

MINUTES – BOARD



Britannia Board Meeting August 12, 2020

Via Conference Call - Zoom

PRESENT: Ingrid Kolsteren, Freya Kristensen, Susanne Dahlin, Annie Danilko, Pamela Dudas, Farren Gillaspie, Vera Jones, Noreen Ma, Craig Ollenberger, Jane Stanier, Naina Varshney, Li Mei Yip, Carmen Cho
STAFF: Cynthia Low, Jacky Hughes, Kathy Whittam (recording)
REGRETS: John Flipse, John Morra, Stuart MacKinnon, Emily Vickery, Peter Odynsky, Jeremy Shier, Scott Clark
GUESTS: Erin Grant, Mark Friesen

Ingrid Kolsteren as Chair – meeting called to order at 6:08pm with Land Acknowledgement

1. Approval of Agenda

- 3b – Guest speakers Erin Grant and Mark Friesen
- Add Staff Representative report under Operations Update

MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA AS AMENDED
Farren Gillaspie/ Craig Ollenberger

CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes of July 8, 2020

- Item 5a on Anti-racism statement did not credit all who worked on it. Note that Naina, Ingrid, Vera, Annie and Cyn all put in a lot of time and energy to get this statement out for our community.

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES AS AMENDED
Annie Danilko/ Farren Gillaspie

CARRIED

3. New Business

Membership Fees

- Challenges with selling memberships when we tried to make it possible to purchase online
- As there are not really any benefit to membership, such as free fitness time and events, the Executive approved offering memberships for free until the end of December
- Members can now renew 2020 memberships if needed by phone/ online at \$0
- All Board members have current memberships

Community Workforce Response Grant

- This is a grant through WorkBC for youth
- The youth community partnership stream for 15-19yrs who would have had opportunities over summer and outside of school
- Funding available to help communities engage youth in local projects for chance to gain work experience or training
- Normally a variety of ways for youth to earn money for themselves or help their families, such as entry level jobs at PNE, fast food restaurants

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- Partnership with Frog Hollow for new pre-employment opportunities
- REACH and other organizations also involved in partnership
- Fee for service for training and work hours for youth
- Frog Hollow providing the one on one training support
- Britannia doing the work of managing the grant
- Cynthia will provide more details as the grant is finalized

Our Place Assembly

- Last year presented to the Board when assembly was still in conceptual stage
- Have continued building on work that started with Youth Matters to develop place-based community governance model
- Need consistent ways for people to be involved in neighbourhood decisions
- Non-profits can have a bigger role to play for people to be involved
- Looking to model something better than government bodies reaching out sporadically with open houses, etc
- Examples from Portland's Office of Neighbourhood Involvement, BC Community Resource Boards, participatory budgeting, and Indigenous governance systems
- Proposal to create consistent place to get together to talk about neighbourhood problems and solutions
- Concerns would go to neighbourhood assembly first and assembly would then meet with decision makers
- Pilot of the approach with five neighbourhoods in Vancouver: Strathcona, Grandview-Woodlands, Hastings Sunrise, Mt Pleasant and Downtown Eastside
- Pulls together local residents, BIA, non-profits agencies, advocates
- Assembly would get together consistently, regular and ongoing to address emerging issues in the community
- Potential pitfall of this approach is that it can be taken over by narrow interests
- The Our Place web site has all the info needed to dive deeper into where we're at and what is next
- Each of the five neighbourhood will select two people for the assembly
- FAQ's and Terms of Reference, Roles & Responsibilities available on the web site
- Not intended to take over decision making of City council
- Goal is to get decision makers, non-profits and citizens all together to keep each other informed and find solutions
- Food security is an issue to build on as it is important to all neighbourhoods in the assembly
- To include navigator positions for youth
- Britannia has played a role in bringing people together for our neighbourhood
- Also has partnered with Our Place for years
- Innovative approach that is good for local decision making
- Want to continue research for best practices and will look for European examples to see if more democratic models
- Indigenous and grassroots models informed much of our work
- Email or call Erin if you have follow up questions
- Next steps is for Britannia representative to be on the assembly so will have discussion at next Executive meeting
- Britannia could be the hub for the assembly in Grandview Woodlands
- The work fits with our mandate

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4. Old Business

Anti-racism and Anti-oppression Statement

- Appreciation to Annie, Naina, Ingrid, Vera and all who provided input
- Lots of work for Naina with the editing
- The whole process came from collaboration
- Looking forward to the first Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression Committee meeting Sep 2
- The statement will be included in the mail out to members for the AGM
- Now on the web site to share
https://www.britanniacentre.org/about_us/anti-racism-statement

Restart Plan

- Cynthia shared some of a video from our first outdoor drumming circle held in šxwq̓eləwən last night
- People were also participating via Zoom
- One of eight programs set to run this month
- Others include basketball fundamentals, gymnastics, volleyball and zumba
- Staff have had to create safety plans for every space and every program
- All the details around PPE, physical distancing, sanitizer and process for instructors and participants to fill out health waivers every time
- Yesterday was the launch day of the outdoor programs
- A few glitches and concerns were raised
- Overall staff feel like it went well
- Camps have been running all summer and things going well
- Peter and his recreation team have been working really hard
- Pool will be scheduled to open mid-September
- Fitness centre is currently a cooling centre and will transition back to fitness centre sometime in September as well
- Hard to know what to expect as things keep changing

Britannia Renewal

- We are again moving forward
- Final decision on who new consultants will be announced soon
- City is working with them to change consultation process as things have changed due to COVID
- Regular meetings with the City will begin again
- RFP's for an Indigenous Consultant and Community Engagement Consultant
- Annie has agreed to be a part of the RFP and interview process
- Last Rezoning workshop had good online turnout
- City presentation for Rezoning workshop tomorrow on the rezoning looks process
- Workshop is online from 6-8pm, contact Teka for zoom info if needed

5. Partners' Reports

Stuart MacKinnon (VPB)

- report from Stuart for July was attached

Noreen Ma (VPL)

- patrons have been happy to have the Britannia Branch back open again
- limited staff and hours at this point

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- computer time is available by appointments, and books can be taken out, holds picked up
- hope to extend the hours and days open in the fall
- summer reading club has been going so kids can read and earn their medals
- library is an anchor to many people in our community
- many with loneliness, mental health issues come in every day as sanctuary

Carmen Cho (VSB)

- last public meeting was June 22
- passed budget with a deficit for a few reasons
- will be reviewing the Vancouver Police Department school liaison officer program in schools
- July 29 the Provincial Health Officer and Ministry of Education released framework for school reopening this fall
- District is now trying to create framework for our schools
- August 21 have to submit our plan for Provincial approval to be made public on August 26
- Staggering times of recess, lunch and classes
- Looking at all spaces inside and out to find space for physical distancing
- Removing excess furniture from classrooms
- Semestered system, maybe quarterly system for scheduling
- Staff will return on Sep 8th to plan before students come back to school on the 10th
- Working with the union and education partners to develop safest plan possible for staff and students
- Cynthia and Alec are planning and coordinating for the flow of people around the Britannia site, and to expedite the needs of the students and families
- Whole site integration discussions to happen with Alec, Peter, Cynthia, Noreen, etc

7. Operations Update

Recreation, Arts, Culture and Social Services

- Cynthia shared information from all areas
- The Pow Wow Committee want to host some kind of event in September if possible
- Teka is putting together options that will have to meet the provincial health guidelines
- Thank you to the Library for helping the Britannia Art Gallery opening as well
- 50% of staff are on site now, mostly camp and program staff at this time
- Full accounting team and most of clerical team
- Some working from home with occasional days on site
- Some staff staying home as operations are not ready yet
- Welcome to new baby in the Britannia family – Paul Morton has a baby boy named Nicholas. Congratulations to Paul and family!

Child Care

- Main work has been creating service plans for the fall and what things will look like for all societies
- Extra staffing to meet health and safety needs
- Budgets that were made have been approved by all the child care boards
- No new registrations unless current families choose not to return
- They have all been asked to come back in September

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- A lot of work collaborating with the Senior Supervisors and child care boards
- HR, finance and procedures recently updated, all need to be reviewed again due to COVID times
- Work plan is being developed
- Britannia Child Care Hub was in the news covering the expansion of Grandview Terrace
- Set up with the school board as it is using space in Grandview Elementary
- 24 spaces in OSC for grades 2-4
- Centres continue to change and adapt to things as they change regarding school start
- OSC and preschools are good to go for the fall

Administration and Accounting

- Information for accounting related items is covered in the Finance minutes on p. 21
- City is still covering for budget despite lack of revenues
- Hasn't changed because we continue to offer community services
- Not the time to pinch pennies if supplies are needed to help do the work in this time

Staff Representative

- Potential for staff social in the early fall, maybe down at the oval where people can spread out
- Lunch event with food trucks
- Opportunity to reconnect, meet the staff rep, catch up with each other
- For past staff social events we used a registration process
- Would help ensure staggered times and physical distancing

ACTION – make sure Staff Representative report is added as standing agenda item under Operation Updates

8. Committees

Board Development Committee

- AGM notice and information, along with the Anti-Racism Statement are being sent to membership via mail out, and MailChimp for everyone we have emails for
- The committee has been working on draft agenda and how the meeting will work
- Hiring people to set up the technical needs for a meeting in person and online
- The audio visual technical support is about \$5,000 which includes equipment, technician, streaming service, online voting, etc
- Volunteers will be stuffing envelopes on Saturday to get the mail out ready for Mon
- Everyone is running again and need to get their bios to Pamela
- One seat is vacant to fill and must be someone who lives in the neighbourhood
- Event will be safe with room for physical distancing of max 30 people in gym
- Unlimited people can log in via Zoom
- Executive will be decided at first new meeting of the Board
- Results of the AGM will be available that evening

Volunteer Committee

- Money usually spent on appreciation events is not being spent
- Getting gift cards to share with our COVID volunteers from business in our neighbourhood

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MOTION TO ACCEPT CONSENT ITEMS AS PRESENTED

Freya Kristensen/ Craig Ollenberger

CARRIED

MOTION TO ADJOURN at 8:03pm

Pamela Dudas/ Vera Jones

CARRIED