

## Britannia Board Meeting October 9, 2019

### Board Room – Information Centre

**PRESENT:** Ingrid Kolsteren, John Flipse, Freya Kristensen, Pamela Dudas, Susanne Dahlin, Vera Jones, John Morra, Craig Ollenberger, Naina Varshney, Emily Vickery, Li Mei Yip, Megan Langley

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

**REGRETS:** Scott Clark, Ron Scott, Carmen Cho, Jane Stanier, Stuart MacKinnon

**GUESTS:** Jodi Gibson, Farren Gillaspie, Amelia Gubana

**Board meeting called to order at 6:00pm**

#### Welcome

#### 1. Approval of Agenda

Add Board Check in after break

#### **MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA AS AMENDED**

**Pamela Dudas/ Craig Ollenberger**

**CARRIED**

#### 2. Approval of Minutes of Sep 11. 2019

#### **MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES**

**Pamela Dudas/ Freya Kristensen**

**CARRIED**

#### 3. Introduction

Jodi Gibson

Welcome to our new Community Youth Worker. She is excited to work with youth in the Britannia community. Most recently working at Ray Cam. Familiar with our youth team and the neighbourhood. Experience in Calgary and Vancouver in group homes, and outreach with at risk youth. Goal is to be connection between youth, school, teen centre, city and community.

Farren Gillaspie

A candidate for the vacant Board position, Farren has been involved at our Centre since moving into the neighbourhood in 2003. After more than 30 years working as residential counsellor coordinator for people with developmental challenges. Now want to slow down into gradual retirement and looking for ways to support community. Regular user of the fitness centre and also participates in a writing group in the 55+ Centre. Interested in intergenerational programs for seniors and youth.

Amelia Gubana

A candidate for the vacant Board position, Amelia believes community is important and has been a multi-purpose volunteer at Britannia for a few years helping in the 55+ Centre, with Ian's food programs, and whenever she can in other areas. She is learning woodworking, fabric arts and other skills as part of her healing arts education.

#### 4. New Business

##### Raycam After School Swim Program (Pamela)

- Briefing note p. 7
- A swim lesson program after school for 10 weeks
- Half hour of instruction time during free swim time
- Cost to run the program is for staff. Total \$205.75
- No motion needed as it will come out of operational budget

##### All Candidates Panel (Ingrid)

- Late start in planning
- Emily and Li Mei will be co-moderators
- Panel of candidates includes 6 of 8 candidates for our riding
- No Liberal or Conservative attending

##### Letting Go Ceremony (Cynthia)

- Approached by Kat Norris, community elder, to host similar gathering to last year
- Endorsed by RIA, SEA and Arts & Culture committees
- Will be hosted in Gym D
- Coast Salish Letting Go Ceremony hosted by Saslum

#### 5. Old Business

##### Hip Hop Drop Emerging Issues (Cynthia)

- City and Park Board have concerns regarding safety of staff and participants
- While addressing these concerns Britannia staff have been pulled from the program
- Program was developed to reach youth who were not engaged and balance negativity towards them
- Unconventional to trust experience of young people who've been through the foster care system to run things
- Will continue to run under the NICSS range of programs
- Discussion deferred to in camera after meeting

##### Strategic Plan (Freya)

- Guest: Nicki Kahnamoui
- Slide show presentation of progress so far
- A SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) has been done with programmers and committees
- The survey has been updated and shared with staff and public for feedback on commitments

##### **ACTION** – everyone needs to do the survey!

- Recommendations made on language of a few statements with notes given to Nicki for revisions (ie, “developing” sounds paternalistic, like we’re doing it to them; not “fails” instead “falls short”; “accessible for *all* people”
- Important focus on strengthening partnerships, citizen engagement and enhancing organization capacity
- How to find metrics for measuring things, in 5 years how can we show we achieve this

- Cynthia shared some feedback from the survey results so far
- 42 people have responded, a mix of staff and public
- Solidarity is not a word that everyone is comfortable with
- Need concrete action on how to achieve these aspirations
- The open ended questions offer some thoughtful comments, but many are also very specific

**ACTION** – everyone bring survey and strategic plan updates to your committees in Oct/Nov before next Board meeting

## Britannia Renewal Master Plan Update (Susanne)

- Bi-weekly meetings happening with the City, though some have been cancelled so discussion moving slowly
- The Master Plan was approved by City and Park Board last year, and now the School Board has approved
- The VSB motion does not include approval of all of the plan but in principal so it can move forward to rezoning
- Will help with some of our concerns as well
- RFQ will go out for a bid on who will take the plan forward
- Meeting with City tomorrow and hope to get the RFQ out for next week
- Housing is a major concern, and one building with housing is included in phase 1
- Priority to work this out and working with our own consultants to feel equipped to sit with others at the decision making table, informed for the community
- 2 former city planners are committed to advising us and have been to housing sub-committee meetings, Sean McKewan and Scott Hine
- Both have experience on big projects that turned around with pushback from community such as Mole Hill, Arbutus Lands and Kits Neighbourhood House
- City staff are saying up to 300 units of housing to be developed here, they haven't received direction otherwise so moving with those numbers
- The community hub is another element that we and the City have very different vision for
- Another sub-committee will be working on the social hub challenges
- The Child Care Committee wants details on daycare future here, City not prepared to talk details at this point
- Talking to parents, child care staff to address needs for our centre and community we serve
- RFQ potential candidate is Urban Arts who worked on the Master Plan proposal

## 6. Correspondence Report – no correspondence this month

## 7. Partners' Reports

VPB – p.8-11

VPB – Peter Odynsky, p.12-15

- Benches in alcoves
- Rink will not be opening on the 15<sup>th</sup>
- Dehumidifiers got lost by the shipping company
- Temporary solution may be to fix old humidifiers and open only a few days late

- More answers will be had after meeting tomorrow
- Programming at 5xwqwelawen to begin with new carver, D'Arcy Basil

VPL – Megan Langley, p.16-19

- Children's programs were very busy in September
- Connecting with Kith & Kin has begun another successful season
- Ariel has been leading youth from Gateways to Adulthood program to show them all the ways the library can be a useful resource for them
- Mobile Device Help program has been very popular
- In the new year Pauline Preston will be retiring and Noreen Ma will move from the Fire Hall branch to join us as the new Britannia branch head
- Cynthia expressed gratitude on behalf of the Board for the hard work and resilient support of the library and Kith & Kin team at RIA and Orange Shirt event days

VSB

- No report this month

## 8. Board Check-in

- Oct 27 the July 1<sup>st</sup> Committee is meeting

**ACTION** – Emily will email details for board

- 55+ Fitness Calendar is now available for sale at the Info Centre
  - Special release event planned for Nov 3 from 2-3:30pm at the library
  - Come meet volunteers who posed for calendar, get them to sign it
  - Will be available at craft fair
  - Putting together a guide for other committees that may be interested in making a calendar
  - Proceeds back to Britannia
- Craig shared a Plastics Are Scary poster for raising awareness about plastic waste at Halloween

## 9. Administration Reports

Executive Director – Cynthia Low, p.20

- Supported RIA event
- Working on Communications plan with Cyn
- Our Place, concern for youth at risk and increase in poverty gap
- focus on governance model like neighbourhood houses in Portland
- people can find out local issues and how to be involved
- test through City Plan process
- Child Care Hub meeting recently
- Talk about emerging issues
- Loss of Lord Nelson, they dissolved as a Society and the child care went to Frog Hollow
- Concerns over community organizations to govern licensed child care
- Hiring for Child Care Manager position
- This weekend interviewing 2 of 3 candidates
- Lorraine Evans has been fantastic at maintaining the flow of things

- Cynthia has been going to all the Child Care Board meetings
- Jeremy has been handling financials
- Staff retention is still an issue, lots of HR work
- Child care meeting tomorrow regarding renewal

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

- City budget the revenue from the facilities is down
- Expected due to length of the rink closure, but pool revenues are back up
- Look to finish the year fine with a bigger surplus than last year
- Some youth programs have more funding support through the YVR program
- Child care lower surplus and will complete year low
- Working with all operations on site to put together 1<sup>st</sup> draft of 2020 budget
- Will bring this draft to Finance Committee in two weeks
- Final draft will come to Board meeting in December

## 10. Consent Items

Executive Committee

- RIA event went well and was a long day from 10:30am-8:30pm including programming for the schools
- Ended with a performance and honouring for Chris who passed away at the event last year
- Communication and distribution to improve next year
- Idea to create a list of “What’s on this month & where” to post in public space so people know when events are coming up
- p.24 staff report back on Reconciliation in the Workplace

### **MOTION TO ACCEPT CONSENT ITEMS AS PRESENTED**

**Pamela Dudas/John Flipse**

**CARRIED**

### **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**Vera Jones/John Morra**

**CARRIED**

**In Camera**