

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, November 28, 2018 at 6:00pm

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**MINUTES**

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**PRESENT:**

Steve Tornes, Chair  
Arash Ehteshami  
Jolene Kennett  
Etienne Normandin  
Tina Parbhakar  
Heather Urquhart

Angela Girard, Councillor

**ABSENT:**

Cassandra Buckley  
Jasreen Janjua  
Naz Kohan, Vice Chair

**STAFF:**

Heather Evans, Community Planner  
Edytha Barker, Committee Clerk  
Wendy Tse, Planner 2

9 members – quorum = 5

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

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**1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF UNCEDED TERRITORY**

**2. INTRODUCTIONS**

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting of October 24, 2018 were adopted as circulated.

**5. PRESENTATIONS**

- a) Recreational Cannabis Retail Policy – W. Tse  
W. Tse presented.

Key points included:

- After direction from Council, staff held public engagement on the topic and Council adopted this policy on September 28.

- The purpose of this policy is to guide Council when they are considering cannabis retail stores based on: land use, separation distance from sensitive uses, maximum number and geographical distribution of stores and the application processing and approval.
- At the federal level, the Cannabis Act is the legal and regulatory framework controlling the production, distribution, sale and possession of cannabis in Canada. The Cannabis Act allows additional provincial restrictions to be implemented for certain matters. In British Columbia, the Cannabis Control and Licensing Act serves as the legislative framework for the legalization on non-medical cannabis.
- To obtain a provincial non-medical cannabis retail licence, a positive recommendation from a local government is required.
- The policy allows locating recreation cannabis retail stores with a land use designation of Mixed Level 2 or higher.
- The second element of the policy is separation distances from sensitive uses such as community and recreational centres, the North Vancouver School District Office, public elementary and secondary schools, North Shore Neighbourhood House and the North Shore Shelter.
- The third element of the policy is proposing a maximum of six stores in the City; two for Central Lonsdale, two for lower Lonsdale and one store each on the east and west sides of the City.
- Applications are being accepted from November 19 to November 30 and are being accepted on a "first come, first serve" basis. The applications must meet all submission requirements including a referral from the Province. The first complete applications for each area will proceed to rezoning for Council consideration.

Questions/Comments from SPAC:

- The policy states that a retail cannabis store cannot be located within 100 metres of public schools; what about private schools?
  - W. Tse: Private schools are not included. Most of the private schools in the City are not in the areas where cannabis retail stores are allowed.
- What is the DNV doing in this regard?
  - W. Tse: We are not sure at this point; we believe they are debating between pre-zoning areas or something more like what we are doing.
- How many illegal retail cannabis stores were there and are any of them still operating?
  - W. Tse: There were about five or six and they are no longer operating. Now that selling cannabis is legal, the Province will be able to step in and regulate.

b) Zoning Bylaw Livability Review – W. Tse  
W. Tse presented

Key points:

- The review of the Zoning Bylaw stems from the City's Housing Action Plan. Of importance to SPAC is that this review strives to ensure quality housing options for renters, recognizing that renters make up a large proportion of the City's population.

- The amendment enables smaller lot sizes for single family and duplex developments, permits non-habitable basements beneath coach houses, reduces setback requirements and improves visibility and accessibility.
- The goal of smaller lots is to modernize lot size regulations to enable more suitable and attainable home ownership options.
- Another goal is to simplify the height envelope, which will improve suites. The complexity of the previous height envelope caused delays in permit processing.
- The idea behind reducing setback requirements is to increase outdoor living areas and improve the streetscape character.
- Next steps include staff training, an update of documents and to the CNV website, Livability Housekeeping Amendments and a Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw project.

Questions/Comments from SPAC:

- None

*T. Parbhakar left the meeting at 6:40 pm and returned at 6:55 pm.*

*6:40 pm – 6:55 pm – Break*

## **6. UPDATES**

- Councillor
  - While campaigning, met with a lot of people in the community and was able to identify some needs.
  - Happy to be part of SPAC and looking forward to listening to SPAC's concerns and taking them forward to Council.
- Staff
  - Have arranged for SPAC to tour North Shore Multicultural Society for our January meeting. We will meet here for dinner, do our committee work, then head there for 6:30 pm.
  - January will be S. Tornes last meeting. Remember that we do elections in February for the chair and vice chair. SPAC members are encouraged to think about running.
  - A report went to Council Monday regarding funding from the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) funding for a project regarding multicultural seniors.
  - SPAC's report to Council on the community grants report also went last Monday. Council endorsed all recommendations and staff will be getting cheques out as soon as possible; staff will be getting in touch with agencies denied. The new Council had great questions and discussion; there may be an opportunity for SPAC to advocate for an increase in the community grants funding budget.
  - Staff have received the annual requests from the core-funded agencies; they also had an opportunity to make requests for additional funding. Staff will sort through these requests and a report will go forward to Council.

**7. ROUND TABLE**

- The City's Christmas Festival is happening at the Shipyards, Saturday, December 1st, 4 – 7 p.m.
- Hollyburn Family Services' Holiday Open House is scheduled for Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 3 – 6 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT – 7:45 p.m.**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING – January 23, 2019**

Steve Jones  
**Chair**

January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019  
**Date**