

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER  
Regular meeting of the Social Planning Advisory Committee  
Held in City Hall, Conference Room 'A'  
On Wednesday, May 22, 2019 at 6:00pm

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**MINUTES**

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**PRESENT:**

Etienne Normandin, Chair  
Cassandra Buckley  
Jolene Kennett  
Naz Kohan, Vice Chair  
Heather Urquhart  
Larry O'Grodnik

Angela Girard, Councillor

**ABSENT:**

Arash Ehteshami  
Jasreen Janjua  
Tina Parbhakar

**STAFF:**

Heather Evans, Community Planner  
Edytha Barker, Committee Clerk  
Leslie Garber, Deputy Director, Finance

9 members – quorum = 5

1 Councillor (non-voting) 2 staff (non-voting)

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**1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF UNCEDED TERRITORY**

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The approval of the agenda was moved and seconded and the agenda was approved as circulated.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

The adoption of the minutes of the meeting of March 27, 2019 was moved and seconded and the minutes were adopted as circulated.

**4. UPDATES**

- Councillor
  - a. In March, Council voted to provide funding for Public School Playground Enhancements.
  - b. In April, Council received a delegation from the BC Poverty Reduction Coalition regarding the #AllOnBoard Campaign. This campaign is about achieving an affordable and accessible transit system for Metro Vancouver. Council supported this in principal and requested that staff look at cost implications.
  - c. Council approved a 2% Property Tax shift of 2% from business to residential class.
  - d. A rezoning was approved and a public hearing held for 125 East 20<sup>th</sup> Street. This is an 85-unit non-market and market rental apartment

building owned and operated by Vancouver Resource Society for the Physically Disabled. Existing tenants have been offered below market rates; there will be two subsidized rental units, 1 seniors unit managed by Hollyburn and 10 wheelchair accessible suites at \$375 per month.

- e. Greenways Child Care Centre was approved; this is an accessory residential child care facility. The applicant lives in the space. They currently are licenced for multi age care and wish to provide care for 8 additional children.
  - f. Having a Bike Valet at City events is being considered. The event policy is being updated to encourage organizers to promote active transportation at City events.
  - g. Council has directed staff to work with TransLink to connect Phibbs Exchange.
  - h. The snow removal bylaw has been updated in terms of frequency and timing. It has been amended to clarify that snow must be removed within 24 hours of it stopping snowing.
  - i. An alterative approval process is being considered for Sunrise Parkland at Brooksbank / Keith. This would allow Metro Vancouver to place a water main upgrade in the northeast corner of Sunrise Park rather than disrupt the intersection.
  - j. Council supported an application for a variance to the parking at Ridgeway School from 40 to 27 stalls.
  - k. Council passed a Notice of Motion to have staff report back on updates to the Smoking Regulation Bylaw to incorporate a smoking ban in parks, plazas, multi-use pathways and to include cannabis and vaporizers.
  - l. Regarding Harry Jerome, Council voted to develop a Community Recreation Strategic Plan. This plan will look at all recreation space in the City and include guidelines for community space.
  - m. 151 East Keith Road was considered for Public Hearing. The applicant owns the rental building and wants to add rental infill buildings on top of the parking lot. No tenants would be displaced and a ramp for accessibility would be built.
- Staff
    - a. Looking forward to the recommendations from the North Shore Young Citizens Forum. They will be providing a delegation to Council June 10.
    - b. The Strategic Plan is in the works and will be available soon.

## 5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

### a) Permissive Tax Exemptions

L. Garber presented. She explained that Finance started looking at the existing policy and ways it can be refreshed. H. Evans was asked to review from a planning and social policy perspective.

The community charter allows Council to grant Permissive Tax Exemptions (PTE's). The purpose is to help support the goals and objectives of the City by supporting organizations in the community which provide services for the general public good (as defined by the OCP and the City's Social Plan). These are granted at Council's



discretion. The value of Permissive Tax Exemptions for 2018 was approximately \$850,000. The forfeited taxes are made up from other City taxpayers.

Finance is looking at going to Council in July with a policy update and review and to seek Council's further direction. Currently, Finance's recommendation will be to leave PTE's at the discretion of Council.

PTE's are provided by bylaw every four years. New applicants can apply by October 31. If Council wants to make any changes to the policy, Finance will suggest using a phased approach over several years.

Questions/Comments from SPAC:

- The criteria seems very similar to the Community Grants application criteria. Perhaps this is something that SPAC could review and discuss as well. As decision making around grants involves the number of City residents served, having SPAC review them as well could perhaps result in a more even distribution.
  - H. Evans: Schedule wise, how would that work?
  - L. Garber: Every four years, full applications for PTE's are received so that would be longer, more involved review process. The other years, we may have only three or four applications to review.
- Can organizations apply for both a Community Grant and a Permissive Tax Exemption?
  - Yes, they can.
- There are not many daycares receiving PTE's. Is this because not very many are non-profit?
  - Yes, that is correct.

*Break: 6:55 p.m. – 7:05 p.m.*

b) Playground Enhancement Fund Policy

L. Garber and H. Evans presented. L. Garber explained that this program was active at the City a few years ago. In the most recent financial planning program, Council asked to Finance to revisit it and asked how it could be brought forward again. The policy was reviewed by an internal group and is currently out for consultation with Vancouver Coastal Health and School District 44.

H. Evans went over the proposed changes/updates to the policy. The amount that each school can apply for now up to \$75,000 for schools located in the City and up to \$25,000 for schools located in the District with an attendance of 25% City residents. Other changes are under the Project and Application Evaluation Criteria; the City wants to have some influence over the types of playgrounds that are being installed.

Questions/Comments from SPAC:

- Is there only one application permitted per school per year?
  - L. Garber: The amount one school can receive is capped at \$75,000 once every 10 years.
- How many schools can apply per year.
  - L. Garber: There is no limit.
- How many City schools is this available to?

- H. Evans: There are seven.
- The policy states the maximum contribution from the City is 50% of the capital cost of the project. What is the expectation as to where they would get the other 50% from?
  - H. Evans: The PAC (Parent Advisory Committee) would have to fundraise. The School District does not have a budget for school playgrounds.
  - L. Garber: The School District's contribution would be the ongoing maintenance of the playground.
- Does a school or PAC have to demonstrate that the school board supports the design before an application is submitted to the City?
  - H. Evans: We have said we need to know that the school is supportive in principal.
- Has there been any consideration of something similar for secondary schools? Landscaping improvements could help at secondary schools by improving the mood of students between classes.
  - L. Garber: It has not been; the essence of this policy is that a school playground outside of school time is also a community benefit. For secondary schools, we have provided funding for turf fields, lighting, etc.
- That's great that we have put in turf fields, etc. but not all high school students are athletic. I'm sure with an appropriate designer, there could be something designed that would benefit students as well as the community. Would be nice to include high schools as this is a critical time in a student's development. Some high school landscapes are very barren and stark. For students with mental health concerns, that could be problematic.
  - H. Evans: That's a great suggestion. It was not included in the scope of this review but can be considered in the future.

*Break – 6:55 – 7:05*

c) Community Grants Discussion and Final Allocation

E. Normandin led the discussion to arrive at the final allocations. Several factors were considered such as:

- If an applicant's head office is not physically located on the North Shore, should we be considering funding only their program grant applications?
- If an organization has requested \$5,000, does it make sense for us to allocate a small amount such as \$500 to them?
  - SPAC members pointed out that any amount may assist and it could be a way for organizations to get further funding when they can state in their marketing materials that they are supported by the CNV.
- It seems like we are getting more and more requests for capital funding. SPAC should advise Council of this and ask that Council look at other sources of funding.
- We need to communicate to applicants why they are not being funded.

**IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED** that the Social Advisory Planning Committee allocate \$130,540 from the Community Grants budget for Round One, as per the matrix, and hold back \$45,883 from the September (Round Two) intake of applications.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY


- d) SPAC 2018 Annual Report and 2019 Work Plan  
It was unanimously agreed to table this item to the June meeting.

6. ROUND TABLE

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING –June 26, 2019

Chair 

Date 10/17/19

