

Britannia Board Meeting

March 11, 2015

Board Room – Information Centre

PRESENT: Gwen Giesbrecht, Chairperson; Ray Gallagher, Susanne Dahlin, Morna McLeod, Ingrid Kolsteren, Meseret Taye, Peter Odynsky, Scott Clark, Craig Ollenberger, Meseret Taye, John Flipse, Oliver Conway

STAFF: Cynthia Low, Hai Truong (recording); Mike Evans

REGRETS: Oles Andrienko, Alex Mckechnie, Natalie Bailey, Ed Stringer, Geoff Taylor, Mary Arakelyan

The meeting was called to order at 6:10pm by Gwen Giesbrecht, President.

1. Agenda

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, WITH ADDITIONS, FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF MARCH 11, 2015.

ADDITION: OLD BUSINESS: ABORIGINAL INCIDENT.
NEW BUSINESS: VSB SECURITY ENHANCEMENT; CITIZEN ASSEMBLY.

Ray Gallagher/Susanne Dahlin CARRIED

2. Minutes of February 11, 2015

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 11, 2015.

Oliver Conway/Ray Gallagher CARRIED

3. New Business

a) Off the Grill

Off the Grill program engages youth to make food that is then offered to their peers and community members (by donation). It is now in its third year and we have come to understand the very important role that healthy food and social connection can play in improving the lives of the Britannia youth. Food is a great connector and via a social development and collaborative approach and through a sharing of a communal meal, Off the Grill is creating a positive space to nurture meaningful social connections and experiences amongst the youth, community members, and professional youth supports. Off the Grill ran twice weekly through 2014, indoors during the cold weather and outdoor in the main plaza during the summer months engaging and feeding a group of about 20

to 30 youth. In 2015 Britannia will be offering a modified program two nights a week from April to September.

b) Britannia Carving Pavilion Programming

There will be a launch of the carving pavilion on April 8th from 9:00am to 7:00pm.

Britannia will generate practice and frame work for programming in the carving pavilion. We must consult and involve Aboriginal elders.

c) VSB Security Enhancement

A few months ago a VSB staff was assaulted by a person on the site. This has been the most recent incident involving staff and site visitors. This individual was not a familiar person, they appeared to be intoxicated and may have mental health issues.

On a daily basis VSB custodial and engineer staff and VPL and Society Staff have to address people who are using the site in an inappropriate ways, drinking, using drugs, sleeping, defecating, etc. These actions are perpetrated by individuals who may be perceived as anti-social and living with multiple challenges. These actions and individual also put our patrons, students and members at risk, particular young vulnerable teens.

The challenges that create security risk to our patrons and staff are;

- Enclosed areas with very bad sight lines from main parts of the building,
- Enclosed areas for people hiding in areas and also the lack of ability to spot individuals in distress;
- Poor lighting and poor way finding;

The VSB is proposing a number of enhancements:

- Increasing the height of the fence behind the Elementary School to prevent individuals from sleeping, by creating a stronger barrier for them to access the children's play area with shopping carts;
- Increase lighting in specific areas to create better sight lines for staff and when police or security is called;
- Activate ultrasonic anti-loitering device for people between 13-25 years, this will be turned on between midnight and 6am – this discourages youth from congregating in hidden areas away from sight;
- A 4 week security detail pilot project starting March 23, 2015 to April 24, 2015.

Security Pilot Project will entail a team of two security guards walking the site 24/7, the objective of this project is to;

- Create a higher level of discomfort for individuals engaged in anti-social act to prevent drinking, drug use and defecating on the site;
- Record the patterns of use of the site in a 24 hours cycle;
- Identify cyclical characteristics of the various locations of the site;

This team is expected to follow the guidelines of the site – not to engage with children under 13, familiarize themselves with non-conventional non-threatening patrons, during centre hours defer to senior staff (principals and senior administrators) provide resource information such as shelter information and other acceptable forms of intervention as set out by site partners.

Some board members have problem with uniform security patrolling the site during the daytime. Their presence could intimidate the facilities users and the youths as well. If they are here to gather information then Britannia needs to be able to access those data. It could be very useful to us. One suggestion is to have the security patrol be a First Nation descent. Some board members would like be to consulted with security issue in the future.

d) **Citizen Assembly**

There was a Citizen Assembly meeting on February 28th that Morna attended. The City recommended against the closing down of Templeton and Britannia Pool. The next observation session is on Saturday, March 28 from 1:00pm to 1:30pm at the Vancouver Opera at 1955 McLean Drive. This session is the Assembly's introduction to the material and maps from the sub area workshops.

4. **Old Business**

- a) **Board Retreat Debrief and Review** – the Board reviewed Britannia mission statements and values and come up with recommendations. Planning and Development committee presented an update. The Board also worked on short term and long term goals. Peter presented the direction that the Province and the City are heading.
- b) **Change in Pool and Rink Operations** – Vancouver School Board is no longer able to look after the Britannia pool and rink. There will be a transition from the VSB to City. The cost, previous arrangement, city will pay for our cost. Hours was a concern, quality of service. Programming side will be our responsibility. How they will respond to immediate incident. Operating will be pretty much the same as before. Our goal is to train everybody together. Record, observe and report.
- c) **Britannia Carving Pavilion Construction Update** – The Britannia Board of Management requested that a review be completed of the change orders resulting from construction of Britannia Carving Pavilion. The review was intended to examine the character of the change orders and their rationale to explain their necessity to the completion of the project.

The review was completed through an analysis of the written change orders followed by a discussion with Cynthia Low to clarify the rationale and necessity for each change order. Based on the analysis, the change orders fall naturally into four general categories: Change of Location and Design, Expanded Regulatory Requirements, In-Kind Services Withdrawn and Project Delays.

The costs associated with Change of Location and Design amount to 38% of the total. The original location was to be the area adjacent to the school. This was changed to the

current location in the parking lot. Additionally, the design was changed from a dirt floor to a concrete pad and the construction requirements related to the decorative roof expanded based on the final design by the artist. All of these changes occurred after acceptance of the construction bid.

The costs associated with Expanded Regulatory Requirements amount to 25% of the total. These resulted from changes to the design and location of the pavilion, as well as changes in the interpretation of the class of the structure by regulating bodies. The costs related to changes to fill requirements and fire safety equipment, such as door hardware, alarms, sprinklers and associated electrical systems.

Further change orders related to In-Kind Service Withdrawn, on the order of 24% of the total. These costs related to tool and equipment storage, power provision and water connection services which had been informally committed by the VSB and COV, but were later withdrawn and became the responsibility of the construction contractor.

The remaining 13% of the change order costs resulted from Project Delays related to scope changes and delays in decision making by the VSB and COV. The costs were associated with extension of the general conditions requirements within the construction contract.

The changes to the location and design of the pavilion as well as the resultant change order were the subject of ongoing consultation between Britannia, the VSB and COV. Acceptance of the additional cost associated with the change orders was necessary in order for the pavilion to reach substantial completion compelling the funders to release committed funds to Britannia to cover costs already incurred.

- d) **1739 Venables** (formerly known as Astorino's) - A briefing note was circulated.

There was some anomaly; \$2000 from AXE Deficit was about 1500 in the hole. Utility. Kickstand is doing really well. Lost about \$600 from last year. Fund some staffing. No board member (representative) sitting on that committee. Craig volunteered to be on the committee.

MOTION: TO HAVE BRITANIA PURCHASE A BANNER ADVERTISING HALL RENTAL AT 1739 VENABLES. WE CAN SPEND UP TO \$300.

Morna McLeod/Ingrid Kolsteren

CARRIED

- e) **Apology** – There will be a formal apology ceremony in gym D in regard to the incident that happened back in June 24th, 2014 (Aboriginal Multicultural Celebration).

5. Partners' Reports

- a) **Vancouver Park Board** – Emergency response. - Emergency response
- Activenet is in motion. Some Community Centre is getting train right now. Britannia will get train at a later date.
 - Pool opened on March 7th after the delay.
 - Rink will close for two weeks in April for maintenance.

- City of Vancouver steps up their Vans and Buses compliance. Our drivers will get assess.
- There is a reporting of people sleeping outside the rink.

b) **Vancouver Public Library**

- VPL just launched the Literary Landmark on March of 2015. There will be 26 permanent Literary Landmark plaques installed on lampposts across Vancouver. Places writers lived in and wrote about. These plaques marked the neighbourhoods where the authors have lived and worked, and how these neighbourhoods influenced the authors literary experiences.

c) **Britannia Secondary School**

– There is no report from Britannia Secondary School because it is Spring Break and Geoff Taylor is away.

d) **Community Education**

- Street2Peak update. The students and staff are climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. Three have to go down because of altitude sickness.
- November 15th mark HIPPY 15th anniversary. There will be a celebration at SFU, and Britannia should be present at the celebration.

MOTION: TO EXTEND THE MEETING BY ½ HOUR.

Susanne Dahlin/Ingrid Kolsteren

CARRIED

6. **Committee Reports**

- a) **Executive Committee** – There was no quorum at the last meeting, they had general discussion on exit interview for pass employees. There was a discussion on the fact that there was no quorum.
- b) **Finance Committee** – The minutes and statements are in the board package. Britannia has a small surplus. Childcare management budget is in a deficit. Britannia Childcare has a small surplus. There will be a Financial Service review.
- c) **Board Development** – There were items that need to develop from the Board retreat.
- d) **Arts and Culture** – Britannia Art Gallery did not have any art work displayed for the month of February as the gallery walls, and display case were getting painted. There will be art displayed for the month of March. LOVE Bombing workshop with local artist Paula Luther on Saturday, February 14th in the AML went very well with over 100 people participated. Special thanks to Helen Spaxman and Katherine Polgrain for their help with set up and take down of the event.
- e) **Program Committee** – Stat Holiday Teams:
- Canada Day – committee: Anne, Mawi; missed grant – bookmark for 2016
 - Easter – coverage April 4/5 (and Thursday April 2): Lori, Jamie
 - Victoria Day – May 15-17: Mawi and Brittany
 - BC Day – July 31 to Aug 2 Tom (need committee, we want programming at Woodland Park for the day)
 - Labour Day – Sept 4-6: Susy, Peter, Anne

- Thanksgiving – Oct 9-11: Ellen, Mawi

MOTION: TO EXTEND THE MEETING BY ANOTHER ½ HR

Ingrid Kolsteren/Scott Clark

CARRIED

- f) **Planning and Development** – Funding was release to spend on a position for a communication person.
- g) **Seniors' Committee** – Luong Ho took the Vietnamese seniors to a restaurant to celebrate the Lunar New Year on February 1st. February 22nd was the LGTB Intergenerational Story night, and over 60 people attended. There was a Diabetes workshop on February 27th.
- h) **Youth Matters** – There were six people attended the last meeting. They discussed the Place Based Approach. They also discussed on how to reach vulnerable youths, and a private space for youth worker and youth to meet.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A) Executive Director

- The Executive Director's report was circulated in the Board mailing package.

B) Manager of Administration

- Natalie's report is in the board package.

C) Manager Child Care

- no report

MOTION: TO RECEIVE THE REPORTS

Ray Gallagher/Craig Ollenberger

CARRIED

8. ADJORNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING 9:40 PM.

Ingrid Kolsteren/Craig

CARRIED