

**Board Meeting**

**September 11, 2013  
Conference Room – Britannia**

**PRESENT:** Gwen Giesbrecht, President; Eva Sharell, John Flipse, Ray Gallagher, Oliver Conway, Geoff Taylor, Kathy Whittam, Ingrid Kolsteren, Meseret Taye, Stefan Grahovac, Ed Stringer, Morna McLeod, Cleo Tracy, Susanne Dahlin,

**STAFF:** Cynthia Low, Ashley Beattie, Beth Davies Vancouver Public Library, Natalie Bailey, Brenda Coombs (recording)

**GUESTS:** Penny Street

**REGRETS:** Brendan Boylan, Susy Bando

**1. Agenda**

**MOTION:** TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2013 WITH THE ADDITION OF ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BOARD ROOM FURNITURE.

Margaret Vis/John Flipse

Carried

**2. Minutes of June 12, 2013**

**MOTION:** TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 12, 2013 AS AMENDED. UNDER UNFINISHED BUSINESS ITEM C THE COMMUNITY CONSULTATION WAS THE PRESENTATION DONE PREVIOUSLY IN THE MEETING BY BOFFO AND THE KETTLE SOCIETY.

Ray Gallagher/Margaret Vis

Carried

**3. New Business**

**A) Fees and Charges**

Briefing note circulated.

**MOTION:** THAT BRITANNIA CONTINUE WITH THE 2013 FEES AND CHARGES AS APPROVED BY PARK BOARD, WITHOUT CHANGING THE AGE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CHILD OR SENIOR RATES.

Oliver Conway/Ray Gallagher

Carried

**B) Artists in Residence** – there were about a dozen submissions; we selected six for interviews and have chosen an artist in residence, successful candidate will soon be announced.

- C) **Board Liaison** – list circulated, Gwen provided explanation as to the role of the liaison relationship with Board members which is mainly a function of Information updating and sharing on Britannia related issues. The complete list of elected/appointed officials was circulated with Board members requesting to liaise with the following. At the end of the process Board members were asked to consider, as well as those not in attendance filling the role with the officials not yet filled.

Mayor Gregor Robertson – Gwen Giesbrecht  
Councillor George Affleck – Meseret Taye  
Councillor Elizabeth Ball – Ingrid Kolsteren  
Councillor Adriane Carr – Ray Gallagher  
Councillor Heath Deal – Eva Sharell  
Councillor Kerry Jang – Oliver Conway  
Councillor Raymond Louie – Brendan Boylan  
Councillor Geoff Meggs - Edward Stringer  
Councillor Andrea Reimer – Kathy Whittam  
Councillor Tim Stevenson – Margaret Vis  
Councillor Tony Tang – Morna McLeod  
Park Board  
Commissioner Constance Barnes – Ray Gallagher  
Chair Sarah Blythe – Susanne Dahlin  
Commissioner Aaron Jasper – John Flipse  
Commissioner Trevor Like – Brendan Boylan  
Commissioner Niki Sharma – Margaret Vis  
School Board  
Chair – Patti Bacchus – Gwen Giesbrecht  
Trustee Fraser Ballantyne – Stefan Grahovac  
Trustee Ken Denike – Oliver Conway  
Trustee Mike Lombardi – Meseret Taye  
Trustee Cherie Payne – Ingrid Kolsteren  
Trustee Allan Wong – Eva Sharell  
Trustee Sophie Woo – Edward Stringer  
Trustee Rob Wynen – Cleo Tracy  
Library  
Trustee Kyla Epstein – Eva Sharell  
Chair – Catherine Evans – Gwen Giesbrecht  
Trustee – Erfan Kazemi – Margaret Vis  
Trustee - Debra Milward – Morna McLeod

Board members should consider the few vacancies remaining and notify Cynthia Low or Brenda Coombs and they will complete the list.

#### 4. Unfinished Business

- a) **Community Centre Association update – after the break**
- b) **Grandview Woodland Community Plan** - Penny Street has been representing Britannia Board for about a year and a half at the Community Plan meetings. Penny

circulated a letter sent to Vancouver City Planning and copied to City Council from the Grandview Woodland Area Council.

Penny talked about Pace Process Advisory and Community Engagement and noted that there had been several sessions of neighbourhood dialogue. There were also open houses that community people attended. With the emerging directions the public were asked to provide feedback by August 2<sup>nd</sup>. There is concern about high rises in the area, the high rises were not mentioned in the meetings and we have now heard they could be up to 36 stories. A letter was drafted for Board members to consider; the letter will be sent to Council and the Community Planner at the City of Vancouver.

On September 24th a Tuesday, there is a rally and march to city hall at 5:45 pm to remind Council that we are very concerned. September 25 is the public hearing about the extension. In the morning after 9:30 am, you can sign up to speak at the hearing. The group organizing the march are non-partisan.

Penny will forward the link with the information on the march to Cynthia or Brenda and they will forward to the Board.

Concern was expressed about the community piece missing from this project. We are a park deficient area. The report mentions green space but not park space.

**MOTION:** THAT THE LETTER FROM THE BOARD CIRCULATED AT THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2013 BE SENT OUT TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL WITH A COPY TO ANDREW PASK COMMUNITY PLANNER WITH CITY OF VANCOUVER.

John Flipse/Margaret Vis

Carried

Margaret Vis was excused from the meeting.

### **c) Carving Pavilion**

Cynthia Low stated the group met on Tuesday. There is a process to formalize the area into a carving pavilion. City is in support of Britannia building a carving pavilion. The City has named 2013 as the year of reconciliation. This is also where the artist in residence will be situated. There is concern with the design due to removing two trees. We are looking for a replacement plan for trees.

### **d) Youth Matter Update**

Thanks to the community staff and the school staff we have resolved some of the drinking, vandalism, arson incidents. We need a lot more outreach with youth, we have not unpacked some of the outcomes yet. We are going to be debriefing some of that with the NICCSS Group.

Some students are not back in school, and some students have not yet attached themselves. We are known as a safe place, and there are positive and negatives.

We are going from a games room format to a social service centre. There is staff that does social service intervention on site. NICCSS received some funding from Rotary Club. We are patching together some resources out of the youth budgets.

Where are we with engaging the community? Cynthia Low stated we need more resources to deal with the issues.

- e) **Board Room Furniture** – need for new tables in the Board room. Natalie will talk about this in her report.

7:45 Break - Return from break 8:11

- f) **Community Centre Associations** – briefing note was circulated at the meeting. The briefing note outlined the issues to date. There are six community centres Killarney, Kensington, Kerrisdale, Hastings, Sunset and Hillcrest that have served notice of legal action. Britannia has agreed to be part of the OneCard with the proviso that we maintain our right to collect membership fees and request that anyone enrolling in our program be asked to purchase a membership.

Board members were interested in information. Board Development Committee could consider who can attend to speak on the issues. Some kind of information sessions, third Wednesday of October. We could have an hour meeting with speaker (s) to outline some of the issues.

## 5. Correspondence file circulated at meeting.

## 6. Committee Reports

- a) **Executive Committee** – June 26<sup>th</sup> minutes circulated. We had a meeting at the end of August minutes not yet circulated.
- b) **Finance Committee** – June 26<sup>th</sup> minutes circulated. We had a meeting at the end of August minutes not yet circulated. Astorino's statement – a revised statement circulated. There is a \$13,628.23 loss as of September 9, 2013. Cynthia stated Kickstand is a department of Britannia. There are some program benefits being received from the use of Astorino's. We are exploring with the Cultch possible revenue of \$2,000 in November. We must do a review of costs and benefits at year end for Astorino's building use.
- c) **Board Development Committee** – Cynthia has organized a financial workshop. Next Wednesday September 18 at 7:00 pm. October and November will be reviewing the annual budget for 2014.
- d) **Program and Special Event Committee** – no report
- e) **Youth Committee** – we have not been able to contact former members to date. We are hoping to get more involvement, and we will contact Trevor from last year for information.
- f) **Planning and Development Committee** – no meeting yet this fall – Meseret will be organizing the first meeting, Cynthia will set up a meeting through *Doodle* to establish dates.
- g) **Arts and Culture Committee** – gallery sale tonight seems to be going well. Magpie's Nest Community Art Space went well this summer. Committee will be talking to

students about blogging as a tool for the programs. Two of the programs from tonight's show were circulated.

## 7. Administrative Reports

- a) **Executive Director** – Cynthia circulated her report at the meeting. She stated she was off due to surgery and some holidays. She has been working with Sabine Tanasiuk the new child care manager. Met with teen centre group to realign the focus.. Appreciation to Natalie, Sabine, Susy for picking up the bits during her time off.
- b) **Manager of Administrative Services** – I have been working on the ice arena plant work. We have been working on the city budget forecast. Busy with Astorino, Carving Pavilion, Temporary full time Volunteer Coordinator, regular part time swim instructor attendant hired, regular part time cashier hired. Recreation Coordinator has closed but will be reposted. Furniture for Board room; Jim Caulfield was asked to get a quote and that was presented. \$2500.00 for tables. Tables are on casters and would enable rearrangement of the room. We could use the chairs from the Olympics. The funds would have to come out of Board projects. Board member asked if we can we get these tables redone.
- c) **Child Care Manager** – circulated briefing note – the preschool is fully enrolled except for 1 child, Randi Gurholt Seary has worked really hard. Discussion paper in the Board package. My recommendation is that we leave the program and do not make any adjustments at this time and review at year end.

**Agreed: to continue the enrollment process and try to get one more child for preschool so they have full enrollment and we leave the program as is.**

Britannia ECE Assistant Certificate Program – information circulated. Sabine will report back at the next Board meeting as to where the program is going.

Child Care Committee meeting will be held on September 23, or 30. We are requesting the best date from the Committee members.

The Board expressed their appreciation to the staff on the work done on the preschool program.

- d) **Recreation** – Ashley Beattie expressed concern on behalf of the Recreation staff re the LAC discount being automatic. We presently have programs that we do not provide discounts as we could not cover the program costs. Is the Board prepared to make up the difference if we are providing subsidies so that there is no loss to the instructors? The stats will need to be kept very effectively.

Board members expressed that pending further information the society will for the initial program period consider the issue of contract payment loss for the program instructors. Natalie stated that more information needs to be available before we know the ramifications.

- e) **Vancouver Public Library** – Report in package for June. July and August great programs. Erie Maestro is the new Branch Head, Beth will be coming for the next few months. Nathalie Patel is the children's librarian full time.

MOTION; TO EXTEND THE MEETING.

Susanne Dahlin/Ingrid Kolsteren

CARRIED

- f) **Vancouver School Board** – Congratulations to Cleo and Stefan on being on the Board. Thanks for the support for the Graduation ceremonies. Adult Grads from Canuck Family Education Centre, they appreciated the event. Enrollment is down, grade eight enrollment is down. Bus passes are recommended by Counsellor, signed off at the school sent to the Board and someone will decide. The bus application no longer asks about income, just tells the rules, this will affect us, sports, early morning classes. District wide costs will be \$400,000 to \$500,000. Everything else is relatively stable. BRIT WAY is the logo which they have put on t-shirts. Britannia support society will be doing a new year's event, we are going to celebrate successes. September 22<sup>nd</sup> is the Walk for Reconciliation. Cynthia has the link. I will try to write reports.

- g) **Community Education** – report circulated in the package. Had a meeting today over Britannia programs. Early learning committee Sept 23 Board members are invited.

Discussion on considering a change to the agenda and have the reports earlier in the evening.

Announcements – Reconciliation buttons and lanyards were circulated.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:09 PM TO IN CAMERA MEETING.  
Eva Sharell/Ed Stringer Carried