



Kwayatsut Community Advisory Committee Meeting Notes Nov. 5, 2015

Location: 2465 Fraser Street, 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** 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

Pacific Community Resource Services Rep

- Allison Parker BYRC
- **Paul Chartier** BYRC Youth Housing Program
- Zach Batalden BYRC Youth Housing Program

Vancouver Native Housing Society Representatives

- Dave Eddy CEO
- **Jody Puff** COO
- **Alena Pacuchova** Property Manager
- **Tamara Stremble** Building Manager
- **Margaret Go** QC & Special Projects Manager/Minute Taker
- Robert Wilmot Consultant

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Previous Minutes
3. Partner Updates
4. Successes
5. Action Items
6. Other Business
7. 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.**

The meeting was called to order at 5:44pm by chair Jody Puff.

1. **Approval of Agenda.** Agenda moved by Paul Chartier and seconded by Jocelyne Harmel.
2. **Approval of Minutes.** Tamara Stremble moved to accept the minutes of August 6, 2015 as presented, seconded by Paul Chartier.

3. Partner Updates

a. VNHS

- VNHS recently conducted a walk-through to review deficiencies and warranty items with the general contractor Darwin and trades, Terra Housing and NSDA . The report is expected to be finalized by end of next week and presented to Darwin. The repairs of warrantable items are expected to be completed in 2-3 weeks.
- There is currently one vacant unit. The unit will be occupied by December 1st.
- Programs:
 - WorkBC Employment Services Centre held an information session on October 15th to connect tenants to employment & career opportunities, career advice & planning, resume support, etc. PCRS is willing to provide employment support on a regular basis if desired. The support has been scheduled on monthly basis.
 - On October 12, a Thanksgiving turkey dinner was held with 80-90 people in attendance. The youth centre accommodated their kitchen for the event.
 - In partnership with MPNH, the application for funding of the Breakfast Club is being finalized
 - Other programs include Tea with Elders, Cedar Weaving, Computer Literacy, Games Night, Writing program (tenants written stories will be presented to audience outside of Kwayatsut)
 - Art program – tenants will showcase their art at Art Show at Kwayatsut and other buildings managed by VNHS and / or galleries outside of VNHS
 - A Christmas dinner is in the planning stage. This may be held after Christmas since this is a painful time for many tenants. VNHS is tapping partners to come up with Christmas baskets for the tenants.
 - VNHS is meeting with BYRC on weekly basis to discuss any questions or concerns in regards of the youth residing in the building.
 - Lens Crafters will provide glasses for tenants free of charge for tenants who need them

b. BYRC

- The centre has been busy in summer. In August, there was a trip to water slides in Chilliwack.
- September saw a lot of youth go back to school.

- The cook had to shift her schedule because of school. Adults and kids volunteer in the kitchen. BYRC is trying to get money into the kitchen.
- A Gratitude Dinner (instead of Thanksgiving Dinner) was held with 30-40 people in attendance.
- The SHIFT program ended. A new round will start in a month on hospitality and warehousing. 6 youths graduated on the 1st round.
- McCreary Foundation presentation of results of study done on the state of street and homeless youth in the Vancouver. Youth at BYRC invited to attend and provide comments to the McCreary presenter. Nov 10 5-6:30 pm.
- As part of the build up to the Winterfest Celebration at BYRC on Dec 15 2015, BYRC will again be receiving donations from the Xmas gift tree at the Kingsgate mall. Cards on the gift tree have suggested gift ideas for youth by gender identification and age that patrons of the mall can purchase on behalf of BYRC Winterfest.
- Ungala dinner will be held at a date early in the new year (to be announced) in recognition of one of BYRC funders and their contribution to the Youth Housing Programs.
- Raising the Roof/ Toque Tuesday event will be on Feb 2, 2016 at the Heartwood Café, 317 East Broadway. BYRC asking to support this cafe that offers up space for community meetings and strives to create a safe social environment for the LGBTQ2S community.
- The youth in the building is nearing their 1st year anniversary. They are being prepared for their coming anniversary. Several challenges have been encountered in dealing with young people with trauma. There has been a fair amount of acting out.
- Some move outs occurred. There has been a bit of turnover. There is difficulty moving someone to another housing program.
- A 2-bedroom suite has been filled.
- One suite is vacant. This is a damaged unit that needs repair.
- VATs went well the last time it was held.

c. MPHC

- The pilot project of BYRC & La Boussole – feasibility study to create opportunity to recover food program.
- Consultants were hired for this. Report will be available end of March.

d. La Boussole

- Building permit for two CRUs at Kwayatsut was obtained to start renovation.
- Renovation is on going. Occupancy will be Jan. 1st, 2016
- A Christmas dinner will be held at MPHC on Dec. 22, 2015.
- CBC French Radio Canada will do a live broadcast on Nov. 27, 7am – 7:30pm featuring La Boussole.
- La Boussole is creating awareness on Twitter and Facebook that they are moving to their new home - “We Are Moving”
- A question was raised on who has control of the cameras. It was suggested that La Boussole should contact VNHS Property Manager through the building manager Tamara Stremble if they need to review video footage. Form will need to be filled out before viewing the footage. It was noted that the system overwrites data every 60 days.

e. VCH - Raven Song

- Teresa Campos has been coordinating with Christine Wilson of VNHS to set up a tour of the building.

- They have an outreach team comprised of practitioners, nurses, counsellors, etc. who engage the folks who will not come on their own. The team goes out to different supportive housing buildings.

f. CPC

- The team is still conducting Meet and Greets.
- Constable Warren Buttermann has replaced Sgt Randy Regush. Sgt Ragush now works for Transit Police.
- They are finding that there is still a lot of underreporting, people still are not phoning in to report to the city or the police.
- Patrol has been going well.

g. City of Vancouver

- Two CRU's are undergoing tenant improvement. One tenant will operate a coffee shop / deli and another tenant is La Boussole; with the operation starting on January 1, 2016.
- There has been some interest from parties to rent other CRU's.

4. Successes

- The Chair shared that VNHS got together with Kettle to see what they are doing in their MOU sites. It was a very good learning experience where information was shared.
- VNHS continues to recruit new hires to ensure that there are enough staff to run the building 24/7. There has been some good candidates.
- VNHS met with Ritta of Terra Housing and Ruby Chow of BC Housing. There is left over money that will be used for capital expenditures such as a BBQ for the 5th floor and expansion of office space.
- The tenants are doing very well.
- The thanksgiving dinner was a huge success. There were plenty of left overs which tenants were able to partake the day after.
- Tenants and staff are generally excited about Christmas
- Some tenants are making art in their suites.
- The fact that no community members are unhappy is a success in and of itself. VNHS was able to address issues and concerns of the community and able to build a harmonious relationship in the neighborhood.

5. Action Items

- Since the Terms of Reference of one year has been satisfied, it was proposed that the CAC meeting frequency be reduced to every 6 months. There have been 7 meetings to date, and issues have been dealt with.
- **All recipients of the minutes will be advised of the proposed meeting frequency to be held every 6 months. This proposed meeting frequency would not preclude the ability or need to have ad hoc meetings at any point should an issue arise that dictates this to be necessary.**
- **Margaret Go will track all responses from CAC members. mgo@vnhs.ca**
- Any issues in regards with the store front has to be directed to the City of Vancouver Real Estate Department.

6. Next Meeting

There being no more items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50pm. Next meeting is **proposed** to be held on May 4, 2016.