

## Britannia Board Meeting February 14, 2024

### Via Zoom and Conference Room

**PRESENT:** Ama Birch, Tom Chang, Susanne Dahlin, Pamela Dudas, John Flipse, Ariela Friedmann, Farren Gillaspie,, Vera Jones, Norm Leech, Craig Ollenberger, Sam Quastel, Terumi Squibb, Oliver Tennant, Naina Varshney, Maddie Lafleur (VSB), Tim McMillan (VPL), Tom Digby (VPB)

**STAFF:** Cynthia Low, Peter Odynsky, Jeremy Shier, Marina Montiel-Mahseredjian, Kathy Whittam (Recording)

**REGRETS:** Nicki Simpson, Pat Hogan, Rose MacKenzie, Jacky Hughes, Suzette Amaya

### Call to Order

Chair Pamela Dudas called the meeting to order at 6:02PM.

### Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

Norm shared gratitude and acknowledgement of the unceded ancestral lands of the x<sup>w</sup>məθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlílwəta? (Tseil-Waututh) Peoples.

#### 1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Add In Camera for Board members at end of meeting

#### MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA WITH ADDITION

Craig Ollenberger/ Naina Varshney

**CARRIED**

#### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 10, 2024.

Ariela Friedmann/ Farren Gillaspie

**CARRIED**

#### 3. Appointment to the Board

- Still a vacancy on the Board and Craig nominated Norm Leech for the position

#### MOTION TO APPROVE NORM LEECH AS MEMBER OF THE BOARD

Craig Ollenberger/ Susanne Dahlin

**CARRIED**

#### 4. Partner Reports

Vancouver School Board (Maddie Lafleur)

- Started 2<sup>nd</sup> semester and now moving to spring break soon
- Working with Tom & Peter to support getting as many kids into Funseekers as we can
- Ama shared details on Valentines' spirit week with daily activities
- Student council honouring Black History month
- Grade 7 tour on Feb 1 led by older students who did great job interesting

# MINUTES – BOARD



- Capturing interest of students from local elementary schools earlier in the year, with the hopes of increased enrolment
- outcomes for students have been incredible here
- focus on new programs, looking at training and apprenticeship opportunities
- Britannia has the most scholarship opportunities for students of any High School in Vancouver

## Vancouver Park Board (Tom Digby)

- Tom will be our new liaison Commissioner from the Park Board
- Given the new direction of the City, uncertain of future role of Commissioners
- Want to understand the impacts of Park Board on Britannia operations
- Unanimous Park Board decision to advance the Renewal and support Britannia mission, will attend Planning and Development Committee in the near future
- Sophisticated organization helping community in so many ways
- Capital raised will be released that have been on hold during last few years
- focus when seeking election was climate and environment but more interested in how community centres operate
- only centre that reports directly to City of Vancouver Capital funds should go to Renewal and not just repairs and maintenance
- Through the plebiscite residents voted for new Capital funding and money for maintenance should be out of regular maintenance budgets

## Vancouver Public Library (Tim McMillan)

- Tim has been with VPL for 15 years and will now be at Britannia full time and looking forward to working with Britannia community
- Grateful to Julia McKnight and Andrea Galbraith who both did great job acting to fill the role over the summer and fall season
- Connecting Kith & Kin program is a big highlight of the branch with a goal to find more funding to expand availability as the program is in greater demand
- One of the busiest branches in the City

## Canucks Family Education Centre (Jean Rasmussen)

- Package prepared for presentation
- Donika 10 years at Grandview Terrace, prior at Mt Pleasant, prior worked for Jean
- Learned English through CFEC
- Donika's story began with CFEC in 2005, she received her High School Diploma in 2015 and now works as the ECE Assistant at Mount Pleasant.
- Speak to all partners about why we do this, CFEC has been a part of Britannia for over 20 years!
- Integrated services because we believe we're better together
- Barrier free access to learning, parent involvement and support
- Cynthia and the management team are reviewing the partnerships -process in line with program principles, etc

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

### Britannia Foundation

- Jeremy called meeting of the Foundation for Feb 26 at 5:30pm
- Vancity portfolio manager presentation, the Society switched from HSBC to VanCity 8 years ago and it has managed well and ethical investments, 100% fossil fuel free

# MINUTES – BOARD



- Structure to keep some money for things and set aside for future generations
- 2024 year we expect \$100,000 contribution back to the Board Discretionary Budget
- Discussion as to how the Society would access financial support will be on the Foundation agenda.

## 6. OLD BUSINESS

### a. 2024 Priorities & Child Care

- Decision made at December meeting about day care
- City Council, VSB and Park Board have voted in favour of advancing the Britannia renewal
- We are moving forward with the Board decision to integrate the Britannia Hub for the purpose of a stronger voice in child care, consistent quality of care and improved services to the community.
- \$35000 grant approved by the City to proceed with the next step -
- Business case will be developed through process with consultations with Child Care Societies.
- The Society may need additional resources for fees for legal council and developing the Society business plan for new systems.

### b. 5 Year Reconciliation Plan

- Today was the MMIW March
- A lot of programming, partnership with schools
- CCRF funding to be approved, \$150,000
- Increase in Indigenous participation, mostly anecdotal from departments like Aquatics, fitness, health, arts & culture and youth areas
- New partnerships, participants from other organizations starting with relationship building and introduction to Britannia and our programs
- Kyatchen post raising in April

### c. Renewal

- Working Group meeting scheduled to discuss plan to advance the Britannia Renewal.
- Seeking support from different levels of government
- Society is focused on completing Phase 1 of the renewal at a minimum the detailed design for the Aquatics Building
- We need to make sure that the \$17.5M committed to the Renewal will be used for this purpose and not absorbed into maintenance
- Hosting a social with Jim LeMeista on Wednesday March 13 at 1:00 – he helped start the Britannia Renewal over a decade ago.

### d. Policies

- P.7-20

## MOTION TO APPROVE POLICIES AS PRESENTED

Ariela Friedmann/ Farren Gillaspie

CARRIED

## 7. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

### a. Community Recreation Coordinator

# MINUTES – BOARD



- Report p. 21-22
  - Volunteer tax clinic starting Feb 23, Last year processed around 800 returns for low income residents
- b. Executive Director
- Report on p.23
  - Posting curator position after feedback from Hogan's Alley Society, Gallery Gachet and Emily Carr Indigenous Initiatives.
  - Appreciations to the Anti Racism and Anti Oppression committee with strong Board reps, Terumi, Ariela and Naina that are planning the Black History Month activities
  - Expanding partnerships
  - April 21 Solstice event, new partnership with New World theatre
  - They get to use gym D in May for Earth Case Scenario fundraising event
  - Rather than programmers doing programming, developing partnerships with community groups to lead
  - Contacted by Sandra Singh as our new City liaison
  - Had 4 issues: Policies, Britannia Budget, Renewal, Tri Partnership Agreement
- c. Manager of Administrative Services
- Report p.24-40
  - November statements are delayed to be sent to the Finance Committee in March
  - Audit starts on March 18
- d. Manager of Child Care
- Report p.41-42
  - Approval of City of Vancouver grants for next step in Child Care Hub
- e. Manager of Organizational Change
- Report p.43
  - Hiring and orientation of new staff
  - 3 focus groups held to seek input on Elders in residence, 2 adults, 1 youth, led by UBC Student Cecilia Raweater
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- Cynthia follow up on discussion re: communications at last meeting
  - City funds communication assistant for promotion of programs, brochure and other materials, social media
  - Process to begin web overhaul
  - Email threads, need to BCC to protect privacy of Board and community members

## 8. CONSENT ITEMS

**MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT ITEMS AS PRESENTED**  
**Craig Ollenberger/ Terumi Squibb**

**CARRIED**

## 9. MOTION TO GO IN CAMERA

**Craig Ollenberger**

# **MINUTES – BOARD**

**Britannia**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**  
**Craig Ollenberger**