

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER

**Meeting of the Advisory Planning Commission
Held at City Hall, 141 West 14th Street, North Vancouver, B.C.
in the Atrium Meeting Room on Wednesday, March 9th, 2016**

MINUTES

Present: M. Clark
M. Higgins
A. Jamieson
M. Robinson
T. Valente
R. Vesely
B. Watt
Councillor Back
Councillor Bell

Staff: S. Smith, Planner 2, Community Development
T. Huckell, Committee Clerk

Absent: D. Farley
B. Hundal
D. Marshall

A quorum being present, S. Smith, Planner 2 took the Chair and called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

1. Welcome

S. Smith, Planner 2, welcomed everyone. Roundtable introductions for the new member were completed.

2. Elections of Chair and Vice Chair

The election of Chair and Vice Chair for the period February 2016 to January 31, 2017 took place by show of hands

Nominations for the position of Chair and Vice Chair were requested and accepted, sequentially. Marni Robinson was elected Chair by acclamation.

Alex Jamieson was elected Vice Chair by acclamation.

M. Robinson took over the chair at 6:20 pm.

3. Advisory Planning Commission Overview and Procedures

S. Smith reviewed sections of the Procedures Bylaw relevant to the Commission and its members, including voting rules (an abstention is considered a vote in favour), a resolution is recorded as defeated if it results in a tied vote, conflict of interest, public attendance, and its advisory role versus advocacy.

4. Minutes of Meeting of the Advisory Planning Commission held January 13th, 2016

It was regularly moved and seconded

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Advisory Planning Commission held January 13th, 2016 be adopted.

Carried Unanimously

5. 2016 Work Plan

S. Smith reiterated that a significant amount of the work plan is subject to the direction of Council. Ideally there will be time to pursue additional items of interest and knowledge building. The Commission has also recently inherited the review and selection of Living City Grants and Awards.

After brainstorming, the summary of the group's interests were as follows:

Post-it Notes:

- **Walking Tours:**
Green Necklace
Lonsdale Housing

- **Guest Speakers / Topics of Interest:**
Laneways
Laneway tours - tour with Mehrdad?
Woonerfs - e.g. in Vienna
Energy and Buildings
Net zero buildings / Passive House – e.g. tour of recent house in City
Housing
City of Vancouver laneway housing program
Affordable Housing
Housing types, re: affordability, liveability, community feel, green space, fitness, etc. SF with laneway, vs co-op, vs duplex with suite, vs townhouse, vs rowhouse, vs lowrise, vs highrise

- **Workshops:**
Alternative transportation systems
Laneways
Housing – Affordable theme and other
What is "Living City"? (Sustainability and Green Space?)

6. Living City Grants and Awards

S. Smith briefly reviewed the history and purpose of the Living City Grants and Awards. APC will provide input to Council, who ultimately make the decision on how the Grants are allocated. These grants and awards were previously administered by PEAC (the Parks and Environment Advisory Committee) which has been dissolved. APC will review the criteria for these in April and receive the applications in May for consideration. Both will be awarded by Council at a Council Meeting in June.

7. Staff Update

S. Smith reviewed relevant planning development, project and policy items from the previous Council meetings. Discussion ensued.

8. Information Items

Item #1 – Metro Vancouver Housing Action Plan. Metro Vancouver has been working on a draft housing plan. We're also developing our own which will return to APC in May for input, then on to Council in June.

Item #1 - Bill 3 Staff Report. Staff advised, as previously mentioned APC can have a refresher on energy efficiency in buildings as it has been a while since APC was involved in developing the City's current progressive policies. Most of the Commission members have changed since then. The purpose of the Bill 3 Act, introduced by the Province is to bring greater consistency in building requirements across the province. It was brought into force December 15, 2015 and municipalities were given only two years to adjust their bylaws accordingly. The Province is trying to make things more consistent for energy standards in construction across the Province, but has not provided all of the details necessary to complete the picture. The Bill will have the effect of making any bylaws that require higher energy standards than what is currently in the BC Building Code ultra vires (ineffective) which has implications for how we require higher energy standards as well as requirements for adaptable design and active design e.g. providing floor area exemptions for open stairwells to encourage activity.

There was some discussion amongst APC members about various aspects and implications of this including:

- The Provincial Government is trying to make sure Municipalities are not too harsh on developers.
- One member heard that these changes would not affect our energy measures.
A: Anything that currently requires something higher than the Building Code would be impacted by this. Bylaws aside, another way to secure is through covenants but that would be very cumbersome on a case-by-case basis. More details to come. Staff will keep APC up to date on this.
- Interest in a refresher on the City's energy efficiency in buildings policies and practice.

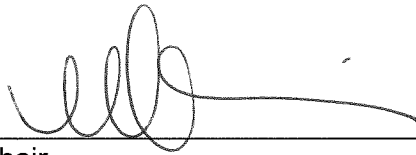
9. Other Business

Staff reminded APC members of the recent email re Jane's Walks which is a community-driven effort every year based around a series of walks in May. They are initiated by community members. Advisory Body members are welcome to visit the website and sign up to lead a walk. You can do it from your own perspective.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Advisory Planning Commission will be held on Wednesday, April 13th, 2016.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke, positioned above a solid horizontal line.

Chair