

Britannia Board Meeting

April 9, 2014

Board Room – Information Centre

PRESENT: Gwen Giesbrecht, Chairperson; Ray Gallagher, Ingrid Kolsteren, Ed Stringer, Cleo Tracey, Peter Odymsky, Morna McLeod, Margaret Vis, Stefan Grahovac, John Flipse, Meseret Taye, Susanne Dahlin, Brendan Boylan, Geoff Taylor

STAFF: Cynthia Low, Natalie Bailey, Brenda Coombs (recording); Sabine Tanasiuk, Mike Evans

REGRETS: Kathy Whittam, Beth Davies, Oliver Conway

GUESTS: Barbara Cameron, George Rahi,

Call to order 6:37 p.m. by the President Gwen Giesbrecht

1. Agenda

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF APRIL 9, 2014.
Margaret Vis/Ingrid Kolsteren CARRIED

Additions: In Camera session for Executive at the end of meeting.
Old Business d) Learning Centre
New Business d) Preliminary VSB Budget

2. Minutes

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 12, 2014 WITH CORRECTIONS:
UNDER ASTORINO'S REPORT IT SHOULD BE 12 MUSIC EVENTS A MONTH
NOT A WEEK.

UNDER THE SECONDARY REPORT SHOULD READ "SCHOOL
BOUNDARIES" AND PATHWAYS INFORMATION IS A QUOTE FROM THEIR
WEBSITE. GEOFF IS A PARTNER WITH RAY CAM PATHWAYS PROJECT.

Ray Gallagher/Ingrid Kolsteren CARRIED

3. New Business

- a) **National Aboriginal Day** – National Aboriginal Day is held on Tuesday, June 24th and Britannia will be holding an event. To date we have had one meeting for event planning. There is a plan from the Secondary School to hold an event the day before the event. Geoff Taylor will have Andrew, Vice Principal; contact Cynthia about the Secondary School event.

- b) **2014 Open House** – we have started preparation work for the Britannia Open House for 2014. We will hold the day in the Fall.

c) Scholarships

Briefing note was circulated on the scholarships and criteria.

Britannia Board of Management Scholarship Britannia \$2,000

Named Scholarship Bill Wilson Memorial Scholarship \$500

Named Scholarship Al Mattison Memorial Scholarship \$500

Named Scholarship Doug Soo Memorial Scholarship \$500

Britannia Board of Management Scholarship Van Tech \$1500

Named Scholarship: Al Mattison Memorial Scholarship \$500

Britannia Board of Management Scholarship Templeton \$1500

Which includes named: Al Mattison Memorial \$500

Total scholarships \$7,500

MOTION: TO RELEASE THE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR TEMPLETON, BRITANNIA,
AND VANCOUVER TECHNICAL SCHOOL AT A TOTAL COST OF
\$7,500.

Brendan Boylan/Susanne Dahlin

CARRIED

We also ask that Board members attend graduation ceremonies if able. Morna McLeod would like to attend the Templeton graduation.

d) VSB Preliminary Budget

Geoff stated the Vancouver School Board preliminary budget proposal is available on line, district staffing entitlements were circulated at the meeting. FTE = full time equivalent.

Reduce 1.0 FTE teaching staff no school named

Reduce 1.0 FTE Library Assistant position at Britannia site.

Reduce 1.0 FTE YFW position from district general staffing through attrition

Continuing Education – has not achieved a break even financial position, and is funded from K-12 program operating funds. Considering whether programming is viable – staffing reductions would include positions in CUPE, PASA, for night program positions, an additional FTE ADDED TO THE Summer School program.

Britannia Centre cost sharing targeted saving of \$300,000 and additional targeted saving in 2014/2015 of \$150,000

Secondary School Cafeteria – reduce 0.786 FTE

School Age Child and Youth – reduce 2 FTE positions

ESL Program – reduction

Speech and Language Pathologist - reduction

Youth and Family workers – reduction

Multicultural workers – reduction

Learning services – possible reduction

There is a report on re-visioning of Inner City and Community Link Resources in Vancouver Schools – circulated.

We need to advocate on behalf of Britannia as to what the impacts are and how they will affect Britannia. Discussion on how the Continuing Education deductions are going to affect Britannia.

The public consultation meeting is to be held on Wednesday, April 16 at Mount Pleasant Elementary School and you can register as a delegate to speak to the preliminary budget. Gwen noted that the Britannia Board would only speak to items that affect our site.

Geoff stated we are looking into the budget and the impacts on Britannia. Education psychologist is a district cut and we don't know how that would translate. The Library is very hard to predict. We are developing a learning centre in the school. The complete budget is listed on the Vancouver School Board website.

We should be part of the public consultation to the preliminary budget; this will be the impacts on the elementary school, high school and Britannia site. Agreed to establish a working group.

MOTION: TO HAVE A PUBLIC CONSULTATION WORKING GROUP TO LOOK AT THE VSB BUDGET AND THE IMPACT ON BRITANNIA. THEY WILL INVESTIGATE AND PREPARE A PRESENTATION ON BEHALF OF THE SOCIETY.

Brendan Boylan/Susanne Dahlin

CARRIED

There was a discussion and agreement on the process. Brendan will send a brief to Ingrid and Ingrid will forward to the Board. Cleo will try and be available for presentation. Ingrid and Gwen will meet to go through the brief and will work with Brendan through email.

4. Old Business

- a) **Britannia Carving Pavilion** – it has moved to 100 feet northwest due to circumstances of the trees and the pad that needs to be underneath of the project. Same design, same concept, different foundation and a buffer zone around the facility. We are underway to look at relocating the design. We are still about \$125,000 short with funding; we are working hard at the funding issues. This must be approved by City Council. Construction starting in June; completed building in September. We are doing a survey, applying the design concept to that space. Two potential contractors have been discussed. Budget for the project continues to be \$450,000. We might need some modifications. Some options are a phased project, new location may be easier. The viability of keeping the cedar tree – would have required a 2 foot retaining wall, which would be a considerable cost. The City owns the parking lot. The City supports this being on city land. In some way it simplifies the project.
- b) **Aramark** – a briefing note was circulated. They were on the site March 18th for a global give back day. We did not get as many volunteers as we would like. From a perspective of the staff and programmers involved the day was a success. An estimated 600 hours

of labour and \$3,000 worth of supplies was given to our facility contributing to long term sustainable programming. Due to the poor weather outdoor painting was not possible.

Events of the day included:

Eight new garden beds in three separate gardens

A paved entrance pathway to the community Street Front gardening

4 plywood murals to enhance the Street Front space

4 cut outs for Gymnastrada competition and future drama and arts events.

There was a design created for a possible sidewalk mural which could not be accomplished on the day but has been equipped with paint supplies for a future community project.

Arts and Cultural Committee is planning a day long retreat and this is one of the items on the agenda. We are working with the Committee and the Volunteer Committee to develop a protocol for public art on the site and a protocol for consultation that could be used for future.

Develop guidelines for special events that can be shared with staff and committees to host more events at Britannia. This would be a check list of what to do and resource list of staff and contacts to be included.

The guidelines will come back to the Board for approval.

- c) **Astorino's** – the Finance Committee continues to be concerned with the deficit. \$2,290 approximate deficit for 2014. We are having increased rentals. February utilities are about \$1300; we have not got a handle on some of the expenses. We have lowered the cost for the Coordinator. They made budget for March, the revenue figure for March was \$4381. The Committee is trying to get a handle on what is happening and they are trying to be very proactive.

When we brought this up, a plus was the creating of public space. Finance Committee look at the lease on a yearly basis. There is a social gain to having the building. We should do a strength, weaknesses, opportunity and threats. What would it cost for that many community hours of service?

- d) **Learning Services Centre** – draft letter that will be sent to Amrik Virk, the Minister of Advanced Education, circulated for consideration. The letter discusses concerns due to cuts to ESL funding for B.C. colleges and this jeopardizes our Learning Centre. Letter should be cc: Vancouver Community College and to the two unions involved. Agreed to send the letter out asap. We may include stats.

Brendan Boylan was excused.

5. Partners' Reports

- a) **Community Recreation** – report circulated with the Board package. Peter stated that it has been a very good month. Wonderful spring break, great daycamps. Flea Market at Astorino was a success, Micro Footie has been doing fantastic. Volunteer Social this Saturday evening. Recognition for all our wonderful volunteers. Highlighted events as listed.

Fitness Centre – wishlist quite large. We are streamlining the list, and we are looking at different new equipment. We may refurbish some equipment.

- b) **Library Report** – Erie's report is page 13 and 14 in the Board package. The Library staff have been doing a lot of integration work. They are doing programming that is outside of the box. The staff are doing physical outreach with groups at Britannia.
- c) **Secondary School** – our band students are back from Cuba; they had a great time. Next trip is to Japan. Looks like 1 staff member and 9 students for the Japan trip and may take place in November. Spring Concert Day is in May 28th. *Ferris Buller's Day Off* is a play on May 1st and 2nd at the school. Pathways is touring Britannia next Monday. There have been questions, we have a wait and see attitude with this program. There was a report distributed by the Fraser Institute that stated 'Britannia is a beacon'. I was interviewed by a reporter, Chinese newspaper. No teacher lay-offs. There may be some staff movement. Family Run registration 4,6,8 K run at a cost of \$20 for an individual; \$50 for a family. Run is May 10th.
- d) **Britannia Community Education** – report circulated at the meeting. Margaret Vis is leaving the committee and we would like to thank her. Highlights of Spring break are in the circulated document. There were a number of opportunities for children and youth during Spring Break. Kidsafe at Grandview and Macdonald elementary schools. Strathcona operated a Holiday Safe Place for 125 children. Urban Native Youth ran a five day camp focused on basketball with other recreational and life skills activities. Four Days of basketball skills development for girls in partnership with Vancouver Girls Basketball Association.

Cynthia Low suggested inviting Kate Hodgson from Ray Cam once the hiring cycle is completed for Pathways.

BREAK 8:15 p.m.

RECONVENE 8:34 p.m.

6. Correspondence Report – was circulated at the meeting.

7. Committee Reports

- a) **Executive Committee** – draft minutes of March 26th meeting circulated in the Board package. Under the Child Care Contract there was a motion for \$1500 in lieu of benefits, as we are doing the Administrative review. Eva Sharell would like her name corrected in the minutes.
- b) **Finance Committee** – draft minutes of March 26th circulated in the Board package. Program revenues are 20% higher.
- c) **Board Development** – Summary of the retreat, Priorities and Actions circulated. Discussed recruitment for the Board. Craig Ollenberger is interested in standing. James Evans is also interested in standing for the Board in May. Kathy has some health considerations. **Agreed:** we need to send flowers and a card to Kathy.
- d) **Arts and Culture** – Minutes circulated from the meeting of April 3 as well as a Gallery Report. The new show at the Gallery was circulated.

- e) **Child Care Committee** - Minutes of February 3, 2014 were circulated with the Board package. Administrative Services document is very close to being completed. There is a draft job description of the Child Care Manager job description. September 2014 the BCGEU collective agreement expires so we will be talking about negotiations.
- f) **Library Committee** – no report
- g) **Planning and Development** – the next meeting is Monday, April 14 – the meeting will have plans available for review and be part of the consultation process for Britannia's future.
- h) **Program Committee** – Peter stated the next meeting is Tuesday, April 15 at 6:00 pm
- i) **Seniors' Committee** – Ray highlighted some of the program updates including: Quirky book launch, and also looking for volunteers to help with income tax. We also have an upcoming Heart and Health workshop. We have \$4931 in our fundraising account. We have received a recent warning on elderly people being targeted for jewellery. Talking about senior housing. B.C. Advocacy group for seniors.
- j) **Youth Committee** – Cleo and Stefan reported that there are not too many changes since last meeting. Participating in Easter Egg Hunt, Book Club starting up. April 21 is the Earth Day Parade, David Suzuki will be speaking. 12:00 start with a Parade starting at 11:00 am at Grandview Station and Commercial Drive.

8. Administration Reports

- a) **Executive Director** – written report circulated. On May 15th from 3:00 to 6:00 pm at Children's Hospital there is a program: Youth Self Image Physical Activity and Wellness.
- b) **Manager of Administration** – written report circulated. Human Resources - we are working on getting the posting out for Latin American Youth Worker and the Arts Programmer. Seniors' Programmer combining of two RPT to create one RFT is awaiting approval. Facilities –Natalie and Ian Harvey, Vancouver School Board, have discussed rink and pool plants. Sand filter considering an evaluation. Peter and Vittoria did a walk through at the Pool and we may have to allocate some City budget dollars for some of the repairs. Do we know what the site wide impact will be on the reduction with VSB? Natalie stated that at this point we are still in wait mode. Not sure of the VSB focus for cost saving at Britannia for 2014-15.
- c) **Child Care Manager** – Grandview Child Care and Eagles in the Sky are participating in a study funded by UBC to do with the playgrounds. Out of the study we will receive two new playgrounds. Grandview and Britannia received some funds for playground upgrades.

MOTION: TO RECEIVE THE REPORTS
Ray Gallagher/Ingrid Kolsternen

CARRIED

MINUTES – BOARD



Announcements – May 14 at 9:00 p.m. you must be a member to participate in the Annual General Meeting.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:12 PM.
Eva Sharell/John Flipse

CARRIED