

MINUTES – BOARD



Britannia Board Meeting Nov 10, 2021

Via Zoom and Conference Room

PRESENT: Annie Danilko, Pamela Dudas, John Flipse, Naina Varshney, Susanne Dahlin, Ariela Friedmann, Pat Hogan, Vera Jones, Ingrid Kolsteren, Craig Ollenberger, Ashki Shkur, Khai Truong, Noreen Ma, Carmen Cho

STAFF: Cynthia Low, Jeremy Shier, Peter Odynsky, Laura Gustafson, Kathy Whittam (recording)

REGRETS: Farren Gillaspie, John Morra, Emily Vickery, Jacky Hughes, Stuart MacKinnon

Annie called meeting to order at 6:05pm

Welcome and land acknowledgement

1. Approval of Agenda

MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA AS AMENDED

Vera Jones/ Ingrid Kolsteren

CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes of Oct 13, 2021

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES AS PRESENTED

Vera Jones/ Susanne Dahlin

CARRIED

3. Old Business

Renewal Update (Susanne)

- Put together a decision summary doc for everyone to look at
- We can approve and pass on to committees
- Phasing, height views, 2 rinks vs 1 rink, gymnastics, are things for feedback on
- Somethings we're ready to sign off after back and forth with City of Vancouver
- Critical to discuss still are things like child care where no agreement yet
- Separate meetings with City staff responsible for those areas
- Carry on conversation about space needs
- We've identified operations of the hub, and looking at how we want to address needs
- Now they are looking at phasing development
- Day long meeting will deep dive into possibility of 2 rinks, come up with a position and give to city in writing
- Draft has been sent to Board members to take to your committees
- Youth engagement happening on Nov 26
- GWFC will have special meeting to talk about the document
- Skate board park is new for us, not in the original master plan
- finding ways to include this group, maybe a new committee
- still in discussions with VSB and what they're willing to do and when
- the garden where the rink will go was blessed with Indigenous name and needs to be acknowledged
- advantage of skate park is to have structure that can be moved around – connection to shops and students

MINUTES – BOARD



- committee feedback is valuable in principle as they are our people on the ground in our neighbourhood
- for Board endorsement, do you want to stamp it then show to committees or let them see and comment and then we change as needed before stamping?
- Everything is a process, in draft, working towards final goals together
- Cynthia altering main document as feedback is received
- If people not willing to sign off by Dec/Jan it is a problem
- Need to know concerns sooner rather than later

Board Planning Day (Pamela)

- Nov 27 and 28, 9:30am-1:30pm
- 9:00am sign on time for reconnection before getting into work of the day
- Zoom for efficiency since we can't all be in person
- Draft agenda has been sent out
- Complete the survey sent out to you, needs to be done by Monday
- 2022 priorities – any changes from the current?
- Nikki will be back as our facilitator
- She's good and has experience with us
- One day for discussion on Renewal issues we need to have as Board
- Survey includes items you need for effective session, food, etc
- Hopefully next year will all be back in person

2021 Priorities Update (Cynthia)

- p.9-10 briefing note
- update on the 4 primary deliverables for 2021
- thanks to Susanne, Annie and Craig for driving so much of the renewal work
- a lot was stalled with the city to get projects moving forward, and they kept things going
- not all of money budgeted for priorities has been spent
- operational needs were changing every 2 weeks it seemed for a long time
- Peter and his recreation team have been leaders in breadth of programming available to meet community needs
- Briefing note has all the details for each priority

Society Partnerships (Cynthia)

- We've started seeing some partners coming back into the space
- Example is Solidarity Notes using space for rehearsing again
- Some partners never left as part of essential services with us
- Staff have identified priority partners to welcome back starting now
- January will broaden invite as we can

Grandview Woodland Food Connection (Cynthia)

- Earlier in the year decided to join as an active committee
- Have not done much in this area yet
- Draft committee mandate based on their terms of reference
- Draft goes to Board Development committee to get ready for Board approval
- Need to appoint a Board member for the committee
- Working with Ruth to identify priorities for the program

4. New Business

High School Fitness Centre Use (Peter)

- p.11 briefing note
- school has requested exclusive use of fitness centre for designated times
- before Covid the students used to have access any time
- current VSB health policy does not allow for students to use facility with the public
- the select times will be granted to meet the needs of the students
- public will be notified of days and times that fitness department using the space
- not a busy time so should be minimal impact if any

Park Board Fee Increase (Peter)

- p.12 briefing note
- planning policies for 2022 not given yet by City of Vancouver
- looking at 2-7% increases, around inflation levels
- need to add note to brochure on the increase potential
- looking for agreement in principle
- historically we follow Park Board fee increases
- we subsidize in some ways, such as not charging for children under 6, whereas city wide the child rate begins at 3 years
- across the board cost of living is going up so much
- burdens for the low income in our community
- don't want to prioritize subsidizing rates that middle-upper income people who afford the public service fees
- prefer to use our subsidies to people who need, such as our neighbourhood program subsidy
- Leisure Access helps people city wide to access recreation facilities
- We have the highest LAP usage in the whole city
- we also have budgetary needs from city budget to meet

MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2022 CHANGES AS RECOMMENDED BY THE PARKS BOARD AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHANGES WHILE CONTINUING WITH OUR UNIQUE ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR CHILDREN (6-12) AND SENIORS (55+).

John Flipse/ Vera Jones

CARRIED

Reconciliation in Action (Cynthia)

- p.13 briefing note
- note provides summary background of commitment to Reconciliation
- want to provide transparency on our Reconciliation work as part of our constitution
- how to structure the committee to work under values
- assessment plan development to help us evaluate how we move forward with this work
- Covid hasn't helped as people not ready to come together
- Participation having gone down, searching for ways to rekindle interest
- All centres have their own reconciliation committee or group, ie Raycam
- A lot of framework that flows through Britannia has gone through RIA or rooted with people

MINUTES – BOARD



- Always Indigenous having to take the lead, but at Britannia we have community that paddles there with Indigenous people
- What are tangible bite size pieces of work we can do
- Help and guide colleagues in our work, team and staff do well, but chance for some to learn how to do work through RIA lens better
- Look at our strong parts when determining what needs to be done
- Garner interest through our strengths
- Consistent mix of community and Indigenous doing RIA work
- Event based reconciliation we have done creates interest
- Show people what it is and what we're doing
- Maybe committee needs to promote work being done
- Have SEA involved to help activate
- Mandate for committee, bring people together, continue work we're doing
- Find ways to RIA in practice so not all event based

5. Partner Reports

Vancouver Park Board

- p.14-16
- looking at p.15 details from GM report, Peter expressed thanks to Tom and his team for all their work with the Funseeker day camps here, as well as thanks to Susy and Fraser for coordinating playgrounds in the area

Vancouver Park Board (Peter Odynsky)

- p.17-18
- adjusting to mask and vaccination mandates
- there have been 13 adaptations to the Playbook of covid protocols
- reviewing the Community Arts programmer position
- performance reviews
- thanks to 55+ team, Ruth and food program, and all folks involved in the Orange Shirt and Reconciliation events doing great work

Vancouver Public Library (Noreen Ma)

- some parts of the library look empty at the moment due to moving things around
- making room for new early learning area
- exciting for new year and will invite everyone to come check it out when it's ready
- the ELS is interactive play area with lots of little learning elements that can be moved, peg wall, toddler reading nook and more
- learn through play and incorporate lots of books
- only 2nd library doing this – check out Renfrew which was the 1st
- Connecting Kith & Kin finishing up fall season online, new season in January
- Continuing Storytime into December
- Noreen will be acting as manager at Central for a month
- Randy Gatley will be looking after Britannia and Hastings while she is gone
- Interest in CKK program is high in Indigenous community
- Means so much to learn and connect with ancestors
- Nisga'a nation participating to see what it's like and now inspired to have it offered in libraries up north
- Genealogy and research is amazing
- Vera is such an important part as cultural and emotional support

MINUTES – BOARD



- New Brunswick library also interested to learn more about the program

Vancouver School Board (Carmen Cho)

- Hired new Superintendent who will start January
- Helen McGregor comes from the Niagara region of Ontario and brings great experience to Vancouver
- Former Superintendent is now the CEO of BCSTA and _ was acting in the interim
- Education Plan in the works, the strategic plan for 5 years
- Goals and objectives, what are the metrics to determine if we're successful
- Decision made for no vaccination mandate for staff
- Framework from the province, looked at overall vaccination rates for the district
- Possible to fill vacancies when staff are sick
- Public health advice based on fact that Vancouver is approaching 90% vaccination rate
- Positive supportive approach for staff encouraged to be vaccinated
- School liaison program went under review last year and April was decided to discontinue
- Created new department, Safe & Caring schools program
- Some of what the VPD provided finding ways to bring back
- POC and Indigenous students didn't feel safe with cops in school

6. Management Reports

Executive Director (Cynthia Low)

- p.19
- been doing a lot of work on Renewal
- pumping out a lot of materials and communications
- approached to be a partner on youth engagement on overdose prevention and outreach

Manager of Administrative Services (Jeremy Shier)

- p.20-42
- financials included
- third quarter of fiscal year and we're in a reasonable position
- September had higher surplus than normal
- Registration for fall boosts, then expenses start to come in causing surplus decline
- Aim is to break even as close as possible
- Strong position with City budget thanks to CEWS this fall and to end of year
- Expect presentation on 2022 budget next month with recommendation from Finance Committee
- City budget completed, pushing for cuts but working to keep off budget
- Need to hire back the roles that we need such as youth outreach worker so can't let them cut our budget
- City doesn't want new spending and are looking for savings
- Property tax rate is in moderation
- Membership fees will be charged in new year and note in brochure to let community know

Manager of Child Care Services (Jacky Hughes)

- p.43

MINUTES – BOARD



7. Consent Items

Anti Racism Anti Oppression Committee

- been connected with another initiative around name changing of places
- can we rename Napier St?
- need to draft letter from the Board to reach out to 3 host nations
- meeting moved to Nov 18th as tomorrow is Remembrance Day

Arts & Culture Committee

- outreach to artists and staff due to covid changes
- not ready to try and pull off craft fair this year
- not many craft markets this year anywhere

Grandview Woodlands Food Connection Committee

- questions for us in their report
- defer to agenda of Board Planning weekend or next Board meeting

Pool & Fitness Committee

- meeting at the end of the month
- need to revisit renewal facility list from years ago

Seniors Elders and Advocates Committee

- request for Board to match funds for Lytton fundraising
- need update on Ashcroft
- money could come from Board projects
- have \$3500 remaining out of \$10000
- committee worked really hard and earned support
- delay decision to January so we can look at leftover funds available to contribute

MOTION TO ACCEPT CONSENT ITEMS AS PRESENTED

Craig Ollenberger/ Ingrid Kolsteren

CARRIED

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:36pm

Ingrid Kolsteren/ Vera Jones

CARRIED