CAMERA SESSION

Brendan John Flipse/Susanne Dahlin

CARRIED