



Kwayatsut Community Advisory Committee Meeting Notes June 4, 2015

Location: 2465 Fraser St. Vancouver. BC

Invitees Attend: Bold names indicate in attendance

Community Representatives

- **Jocelyne Hamel** MPNH
- Bill Briscall MPNH
- Leyda Molner Kingsgate Mall
- Lynn Warwick MPBIA
- Tina Tews Boys & Girls Club
- Tanniar Leba La Boussole
- **Don Gardener** Strata/Resident
- J-M Toriel Resident
- **Megan Reiter** Resident
- Ed Henderson Resident
- Jaydene Cormier Resident
- Darcy Riddell Resident
- Sam Wood Youth Tenant Rep
- **Don Doucette** Adult Tenant Rep

Partner Representatives

- **Michelle Vernooy** *City of Vancouver*
- Ali Gailus *VPD*
- Jose Abundo *VPD*
- Chris Taulu *Community Policing Centre*
- Partap Sahota(Alternate) *Community Policing Centre*
- **Jim Easte** *Community Policing Centre*
- **Darryl Newton** *Community Policing Centre*
- Teresa Campos *VCH-Raven Song*
- **Justin Loveless** *VCH-Raven Song*
- Justin Sekiguchi *BC Housing*
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Pacific Community Resource Services Rep

- Allison Parker BYRC
- **Paul Chartier** *BYRC Youth Housing Program*
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Vancouver Native Housing Society Representatives

- Dave Eddy *CEO*
- **Jody Puff** *COO*
- **Jack Spitz** *Property Manager*
- **Tamara Stremble** *Building Manager*
- **Robert Wilmot** *Consultant/Minute Taker*

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1. Approval of Minutes



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2. Partner Updates
3. Successes
4. Action Items
5. Other Business
6. Next Meeting

Note: These notes have been prepared to capture the essence of the meeting and are not intended to be a verbatim record. **Community member advice/questions are noted in bold italics.**

1. Approval of Minutes. Minutes approved.

In answer to a CAC member's question **about why minutes and other CAC correspondence was no longer coming from Justine Smoke**, the Chair, Jack Spitz, informed the CAC that Justine had taken a position with another Aboriginal agency. People commented **they had enjoyed working with Justine and wished her well.**

2. Partner Updates

VNHS-

- The building will be having its Grand Opening on Friday June 26 from 11:00am to 3:00pm. It will be a "Block Party" and all are invited to attend. VNHS, MPNH and BYRC are working together to organize the event.
- There have been some more youth move ins/ and move outs.
- A community rep asked **"Is the ratio of youth to adult still the same?"** The response is that the building maintains a 70/30 split and the building maintains the same support level ratios.
- The vacant 2 bedroom suite will be occupied effective July 1.

BC Housing-

- As there wasn't a BCH rep in attendance, no report was provided.

City of Vancouver-

- The City confirmed that La Boussole a community, social aid, employment, information and orientation centre offering services in French to Vancouver's francophone community will be moving into one of the building's main floor Commercial Residential Units(CRU) after it completes Tenant Improvements.
- A local coffee shop/restaurant will be taking the Broadway/Fraser corner CRU and an adjoining CRU.
- 2 CRUs remain available for leasing and the City continues to seek out compatible commercial tenants.
- **A question was raised by a CAC rep regarding the City's Smoking By Law and where the ashtrays purchased by VNHS can be located.**
- **ACTION: The City will forward Smoking By Law details to VNHS.**
- **Information was shared by a CAC rep that a meeting was held with the City's Property Manager about the community's wishes for "good business tenants" and that the City would be using its discretion in this area. A report is going forward to City Council on June 9 in this regard.**
- **Another CAC rep echoed the above and indicated the desire for good, not disruptive, businesses.**
- **MPNH also sent a letter to the City supporting the community's requests for positive commercial tenants.**



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- **A comment was made that the Provincial Government is “cracking down “on pharmacies.**

BYRC-

- The Centre is busy and active.
- This week is “Youth in Care” week and staff from the Office of the Representative for Children and Youth has delivered workshop at the Centre.
- A Job/Hiring Fair sponsored by Starbucks will be held at BYRC on June 16 between 3:00 and 5:00pm.
- **ACTION: BYRC rep will send out more details.**
- BYRC held a Job Fair several weeks ago that attracted more than 180 youth for employment opportunities with 7 employers.
- The PCRS/BYRC Youth Housing team has interviewed youth and conducted assessments to secure new youth participants in the housing programme.
- In response to a question from a CAC rep, BYRC informed that when a youth moves out of housing, BYRC is required to fill the vacancy with another youth with a similar profile and service need.
- In response to a CAC rep’s question **“where do the youth move to?”**, BYRC’s rep informed some youth are successfully reunited with their families, some have been asked to leave and where possible are housed elsewhere within the youth housing continuum, and others leave the City and move elsewhere for personal, employment or other reasons.

VPD-

- As there wasn’t a VPD rep in attendance, no report was provided.

CPC-

- The Provincial Government has initiated an investigation on Bond Pharmacy.
- There is currently a fair amount of theft from vehicles and all are reminded not to leave valuables visible and in the vehicles.
- Otherwise there is currently not a lot of activity.
- In response to a question about **“petty theft in Kingsgate Mall”** the CPC rep noted this information has not been brought to their attention and the CPC rep is stationed at the Mall several days each week.
- The rep also noted that approximately 40% of individuals do not report crimes and he urged people to do so.
- CPC requests the CAC consider holding CAC meetings on a bi monthly basis.
- Another CAC rep noted there had been a report **that a teacher at Mt Pleasant School had been the victim of threatening behaviours** however this again was not reported to police.

VCH-

- No report.

3. Successes

VNHS:

- The Resident Advisory Committee is active and Don is the Committee’s chairperson.



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- The RAC appreciates having a voice at Kwayatsut.
- There is now a well-attended coffee programme from 8:00am to 10:00am 7 days a week.
- There are no building deficiencies.
- The building is fully occupied.
- VNHS and MPNH are collaborating on developing a Breakfast programme 3 days a week.
- VNHS, MPNH and BYRC are working together on some common food security issues.

BYRC-

- BYRC's Community Garden is underway.
- Food program for youth who live in the building and youth accessing the Centre is well attended.
- 7 youth in the housing programme resulted met with VNHS CEO about the Guest moratorium and though they felt heard are still awaiting a response.
- VNHS COO advises that the Society is working on a Guest Policy.
- A Farmer's Market will open as of June 7 at Guelph/Dude Chilling Park.

3. Action Items-

VPD

- No report back.

4. Other Business

MPNH:

- MPNH advises there will be celebrations and workshops at Kingsgate Mall on June 16 starting at 1:00pm to acknowledge "World Elders Abuse Day".
- MPNH invites CAC reps to share information about their events by passing the information along so it can be published in the MPNH newsletter that goes out every couple of weeks to between 800 and 900 recipients.
- VNHS will provide the MPNH newsletter with information about its Grand Opening.
- It was recommended information about the CAC meetings could also be announced in the MPNH newsletter.
- The annual MPNH Community Festival will be held the last Saturday in September (26th) and planning is underway. BYRC and VNHS are invited to participate and the hope is to anchor the stage at Fraser and Broadway.
- The Mount Pleasant Food Network wants to coordinate with VNHS, BYRC, ethnic communities and others on developing secure food systems. They currently have some money to develop an Aboriginal Food Initiative Garden and are working on a Food Justice video.
- Emily Carr School of Design is doing a series of workshops between June and August on engaging the community in Food Justice.

KWAYATSUT RESIDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- The rep indicated he was pleased to be present and to be able to speak and be heard.
- The RAC has concerns about the No Guest Policy as people are lonely, feel isolated and want visitors.



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- RAC members feel that with the exception of the new coffee programme, there haven't been any improvements.
- In response to the above, the COO stated VNHS is moving forward on the Guest Policy and will start with a Day Visitor Policy and expects that will be in place within the next 2 weeks. She further indicated the No Visitor Policy was based on real and significant problems experienced with Guests in other Housing Programmes that were developed as a response to deal with Vancouver's Homelessness issue.
- Community reps indicated they appreciated hearing from the building's RAC and they were interested in seeing how all could work together to focus on solutions and use the talents of the RAC members to resolve issues.
- Some discussion was held on what was appropriate to discuss at the CAC meetings and what may be more appropriate for meetings between Kwayatsut residents and VNHS Management.
- The COO indicated her commitment to communicate directly with residents and that the Society was dedicated to its tenants and asked for some time to work out some kinks and work toward and find solutions.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR POSITION

- In response to a question if the above position, previously held by Justine, would be filled, the answer was yes, though it was noted it is a contracted position that only goes until November so it may be challenging to recruit a candidate for such a short period.

MOVIE IN THE PARK

- Tame the Dragon 1 will be shown on the evening of August 8 at Kingsgate Mall and Tame the Dragon 2 will be shown at sunset in Guelph/Dude Chilling Park on August 15. All are invited.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

**NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 6, 2015
5th FLOOR, KWAYATSUT, AT 2465 FRASER STREET, AT 5:30 PM.**