

North Shore Advisory Committee on Disability Issues

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD OCTOBER 30, 2008 AT 5:00 P.M.
 DNV Municipal Hall, Committee Room
 355 West Queens, North Vancouver, BC

IN ATTENDANCE: John Bannister
 Janet Becker
 Christy Campbell (until 7:07pm)
 Jean Chambers, Vice Chair
 Aranka Lukacs
 Robert Norcross
 Cheryl Nordstrom (until 7:18pm)
 Michael Pattenaude, Chair
 Judith Power
 Debby Speight
 Rosamund van Leeuwen
 Brigitte Vogelsang
 Councillor Jean Ferguson DWV (until 7:11pm)
 Councillor Bob Heywood, CNV (until 6:52pm)

Staff: Claudia Freire, Staff Support, DWV
 Phil Chapman, Staff Liaison, DNV
 Heather Sadler, Staff Liaison, CNV
 Vanessa Drake, Committee Clerk, DNV

ABSENT: Councillor Mike Little, DNV

A quorum being present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm

1. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made around the table.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There being no objection, it was agreed the agenda be approved as amended.

Added: Item 4.13 Publication Committee
 Item 4.14 TransLink/HandyDART
 Item 4.15 DNV Accessible Playground
 Item 5.3 CBC News Item on Disability Parking

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the ACDI meeting held September 25, 2008 were approved as circulated.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES and WORKING GROUPS AND SUBCOMMITTEES

The ACDI received copies of the "Climate Goals" document circulated at the table. The Chair reviewed the goals which relate to conduct at meetings and requested that they be remembered for the conduct of each meeting.

4.1 City of North Vancouver

4.1.1 Council Watch

Jean Chambers advised that the initial proposed Extra Foods hi rise development at Lonsdale and 17th had been rejected by City Council.

Councillor Heywood provided background on the reasons for this decision and reported that a revised development proposal had been passed that kept within the OCP level.

He added that Extra Foods would be providing transportation from the Lonsdale location to the Extra Foods store in Park Royal for the eighteen month duration that the Lonsdale store is expected to be closed.

4.1.2 CNV Library Walkthrough

Michael Pattenaude reported that he, Jean Chambers, and Janet Becker had accompanied Heather Sadler and Glenn Stainton, Project Manager, on an accessibility tour of the new City Library and had found it to be a very good facility. Ms. Sadler has a list of items that she will be following up on with staff that include:

- The number of accessible parking stalls
- Accessibility to the gated parking on the second level of the parking garage
- Modifications to the doors on the family washroom, these are very heavy to open
- Looping of the meeting room
- Rearrangement of the audio visual room to improve accessibility

4.2 District of West Vancouver

4.2.1 Council Watch

Brigitte Vogelsang reported that construction of the Evelyn Drive development has been delayed until spring 2009 because of problems with the grade and drainage of the site during the wet winter months. Councillor Ferguson confirmed this was the case and advised that in the meantime the developer will be improving the appearance of the exterior of the north east corner of the development.

Construction will soon begin on the section of the Spirit Trail from Pound Road in Ambleside Park to 13th Street.

4.3 District of North Vancouver

4.3.1 Council Watch

Aranka Lukacs referred to her written report that was previously circulated. There were no questions arising.

4.4 Transportation

4.4.1 DNV TPAC (Transportation Planning Advisory Committee)

Michael Pattenaude provided an update of TPAC activities as follows:

Spirit trail update: TPAC received a presentation on the District Spirit Trail and the proposed alignment options for the Western Section as discussed at the public open house held on October 1, 2008.

Capilano University U-Pass Program: TransLink is moving forward with the U-Pass Program with implementation expected in January 2009. In response to the concerns raised regarding reduced accessibility for local residents and those with disabilities TransLink will retain the all day #239 service along Purcell Way and will move the three other routes to Lot #5, including the #255 from West Vancouver (being extended from Lynn Valley), which will become an all day service.

Roadway Classification Review: this forms part of the DNV Transportation Plan.

ACTION: Michael Pattenaude to forward minutes of the October 2nd TPAC meeting to ACDI members for information.

4.5 APS (Audible Pedestrian Signal)

Rosamund van Leeuwen provided an update on APS activities as follows:

CNV: - Ms. Van Leeuwen and Ms. Speight met with City Traffic Engineering staff to discuss priority locations for APS. Developers will be responsible for installing APS at locations where new developments are taking place. Staff will continue to work from the list as agreed upon with the ACDI with one new APS being installed every two years.

Proposed locations for APS at new development sites include:

- Esplanade and Chesterfield anticipated for 2009
- 14th & Chesterfield anticipated for late 2009 or early 2010
- Marine Drive & Hanes Avenue – 2010
- Lonsdale & 17th – 2014

Under the capital budget the priorities are as follows:

- 3rd & St. Georges
- 19th & Lonsdale
- 3rd & Chesterfield
- MacKay Avenue & Marine Drive
- 23rd & St. Georges

13th & St. Georges: unit has been ordered and is anticipated to be installed by the end of this year.

Mr. Chapman advised that changes to the Local Government Act implemented under Bill 27 allow for municipalities to vary or exempt off-street parking requirements for new developments based on the transportation needs associated with the development. The bill allows municipalities to deposit cash in-lieu of off-street parking into a reserve fund for the purposes of providing alternative transportation infrastructure that supports walking, cycling, accessibility etc. This presents an opportunity for the ACDI to seek funding for new APS units.

Mr. Chapman suggested the APS Sub-Committee expand the list of locations for new APS and distribute it to the tri municipalities so that staff is aware of the priorities when these funding decisions are made.

DNV: - ACDI members met with Traffic Engineers to set audible volumes at the following locations:

Lynn Valley Road & Mountain Highway - (It was noted that due to the multiple roads at this intersection and the high volume of traffic even with an APS it is a very difficult intersection for someone with a sight disability to cross)

Mountain Highway & Harold Road

Model X units are to be installed at Whitely Court & 27th and at Lonsdale Avenue and Osborne.

The issue of improving accessibility to District Hall from the westbound bus stop on the north side of West Queens Road is being reviewed. Any suggestions for improvement are welcomed and should be directed to District engineering staff.

DWV: - No report

4.6 Provincial Adaptable Housing Standards

In response to the motion passed at the September 25th ACDI meeting on the Provincial Adaptable Housing Standards, the Chair clarified that it is not within the jurisdiction of the ACDI to write directly to the Provincial or Federal governments but that the committee needs to go through each of the Councils. Due to the tight timeline for submission, the comments were not submitted directly to the Provincial Government but were included under the "Other Information" section with a preamble that the ACDI would be forwarding these comments to the respective North Shore Councils.

Ms. Freire read a copy of the letter prepared for each Mayor and Council on the Provincial Adaptable Housing Guidelines. It was agreed that the letter be forwarded to each Council.

ACTION: Chair to forward letter re Proposed Provincial Adaptable Housing Standards to each of the North Shore Councils.

4.7 Recruitment Sub Committee

Ms. Freire advised membership of the recruitment sub committee is renewed every fall and asked for volunteers. In accordance with the Terms of Reference membership of the committee includes the ACDI Chair, the Staff Support and two other members. Cheryl Nordstrom and Christy Campbell volunteered to join the sub committee.

Ms. Freire will contact sub committee members regarding setting up interviews for the two applicants on file.

Ms. Freire also circulated a draft recruitment advertisement for Committee approval. The application deadline is set for January 19th 2009. The advertisement will appear in the DWV "Tidings" and CNV "City Views" on various dates in November and hopefully again in January. Ms. Sadler agreed to ask that it also be added to the City webpage. The District has already placed advertisements for volunteers for all advisory committees. Mr. Chapman agreed to contact District staff re further advertising in the District Dialogue and on the webpage.

Members were asked to distribute copies of the recruitment poster indicating on a circulated list and/or via email the locations they would cover.

ACTION: Mr. Chapman to follow up with District staff re further advertising for new ACDI members in the District Dialogue and on the website.

ACTION: Committee Clerk to mail copies of the recruitment poster to committee members for distribution.

Ms. Freire asked if, in the light of the apparent misunderstanding by some members regarding the motion on changes to the Terms of Reference at the September 25th meeting, members wished to reconsider the motion.

MOVED by Jean Chambers, seconded by Aranka Lukacs and **CARRIED**

THAT the ACDI reconsider the vote on the following resolution:
“**THAT** the ACDI reaffirm the existing Terms of Reference for committee membership by retaining clause 6b Notwithstanding Clause 3, that “an extension beyond six consecutive years may be granted where the waiting list for Committee membership is exhausted and the membership is not at capacity.”

Ms. Freire circulated notes explaining the motion and confirmed that everyone understood the motion.

MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED

THAT the ACDI reaffirm the existing Terms of Reference for committee membership by retaining clause 6b Notwithstanding Clause 3, that “an extension beyond six consecutive years may be granted where the waiting list for Committee membership is exhausted and the membership is not at capacity.

4.8 Pacific Shooting Association

Michael Pattenaude read a letter received from Mr. Carline, CAO of Metro Vancouver, in reply to ACDI concerns about the closure of the Pacific Shooting Association Range in North Vancouver.

Mr. Pattenaude advised that he will be contacting Mayor Mussato in the upcoming week to see if he will write to Mr. Carline in support of keeping the range open and informed that Mayor Walton has already sent a letter to Mr. Carline in support.

Mr. Pattenaude noted that the ACDI has done as much as they can through the Councils and that the committee does not have the capacity within its terms of reference to do any more. He advised that individuals may write to the media independently of their membership on the ACDI if they wish.

4.9 Disability Signage

John Bannister advised Robert Norcross has joined the disability signage working group and the group is working on collecting and collating data on municipal signage throughout the community with a view to establishing consistency and clarity. The working group will produce a report with their recommendations to the ACDI.

Mr. Chapman advised that when dealing with signage in the private sector the best approach would be to encourage businesses to follow the municipal bylaws rather than to work with them separately.

Councillor Heywood left the meeting at 6:52pm during the previous discussion.

The meeting moved to Item 5.3 on the agenda at this point.

5.3 CBC News Item on Disability Parking

Mr. Bannister informed that the CBC National News recently aired a feature recording extreme misuse and illegal parking in a disabled parking stall in Edmonton. Mr. Bannister noted that this offers an excellent opportunity to follow up with the CBC and further educate the public on this issue.

The meeting returned to Item 4.10 North Shore Measuring Up.

4.10 North Shore Measuring Up

DNV - Ms. Chambers reported that members of the ACDI, some staff and Councillor Little attended the North Shore Measuring Up Workshop at the Holiday Inn Hotel on October 29th which addressed many issues including housing and accessible tourism. The event was very well attended and included a proclamation from Mayor Walton.

DWV: The Policy Group is working on updating the 2004 Council policy on accessibility and is trying to establish a clear and inclusive definition of accessibility that is broad enough to include individuals using strollers and also multiculturalism.

A member of the Business Outreach Group is continuing to train with a representative from Accessible Tourism in order to grade restaurants and stores on their level of accessibility for those with physical, hearing and visual impairments.

Mr. Pattenaude advised that John Neumann, Executive Director of the North Shore Disability Resource Centre has some funding available and has asked for some volunteers to help brainstorm suitable projects. Anyone interested in volunteering to contact Michael Pattenaude.

4.11 2008 Annual Report and 2009 Work Plan and Budget

The Chair reported he is awaiting input from Working Group and Sub Committee Chairs before being able to proceed with the Annual Report and Work Plan.

4.12 Christmas Social

Michael Pattenauade advised the Christmas Social will be held on Friday, December 12th at 6:30pm at Summerhill House, 135 West 15th Street, North Vancouver.

It is proposed that everyone be asked to contribute a non perishable food item for the Food Bank. Participation in the gift exchange is optional.

Ms. Campbell left the meeting at 7:07pm

4.13 Publication Sub Committee

Jean Chambers noted that the Accessible Literature brochure still needs to be updated. It was agreed to review all the ACDI brochures to determine what updates, if any are required.

Robert Norcross volunteered to join the existing members of the publication sub committee.

In response to an inquiry It was agreed that copies of the parking brochure might also be distributed at any large location at the same time as the recruitment posters are handed out.

ACTION: Committee Clerk to include copies of the Parking Brochure with distribution of the recruitment notices and to also present figures on brochure inventory at the next meeting.

4.14 Translink/HandyDART

The Chair advised that the agreement between TransLink and MVTA regarding assumption of HandyDART services in the Lower Mainland has been finalized.

4.15 DNV Accessible Playground

Mr. Pattenauade advised that construction of the Accessible Playground at Cates Park has taken place and that Ms. Girard apologized for not being able

to seek ACDI help with this. However she welcomes help from ACDI members with planting in the trails next spring.

Councillor Ferguson left the meeting at 7:11pm and thanked the ACDI for the excellent contribution they make to the community and noted that Mayor and Council appreciate all that they do.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Review of Meeting Etiquette

The Chair reviewed meeting etiquette for the benefit of running a well ordered meeting.

5.2 Advocacy & Handling Issues with Other Levels of Government

Mr. Pattenaude referred to Attachment 4.9 "Advisory Committees' Advocacy Role" and Attachment 5.1 "Advisory Committee Planning Day Report, August 2003" to outline the difference between an advocacy and advisory role for the ACDI. He noted that the ACDI role is purely that of an advisory Committee to the tri Councils and that it is the role of the Councils to decide if they wish to advocate on behalf of the committee to higher levels of government.

It was noted that since the Terms of Reference do not include mention that the ACDI role is limited to working directly through municipal governments that it would be useful to include the two referenced attachments in the member binders.

ACTION: Committee Clerk to include Advisory Committees' Advocacy Role document and the "Advisory Committee Planning Day Report August 2003" in the Member binders.

Ms. Nordstrom left the meeting at 7:18pm during the previous discussion.

6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED NOT RELATED TO OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

Correspondence received as listed on October 30, 2008 agenda.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.

8. QUESTION PERIOD

Deferred

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

10. NEXT MEETING:

**NEXT MEETING DATE - THURSDAY, November 27, 2008
AT 5:00pm
DISTRICT OF NORTH VANCOUVER HALL, COMMITTEE ROOM**

11. ADJOURNMENT - the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm

Certified Correct:



Chair

Committee Clerk