

Britannia Board Meeting March 13, 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, Tim McMillan (VPL), Tom Digby (VPB), Nicky Simpson, Suzette Amaya

STAFF: Cynthia Low, Peter Odynsky, Marina Montiel-Mahseredjian (recording)

REGRETS: Pat Hogan, Rose MacKenzie, Jacky Hughes, Jeremy Shier, Maddie Lafleur (VSB),

Call to Order

Chair Pamela Dudas called the meeting to order at 6:04PM.

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

Cynthia shared gratitude and acknowledgement of the unceded ancestral lands of the x^wməθkwəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlílwəta? (Tsleil-Waututh) Peoples.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Add In Camera for Board members at end of meeting and report from Britannia Skateboard Committee.

**MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA WITH ADDITION
Ariela Friedmann / Nicky Simpson**

CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 10, 2024.
Naina Varshney / Susanne Dahlin**

CARRIED

3. Partner Reports

Vancouver School Board (Cynthia L)

- Britannia Support Society Gala takes place on April 25, 2024
- Tickets are \$175 per person.

Vancouver Park Board (Tom D)

- Tom followed up regarding the renewal, was there any feedback from the city?
- Since no funding has been allocated by the city the renewal probably won't be advanced. The city has requested Britannia provides a list of beautification projects and critical maintenance items.
- Susanne requested a meeting with Tom on behalf of the board to share Britannia's plan for moving forward with the renewal plan.

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- Reminder that the taxpayers voted for funds to be used for the capital renewal of the facility.
- General Parks Board update, the mayor is still determined to abolish the elected parks board.
- The Parks Board most likely won't dissolve until the end of the current term in 2026.
- Tom would appreciate Britannia's support in this matter.

Vancouver Public Library (Tim M)

- The transfer between Tim and Randy switching branch heads is now complete.
- February was a busy month with up to 10% more visitors day to day, Britannia is one of the busiest branches in the VPL.
- Tax Clinics hosted at the library have been a huge success with very positive feedback from the library patrons.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Britannia Foundation AGM

- Britannia Foundation AGM to take place Apr 10 at 6pm, at the beginning of the next Board of Management Meeting.
- Tom Chang and Pamela Dudas are up for re-election.

b. AGM

- Britannia AGM to take place May 22 at 6pm in Gym D
- Constitutional changes include introducing a rotating chair, removing Robert's Rules, making language more flexible and to designate 2 of the 14 members for Indigenous Directors.
- The language is being prepared by the Board of Development Committee
- Society members need to be notified of all changes by the beginning of May.

c. Board Planning Day

- Intention to hold Board Planning Day in October
- Suggestion to hold in late September so priorities can be included in the 2025 budget.

d. 2024 Special Events

- Kayachtn Pole Raising takes place on April 11 at 2pm
 - Suzette spoke on the significance of the request for witnesses at the pole raising. Witnesses are called upon to as keepers of history when an event of historical significance occurs. Witnesses need to be fully present, allowing all their senses to record the details of the event so they can create an oral history and pass on what they have seen and learned, conveying the full experience to others. An additional four volunteers, two male and two female are needed to brush the pole with cedar bows.
 - Board members that are available on Apr 11 to be a witness should email Cynthia with their availability.
- Shine: Intercultural Spring Market takes place on Sunday June 2, 2024
- Mother's Day Pow Wow will happen May 10-12 at Trout Lake
- The Father's Day Pow Wow will take place in June 14-16 at Britannia
- National Indigenous Peoples Day takes place on June 21, 2024

e. 2024 Audit

- Audit scheduled to begin on Monday March 18, 2024

5. OLD BUSINESS

a. 2024 Priorities

- Things continue to move along in the next steps of integration of the childcare Britannia Hub
- Due to staffing issues, we are behind in communications goals like redoing the website.

b. Child Care

- Things continue to move along in the next steps of integration of the childcare Britannia Hub
- Council previously approved \$32,000 to hire a consultant. The recommendation for said hire has moved to the discussion phase with the Childcare societies to make sure process is transparent and that all the goals are aligned.

c. 5 Year Reconciliation Plan

- RIA committee to revise the plan.
 - Received \$20,000 from RBC and \$15,000 from Vancity
 - To date Britannia has applied for \$300,000 in grant funding specifically for funding for Reconciliation
- Working on a strategic plan to hire more Indigenous staff and elevate voices.
- Weaving Community Together is starting to build relationships between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous folks.
- Suzette has spent a lot of time attending many of the programs offered at Britannia to make sure they are safe and welcoming to Indigenous, LGBTQIA2S+ and other marginalized persons.
- Relationship building has put us on a great trajectory.

d. Renewal

- The Renewal Working Group has expanded to include more board members to push forward the renewal.
- The RWG convened last week to advance the Renewal
 - The Tripartite Agreement that formalises the relationship among the Britannia Society, the Vancouver School Board, the City of Vancouver, and the Board of Parks and Recreation needs to be honored.
- Official Indigenous support is need for the renewal process.
 - Suggestion to reach out to Chief Harry from the Squamish Nation
 - Seek support from Metro Vancouver Aboriginal Executive Council (MVAEC), Norm and Michelle George will initiate getting letters of support.
 - Suzette would like to be made aware of the Indigenous Inclusion in the renewal process so she can make the RIA committee aware of these endeavours.
- Copy Tom Digby on renewal plans and he will meet up with Susanne to discuss.

e. Policies

- The proposed policies will go forward to the Board Development Committee and RIA Committee for review, with a projection of being ready to pass in June.

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6. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

- a. Community Recreation Coordinator
 - Report on p. 8-9
 - Registration is up.
 - Starting to plan for the Summer.
 - Shine Spring Market and Indigenous Concert Series
 - Indigenous Youth Worker position to be posted soon.
 - Call for volunteers to become certified Bike Ride Leaders to lead bike riding group rides.
- b. Executive Director
 - Report on p.10
 - The Art Gallery Curator position has been posted.
 - ED would like to recognize the Management Team, (Jacky, Jeremy, Suzette and Peter) and show appreciation for their leadership and compassionate approach to management. They continue to work towards creating a caring and approachable workplace atmosphere.
 - Regarding RayCam and emerging community issues, they have a similar set up to Britannia and we're hoping to build on that relationship ensure that kids from Raycam & Strathcona are supported to participate in aquatics and ice sports.
- c. Manager of Administrative Services
 - Report p.11
 - Almost done wrapping up the year end
 - Continue to onboard new Office Administrator
 - Preparing for the audit scheduled to begin March 18
- d. Manager of Child Care
 - Report p.12-13
 - 2023 Fiscal year end is almost complete.
- e. Manager of Organizational Change
 - Working towards identifying partnerships and building relationships to fill in gaps of service that we currently don't provide.
 - Working with instructors at to Britannia make efforts to create an inclusive space for lgbtqia2s+ and Indigenous folks.
 - More care and consideration around the conversation and implementation of Reconciliation initiatives.
 - Reconciliation is not a threat or a risk, rather an opportunity for enrichment.
 - With a gentle rollout these changes will come about incrementally.

7. CONSENT ITEMS

- a. Britannia Skateboard Committee
 - March 17th Courts Clean Up 10 – 2pm
 - Inspired by Britannia's Skateboard Committee, TJ (a Parks Board Youth Worker) has created their own Skateboard Committee at Hastings Park
- b. Call for directors for The Grandview Woodland Area Council. Craig to forward an email with more info that the committee can send out to prospective members.

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c. Spring Edition 2024 of the Bruin Bulletin was distributed by Managing Editor Ama B.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT ITEMS AS PRESENTED

Naina/Susanne

CARRIED

9. MOTION TO GO IN CAMERA

Craig Ollenberger

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Craig Ollenberger