



**SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**September 21, 2012**

A meeting of the Seniors Advisory Committee was held on Friday, September 21, 2012, at 9:35 am in the Business Centre Meeting Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

**PRESENT:** Chris Morrissey, Chair\*  
Colin Lazzerini, Vice-Chair  
Thomas Bruner  
Eddy Elmer  
Sharon Fenton  
Dellie Lidyard  
Colleen McGuinness  
Carol Oreck  
Rowena Tate  
Eva Wadolna

**ABSENT:** Henry Lee (Leave of Absence)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor Tony Tang (Council Liaison)  
Commissioner Melissa De Genova, Park Board  
Neal Carley, Director, Streets Division (Staff Liaison)  
Steven R. Dang, Social Planner, Community Services  
(CoV Seniors Dialogues Project)

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Pat Boomhower, Meeting Coordinator

\*Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

\* \* \* \* \*

**VARY THE AGENDA**

The Committee agreed to vary the agenda order to add the following items under Subcommittee reports and to have Item 5(b) later in the meeting:

- Dunbar housing project
- Revisit the Committee's 2010 motion regarding SAFER Program regulations
- Street lighting.

For ease of reference, the minutes are recorded in numerically order.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **Leave of Absence Requests**

MOVED by Colleen McGuinness  
SECONDED by Carol Oreck

THAT leaves of absence be granted for Henry Lee for this meeting, and Eddy Elmer and Eva Wadolna for the October 19, 2012 working session.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **Approval of Minutes**

MOVED by Tom Bruner  
SECONDED by Eva Wadolna

THAT the minutes of the June 15, 2012, meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **1. Working Sessions Update**

Working notes of meetings held in the summer were reviewed.

MOVED by Dellie Lidyard  
SECONDED by Carol Oreck

THAT the working notes of the July 20, 2012, meeting be approved with the following amendment:

Page 2 regarding discussion on the Point Grey Private Hospital expansion proposal, add the following phrase to the last paragraph:  
“and concern for the displacement of current residents of the apartment buildings.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOVED by Eva Wadolna  
SECONDED by Colleen McGuinness

THAT the Seniors Advisory Committee ratify the following name changes made at the August 17, 2012 working session:

- (a) THAT the Transportation Subcommittee be renamed to the “Transportation and Mobility Subcommittee”.
- (b) THAT the Communications Subcommittee change its name to the “Communications and Outreach Subcommittee”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOVED by Dellie Lidyard  
SECONDED by Carol Oreck

THAT the working notes of the August 17, 2012, meeting be approved with the following amendments:

Page 3 under *New Business*:

(a) clarifying Committee meeting time, delete the words “to noon” and add the phrase “to 11:30 am and have the room available to noon in case it is required.”

(b) and (c) to note “add the *Connections and Engagement* and the *Healthy City* links to the Committee’s web site” respectively.

Page 1 under *Attendance*:

To note the Leave of Absence request received from Sharon Fenton for the August 17, 2012, meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## 2. CoV Seniors Dialogues: Preliminary Engagement Plan & Strategy

Scott Graham, Social Planning and Research Council of BC (SPARC BC), provided background on the City’s *Seniors Dialogues* project and noted the focus of the community engagement questions with regard to:

- determining priority neighbourhoods for the development of social amenities
- the elements which make facilities and services more age-friendly for seniors.

Mr. Graham, along with Steven Dang, Social Planner, presented the “City of Vancouver Seniors Dialogues: Preliminary Draft Engagement Plan and Strategy”, as well as a draft map of the distribution of seniors population, aged 65+ (2011) by neighbourhood (*distributed - on file*).

The Committee provided feedback on the *Cafe Dialogues* planned across the city regarding format, locations, accessibility, translation services, and evaluation form.

Eva Wadolna, Project Steering Committee, outlined other ways for people to submit ideas, in addition to the Café Dialogue events. Committee members can forward additional comments on the Engagement Plan to her.

### 3. Committee Liaisons' Updates

Commissioner De Genova, Vancouver Park Board Liaison, provided an update on the:

- SE Vancouver Seniors Arts & Cultural Society AGM she and Councillor Tang attended
- funding status from other levels of government for a new Seniors Centre
- work with the Active Transportation Policy Council
- next meeting with PWDAC and SAC Chairs regarding accessible gardens for seniors and persons with disabilities
- motion passed by Park Board earlier in 2012, to have Park Board staff work with Engineering Services to minimize pedestrian cycling conflicts along the Seawall.

### 4. Subcommittees Update

On August 17, 2012, the SAC Subcommittees were determined as:

Communication and Outreach      Eddy Elmer (Chair)  
   Sharon Fenton  
   Colin Lazzerini  
   Eva Wadolna

Housing                                      Colleen McGuinness (Chair)  
   Dellie Lidyrd  
   Chris Morrissey  
   Eva Wadolna  
   Jill Weiss

Transportation and Mobility      Rowena Tate (Chair)  
   Tom Brunker  
   Carol Oreck  
   Jill Weiss

#### (a) Communications and Outreach

The Committee thanked Neal Carley for the SAC business cards (*distributed - on file*).

Eddy Elmer, Subcommittee Chair, led discussion on having a blog for Seniors Advisory Committee members to share working notes.

#### (b) Housing

Colleen McGuinness, Subcommittee Chair, reported on:

- i. *Dunbar Housing Project* - Open House on October 4, 2012, regarding a proposed 6-storie housing project on Dunbar Street, and noted tenants are expected to be aged 80+ and live independently. She will forward details to the Committee.

- ii. *SAFER Program Regulations* - The SAC letter (dated June 17, 2010) sent to Vancouver City Council requested that Council approach the Provincial Government to amend the SAFER Program by removing the annual reapplication requirement, and by increasing the upper limit of eligible rent for the SAFER program to reflect the prevailing market rent in Vancouver. The Subcommittee recommended the SAC renew its motion.

MOVED by Colleen McGuinness  
SECONDED by Dellie Lidyard

THAT the Seniors Advisory Committee re-send the following motion to Council:

WHEREAS

1. The World Health Organization is promoting world-wide Age Friendly Cities (*WHO: An Age-friendly city is an inclusive and accessible urban environment that promotes active ageing*);
2. The higher rental costs in Vancouver require that seniors who receive the provincial SAFER rental subsidy are struggling to make ends meet;
3. The real cost of housing in a given area is indexed (e.g. CMHC rent surveys) reflecting changes in the rental milieu;
4. The current upper limit of SAFER does not reflect this changing trend;

The Seniors Advisory Committee recommends that the City of Vancouver, on behalf of the low-income seniors in the City, take up these matters with the appropriate Provincial Government authorities at the earliest opportunity; and

FURTHER THAT these matters also be sent by the City of Vancouver to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Chris Morrissey absent for the vote)

**(c) Transportation and Mobility**

The Subcommittee report dated September 17, 2012 (*distributed - on file*) refers to Item 5(a) below.

Eva Wadolna advised of the West End Seniors Network (WESN) correspondence to TransLink and City Council regarding residents' opposition to the permanent closure of the Robson Street, Bl 800, and noted the TransLink Forum on this subject will be held at Gordon Neighbourhood House on October 3, 2012.

The motion regarding street lights was referred to the Subcommittee, due to time constraints.

## **5. Pedestrian Safety**

### **(a) Draft motions from the Transportation & Mobility Subcommittee**

#### *i. Stanley Park Seawall*

The draft motion submitted by the Transportation and Mobility Subcommittee was discussed and modified.

MOVED by Rowena Tate  
SECONDED by Carol Oreck

THAT the Seniors Advisory Committee request that Council Liaison bring to Council and Parks Board the Committee's concern for the safety of pedestrians, especially vulnerable seniors, at the interface between pedestrians and other sidewalk users (e.g., cyclists, skate boarders, etc.) on both sidewalks and seawalls, with a view to having the City take immediate action to address the issue in the short term while investigating and proposing longer term viable solutions for implementation.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### *ii. Cambie Street and West Broadway Intersection*

The draft motion submitted by the Transportation and Mobility Subcommittee was postponed to the next meeting.

### **(b) Public Bike Share**

Scott Edwards, Manager, and Neal Peacocke, Street Activities Branch, provided an update on the Public Bicycle Share (PBS) program and the work by the inter-departmental Working Group and outreach with Advisory groups. They also compared other PBS systems and responded to questions.

City's Public Bike Share information at:

<http://vancouver.ca/streets-transportation/public-bike-share-system.aspx>

*Note from Clerk:*

Public Hearing on By-law amendments to support a PBS (October 16, 2012)

<http://former.vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/cclerk/20121016/phea20121016ag.htm>

Report to Council's Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment

(October 17, 2012) <http://former.vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/cclerk/20121017/ptec20121017ag.htm>

**6. New Business**

**(a) Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations (COSCO) Conference**

Thomas Brunker reported that space and subsidies were available for the national COSCO conference on October 1 and 2, 2012, in Richmond, BC, and recommended the SAC send a representative to attend.

\* \* \* \* \*

*At this point, the Chair declared a conflict of interest since she was a beneficiary being considered. Chris Morrissey stepped down as chair and did not participate in discussion or vote. Colin Lazzarini as Vice-Chair, assumed the chair. Chris Morrissey left the room at 12:00 pm and did not return for the remainder of the meeting.*

\* \* \* \* \*

MOVED by Colleen McGuinness  
SECONDED by Dellie Lidyard

THAT the Seniors Advisory Committee (SAC) recommends that the City of Vancouver (CoV) support sending a representative to the national Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations (COSCO) conference being held in Richmond, British Columbia on October 1 and 2, 2012, to help ensure that Vancouver has representation and outreach at this local conference; and

FURTHER THAT the SAC recommends the City of Vancouver contribute \$100.00 (one hundred dollars) towards the conference registration so that the CoV Seniors Advisory Committee Chair, Chris Morrissey, can attend on behalf of the SAC.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Chris Morrissey absent for the vote)

Councillor Tang will follow-up with respect to the motion.

**(b) Integrated Models for Delivering Care to Frail Seniors - October 3, 2012**

Sharon Fenton noted she would attend this Panel session (*information distributed - on file*) and asked whether other members had registered.

**(c) Patients Voices Network - November 3, 2012**

The Patients Voices Network offered an orientation session for volunteers, as well as guest speaker about the Network (*flyer distributed - on file*).

**(d) Comox-Helmcken Greenway - Open Houses**

The Vice-Chair noted the Greenway design details will be presented at the various Open Houses on September 29, October 1, 3 and 4, 2012, as noted in the SAC agenda.

**(e) Potential Presentations for Future Meetings**

Future topics for possible event planning were suggested:

- BC Seniors Week (June 2013)
- National Seniors Day (October 1, 2013)

Due to time constraints, the following items were referred to a future meeting:

- Cambie Street and West Broadway Intersection (Subcommittee's draft motion)
- Arbutus Development project (housing topic)

Members can forward other suggestions to the Chair and Vice-Chair for future topics.

**(f) Co-Housing Forum**

Eva Wadolna suggested a SAC member attend the SFU forum on co-housing to be held on September 22, 2012.

**(g) United Way Program: Better at Home**

Eva Wadolna advised of the pilot program to help seniors remain independent; Information at: [www.betterathome.ca](http://www.betterathome.ca)

**(h) Safety Whistle**

Tom Bruner circulated the safety whistle provided to senior groups by the Police Department.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Tom Bruner  
SECONDED by Colleen McGuinness

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Next Meeting:**

DATE: Friday, November 16, 2012  
TIME: 9:30 am  
PLACE: City Hall Business Centre Meeting Room  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Vancouver City Hall

The Committee adjourned at 12:15 pm

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