

**Britannia Board Meeting
November 13, 2019**

Board Room – Information Centre

PRESENT: Scott Clark, Ingrid Kolsteren, John Flipse, Freya Kristensen, Pamela Dudas, Susanne Dahlin, Vera Jones, John Morra, Craig Ollenberger, Naina Varshney, Emily Vickery, Li Mei Yip, Jane Stanier, Alec MacInnes, Megan Langley
STAFF: Cynthia Low, Jeremy Shier, Peter Odynsky, Kathy Whittam (recording)
REGRETS: Farren Gillaspie, Carmen Cho, Stuart MacKinnon
GUEST: Teka Evertz

Board meeting called to order at 6:05pm

Welcome

1. Approval of Agenda

- Add Board Check-in after break
- move both of Teka's agenda items for him to speak to them together

MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA AS AMENDED

Vera Jones/ Pamela Dudas

CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes of Oct 9. 2019

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES

Pamela Dudas/ Vera Jones

CARRIED

3. Old Business

HHD – Emerging Community Youth Issues (Cynthia)

- The Hip Hop Drop will not run in November
- Operational issues to address
- The program was intended to be for up to 20 youth
- Each week there at least 50-60 showing up
- Intense stuff for staff and community to deal with
- Youth are not connecting elsewhere but are wanting to be here
- Park Board has stepped away due to concerns
- High risk population and low barrier is not always safe for all youth
- Local agencies and youth service groups collaborating to try to resolve issues
- UNYA, Ray Cam, Strathcona, NICSS, St Leonards, Dans Legacy
- Planning meeting Nov 20 to look at how to re-establish and manage intergeneration approach
- Increase in younger youth becoming street entrenched, skipping school, overdosing
- Staff need a reset and operational review going on
- Intention is to restart the Drop in December

- Location is still a problem and still trying to find a new venue when the Hall is no longer available in the new year

Mother's Day Traditional Pow Wow (Teka)

- Briefing note provided
- Meeting on Wed Nov 27th from 10am-1pm to begin planning for the Pow Wow
- Britannia is a steward of this event but it belongs to the community
- Involves traditional powwow drumming and dancing and honouring ceremonies
- A group of elders will be guides through the process
- Other organizations supporting are: DTES Women's Centre, Saa-ust Centre, WAVAW, IRSSS, REACH
- Cynthia expressed gratitude to Teka who came into the position of organizer for the 2019 Pow Wow less than 4 weeks prior to event, and was able to help pull it together and also bring new elements such as a two spirit dance
- Very successful event last year and have outgrown Trout Lake as a location. PNE being explored as an alternative
- Need designated staff to support the event
- To help with funding the event a grant was submitted to the National Inquiry Into Missing and Murdered Women & Girls which was approved in June 2019
- Commitments for the grant are partly being met through new programming: Reconstructing the Man Cave, MMIWG Community Dialogue Series, Urban Longhouse & Lounge, Pit Stop on Powwow Highway and West Coast Culture Express
- Board Planning Day needs to include discussion on Reconciliation and what more Britannia can do to be more active with actions supporting this work

National Indigenous Peoples Day/July 1 (Teka)

- Indigenous people were invited to our Canada Day event and couldn't connect to traditional format
- Dialogue has led to planning committee for organizing the 2020 event
- What can Britannia do to bridge between June 21 National Aboriginal Day and July 1 Canada Day
- Potential for week of events that engage the community
- Working group meeting on Dec 1 to identify structure on how those days can look
- Engage all the community and committed to creating space for all of us

Britannia Renewal Master Plan Update (Susanne)

- The City has done a draft RFP for our review and seem to want to move things forward
- Have opened to us sharing drafts and documents with our contacts such as outside planners and architects
- Consultation with community will discuss concerns around housing
- RFP will look for architect plan and consultation process
- Different expertise designing the pool area which requires specialty knowledge, and for full site development
- Planning & Development committee along with working groups have consolidated back to one meeting a month now that working group accomplished what it needed to do
- This process has become a new way of planning for the City, now seem to appreciate community input

- City willing to come to more of our meetings for more perspective
- One committee doesn't represent our community as a whole, need to channel info out through all of our committees
- Increase of development and people in the area will increase pressure on our centre and what we can offer

Strategic Plan Draft (Freya)

- Strategic Plan and survey results will be talked about in more detail at the planning day

4. New Business

Annual Planning Day (Freya)

- Will be seeking public input by activating the B-Lab in the Info Centre, an info board at the pool, etc
- Need to embed Renewal into all priorities in the plan
- Met on Monday to draft agenda for the 24th in the LRC from 8:30am-3pm
- 2019 Priorities review
- Indigenous staff had great recommendations
- Aim is for the Board to approve the Strategic Plan in January
- Please talk to Cynthia or members of Planning & Development or Executive

6. Correspondence Report – no correspondence this month

7. Partners' Reports

VPB – p.8-10

- Peter spoke to a couple of important items passed by the Park Board in Oct meetings
- Copies of Parks and Recreation Services Master Plan recommendation provided
- VanPlay reports 3 “Strategic Bold Moves” and 4 “The Playbook – Implementation Plan” were passed Oct 9
- Three Bold Moves provide focus on Equity, Asset Needs and Connectivity in areas that are underserved around the City
- Opportunity for us as we work on our own Strategic Plan
- The updated “VanSplash: Vancouver Aquatics Strategy” report was approved Oct 28
- Specific recommendations for Britannia Pool were removed and noted that consultation should be connected to overall Master Plan for our site
- The 25 year vision has Britannia Pool replaced by 2026
- Templeton to remain open for 5 years after our new pool opens to give time for community consultation on need in that area
- VanPlay and VanSplash are long range plans for us to look for interconnections with our own Strategic Plan
- Other strategic plans to compare with are VPL, VSB LRP and COV plan
- Noted that there is no mention of Reconciliation in either plan

VPB – Peter Odynsky, p.11-15

- Rink reopened in October though upgrades still in progress
- Cisco still operating our rink under guidance with our maintenance team
- New dehumidifiers set to be installed in next couple of weeks
- Official hand off of the rink expected early in new year

- Onboarding of new programmers going well
- New Spanish program for preschool and caregivers

VPL – Megan Langley, p.16-19

- Will be able to bring VPL 2020-2023 strategic plan draft to next Board meeting
- Newly created workshop called Exploring Emotions with Children provided a group of early childhood educators with new tools, books, rhymes & songs that can help toddlers and preschoolers identify emotions
- Writer in Residence Ken Hegan led a workshop for Britannia teens
- Megan acknowledged the great work that Vera has done as elder and support for the Connection to Kith & Kin program
- An article summarizing the program included in the newsletter for the Library and Archives Canada. Link to article will be circulated to the Board
- Last weekend Aerial and Vera were interviewed about the program by North By Northwest on CBC. Not sure of airing date, but will share when available
- Going to the Ontario Library Association conference to present about CKK
- Come a long way from an idea that Scott and Carol had a few years ago to help families reconnect with their families
- Partnerships with IRSSS, VPL, Britannia prove effective grassroots way to incubate ideas and make them happen
- Young people, especially urban, have lost identity due to fostering out, etc

VSB – Alec MacInnes

- Portable next to parking lot reopened for Gateway to Adulthood program
- Bridge program for students with developmental disabilities to help transition youth to adulthood
- Cross country team had 4 runners in provincial competition
- Energetic new music teacher and other new staff, 10% turnover, now full staff
- Enrolment is good as Britannia is a magnet school with various programs
- 1/3 student population is Aboriginal
- Film program in 2nd year is doing well
- District is not allowing new academies or mini programs until a review of current options has been done
- Britannia needs to align with the VSB District plan

8. Board Check-in

- Li Mei and Emily did a great job as facilitators for the All Candidates event last month!
- Britannia Christmas Party will be Fri Dec 6 at the Croatian Cultural Centre. An email will be sent with more details after planning meeting tomorrow

9. Administration Reports

Executive Director – Cynthia Low, p.20

- Working with staff on more grants
- Food sustainability looking for more support and a PA position for 30 hrs/week

Child care

- Meeting with the child care Hub
- Coordinated the hiring process and now have a recommendation for the Executive
- All of the child cares are struggling with staffing, happening across the field

- Hard to recruit and retain when wages are lower than cost of living
- All childcares have completed strategic plans for aging facilities
- Jeremy continues to support with budgets and Lorraine working hard on administrative tasks
- Slowly closing out everything Lord Nelson

Manager of Administrative Services – Jeremy Shier, p.21-22

- Complete financial report p. 29-53
- Overall surplus to date is \$116, 462 which is lower than surplus this time last year
- Member of maintenance team was miscoding the payroll so salary calculations out
- Britannia may receive invoice to reconcile staff budget outage
- Changes have been made to the VESP for full time CUPE staff
- Members control their own financials and we transfer money bi-weekly so no change to our procedures
- Gym C mural had structural issue which meant it may come down. Looks like problem has been dealt with for now
- One of Jean Rasmussen's students who immigrated from Afghanistan is trying to get her family here after tragedy at hands of Taliban
- Jean has helped to raise some of the money and Jeremy has offered admin support from Britannia where needed

10. Consent Items

Arts & Culture Committee

- Things are going very well with Bea Miller as the new programmer
- 35th Annual Britannia Christmas Craft Fair coming up Nov 22-24 in Gym D

ACTION – everyone be sure to invite Cynthia to your next committee meetings if needed to go over any questions/concerns about the Strategic Plan

MOTION TO ACCEPT CONSENT ITEMS AS PRESENTED

John Flipse/ Naina Varshney

CARRIED

MOTION TO ADJOURN at 8:05pm

Emily Vickers/ Naina Varshney

CARRIED

Executive In Camera