

## Planning and Development Committee

Tuesday January 16th, 2018

7:00 pm in the Conference Room

**Present:** Susanne Dahlin (chair), Jane Sheil, Jim LeMaistre, Alissa Reed, Christopher Dalton, Paul Mittendorff, Cynthia Low, Levi Higgs, Penny Street, Kevin Cartwright (VMHA), Nick Santorelli (VMHA), Pamela Dudas, Naina Varshney, Annie Danilko, Nancy Strider, Andrew Phillips, Micah Waskow

**Britannia Staff:** Lindsay Grant (recorder), Cynthia Low

### 1 Introductions

### 2 Review of Agenda

- Business arising: Hastings Park Conservancy and Minoru Recreation Facility site visit planning

### 3 Previous Minutes

- Motion to adopt as presented: Levi Higgs/ Seconded: Chris Dalton  
Carried

### 4 Business Arising: Hastings Park Conservancy Visit

- Invitation to committee to visit Hastings Park Conservancy as a local example of an established “rewilding” project
- Sign-up sheet circulated with 3 potential dates for interested committee members
- Final date- Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> 8:30am (bus pickup arranged at Britannia)

### 5 Business Arising: Minoru site visit

- Sign-up sheet circulated
- Trip will be planned for regular business hours (9-5pm Monday- Friday), there will be a follow-up doodle poll for those interested in attending

### 6 Seniors, Elders, and Advocates Committee Report to the PDC

- Key points- the 55+ Centre, and specifically the dedicated lounge provide an important space for lower-income, isolated seniors to drop in and make connections with their peers. The space is welcoming, inclusive, and non-judgemental and performs an important peer-support function despite being “unprogrammed”
- The dedicated space also allows people to remain before and after “programmed” activities like Journeys Around the Circle and hang out. This has become an important place of connection a large diversity of seniors in the community
- The lounge is often full to bursting. A renewed 55+ centre would ideally be a much larger space than what is currently dedicated to accommodate growing usership, an aging

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population and an increasingly frail population. There needs to be room to safely accommodate more people in addition to room for more mobility aids and devices.

- See diagram of current space prepared by BritPlan55+ attached

### 7 Discussion

- Question: What is Journeys Around the Circle?
- Response: Journeys Around the Circle is an inclusive Indigenous Arts and Health drop-in program. It has come to include people of all ages and backgrounds.
- Question: Does the 55+ Centre have only one dedicated staff person?
- Response: Yes there is currently just one dedicated seniors' programmer, Anne. Anne is always very busy and has come to fill the role of social worker as well. Ideally, the 55+ centre would have more staffing, including a programmer and a dedicated social worker.
- Question: Would a renewed 55+ Centre need a dedicated kitchen facility or could it be a shared space?
- Response: The 55+ centre uses the dedicated kitchen facility constantly for shared meals, scheduled seniors lunches, impromptu potlucks, and coffee and tea service. A shared kitchen could work if it was sufficiently close and there was sufficient space and time to support/ increase the amount of food service the 55+ area currently provides.
- *Thanks to Annie for providing an overview and answering our questions on short notice*

### 8 Vancouver Minor Hockey Association Report to PDC (Kevin Cartwright, VMHA President and Nick Santorelli, VMHA Vice President)

- VMHA is a non-profit co-ed minor hockey league running programs for youth ages 5-20. Currently the league has about 550 players.
- Constant theme in delivering minor hockey in Vancouver is lack of ice. The league has been progressively losing 2-4 hours of ice time per year, and is unable to grow due to lack of rink time. Potential players are being turned away and there is a substantial waitlist. VMHA has already moved to ice-sharing, and there is no more room for give. Current ice constraints lead to a bare-minimum hockey program- there are many additional programs and clinics VMHA would like to offer given increased ice time.
- Lack of ice also forces the league to use rinks in Burnaby, and as far as Richmond which is costly and difficult for commuting. The additional costs associated with using outside rinks are downloaded to players, making hockey less affordable.
- VMHA also partners with Britannia to run the concession, the profits of which go to support lower income youths to participate in hockey.
- VMHA is advocating for twinning rinks in the Britannia Renewal. Twinned rinks would increase the availability of ice time, and also allow for Britannia to host tournaments- these could feed into Commercial Drive and would also increase concession revenues. We could consider stacked or adjacent ice sheets on the site. This would also allow more efficient use of the ice plant.

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### 9 Discussion

- Question: Who is ice being lost to?
- Response: VMHA ice time is subsidized, there is also demand from Men's/ Adult's hockey leagues which pay a higher premium. There are also other leagues using ice time (PCHA). VPB also runs its own programming, including public space and learn-to-skate programs. These programs do not run at capacity, whereas VMHA programs are consistently at capacity.
- Question: What is the ratio of boys to girls playing in the VMHA?
- Response: It is around 90% boys currently. We commonly lose girls around age 11 to the Angels Girls Hockey program which is based at Killarney. There are a smaller number of young women who continue on in VMHA and benefit from the athlete development in a competitive league.
- Question: What percentage of the 550 players are from this neighbourhood?
- Response: Exact numbers would require follow up, but estimate 20-25% of players.
- Question: What sort of ice time are you getting at other rinks in the neighbourhood? Trout Lake?
- Response: We receive very little ice time at Trout Lake, around 6-8 hours. We currently use 100 hours in total, 85 hours of which are VPB rinks. The majority of our ice allocation is at Britannia (around 60 hours) followed by Killarney (10 hours).
- Question: How many ice hours would be required to provide everything you VMHA would like?
- Response: Around 123 hours- including time for clinics, learn to skate programming, training, and programs like "First Shift".
- Question: Would opening rinks year-round be beneficial?
- Response: Regularly we run from August- Spring Break. Spring hockey leagues are generally run for-profit, although VMHA has considered offering spring 3-on-3 hockey. We currently run spring training at Britannia and Trout Lake (dry land).
- Question: What is the current ice allocation policy for the Vancouver Park Board?
- Response: The current ice allocation policy has been in place for 15 years. It is based on Hockey Canada recommendations, with some stipulations regarding VPB usage. VPB programming is generally given first priority, followed by minor sports and private groups. VPB is currently allocating the minimum recommended ice allowance to minor hockey.
- Comment: VPB is not supporting adding an additional sheet of ice at Britannia. Recommend VMHA also seek time at an upcoming VPB meeting and encourage league participants to make themselves heard at the upcoming Britannia Renewal Options Open House and Talk Vancouver survey.
- *Thanks to the VMHA for presenting to the group and answering our questions*

### 10 Britannia Renewal Update

- "Options" Open House set for Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-9pm including a community meal.

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- Event will include overview of “Options” and potential components for the site, as well as site usage and facility adjacencies. A Talk Vancouver survey and B-LAB feedback will launch on the same day and be open for 2 weeks after. From the collected Open House, survey, and BLAB responses, the consultant team will develop a preferred option to deliver to council.
- Question: Could we review procedures for getting community feedback after this Open House?
- Response: At the Open House there will be opportunities to speak directly to the consultants, ask questions, and give feedback. There will also be places to post comments and a survey at the event. On the day of the Open House, they will also launch a Talk Vancouver survey which will be shared via the City of Vancouver’s networks and social media, as well as by Britannia. The BLAB will remain open with opportunities to make comments on the options, and there will be outreach to different populations and organizations to solicit additional feedback. This will be a 2-3 week feedback period. The preferred option should be released on the week of April 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Question: What is the deadline to have a master plan ready for inclusion on the capital plan?
- Response: March
- Question: Will there be a construction phasing plan presented as part of this Open House?
- Response: Phasing considerations are more of a technical aspect will be tackled in the “detailed design” phase after the master plan concept design is finalized.
- Question: Can the master plan be altered at the City Council level?
- Answer: This plan can be delayed or changed, especially by future councils (note upcoming election and departure of several sitting council members). It is important that the mobilization of the community continues to push for accountability and representation. The renewal of the Britannia site is also a premise of multiple directions, goals, and recommendations of the Grandview Woodland Community Plan.

### **11 Affordable Housing Definition Addendum**

- Review of the document created by the working group to create a BCSS definition for Affordable Housing.
- Comment: Specifics around tenant allocation percentages are limiting, especially given that there are no unit numbers on the table- remove specific percentages and leave the income limit brackets with the note that a portion of units should be allocated to persons falling under each eligibility based on community demographics
- Comment: Language should be softened- instances of “will” and “shall” should be changed to “should”
- Comment: These definitions are too long and not accessible- should be short and concrete

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### **12 Greenspace Addendum**

- Question: What is wildcraft?
- Response: Term to describe use of plants for medicinal, spiritual, and artistic use. These guidelines are also being reviewed by the Metis herbalist on site for accuracy.
- Comment: Echoing concern above- definitions are overly long and not sufficiently concrete
- Comment: Concern that these specifications are overly ambitious- will there still be sufficient area for the necessary recreation and expansion of other facilities? The majority of people attend Britannia for facilities. Climate- controlled space is also all-season space.
- Comment: The most basic definition should be identified and moved to the top of the document.
- Comment: Typo identified under point iv. "area"

### **13 Close**

- Next meeting February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- Motion to adjourn

**Close- 9pm**