

**MINUTES**  
**OPEN COMMUNITY VITALITY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**BOARD ROOM, SERVICE AND RESOURCE CENTRE**  
**411 DUNSMUIR STREET, NANAIMO, BC**  
**WEDNESDAY, 2017-MAY-03, AT 4:30 P.M.**

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**PRESENT:**    **Members:**    Councillor G. W. Fuller, Chair  
                                 Councillor M. D. Brennan  
                                 Dennis McMahon  
                                 Erin Hemmens  
                                 Ingrid Sly  
                                 Paula Waatainen (vacated at 5:49 p.m.)  
                                 Rob McGregor (arrived at 4:46 p.m.)

**Absent:**        Councillor J. Hong  
                                 Councillor W. M. Yoachim  
                                 Michele Green

**Staff:**            Bruce Anderson, Manager, Community and Cultural Planning  
                                 Chris Barfoot, Culture & Heritage Coordinator  
                                 John Horn, Social Planner  
                                 Karin Kronstal, Social Planner  
                                 Peggi Humphreys, Recording Secretary

**1.        CALL COMMUNITY VITALITY COMMITTEE MEETING TO ORDER:**

The Open Community Vitality Committee Meeting was called to order at 4:33 p.m.

**2.        INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS**

- (a)       D. McMahon advised that he would be bringing forward an item under Other Business regarding electing a vice-chair for the committee.
- (b)       D. McMahon advised that he would be bringing forward a Notice of Motion regarding a review of *A Cultural Plan for a Creative Nanaimo 2013-2020*.

**3.        ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

It was moved and seconded that the Agenda, as amended, be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

**4.        ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Open Meeting of the Community Vitality Committee held in the Board Room, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Wednesday, 2017-APR-05 at 4:30 p.m. be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

5. PRESENTATIONS:

(a) 2017 Strategic Directions for the Community Vitality Committee

B. Anderson introduced the 2017 Strategic Directions for the Community Vitality Committee approved at the 2017-APR-24 Council meeting. He explained that items considered by the Community Vitality Committee should fall within the scope of the strategic directions, which are related to Council's strategic plan. The role of the Committee could include any of the following: making recommendations, participating in steering committees, receiving information on current issues and providing feedback, sharing resources; educating the community. Discussion of items on the agenda and new items brought forward by committee members is welcome.

(b) 2017 Temporary Public Art

C. Barfoot provided a presentation regarding the 2017 Temporary Public Art Program. New temporary art works are in the process of being installed in preparation for Public Art Week, May 8-12. The temporary nature of the artwork is beneficial to tourists and Nanaimo residents alike. It enhances public space for a minimal investment, allows for feedback as to what the public likes in consideration of future permanent acquisitions, and the pieces can be more creative and adventurous since they are not permanent. Chris offered to host a tour for committee members once all the new artwork is installed.

(c) Social Planning Grant Program

J. Horn provided a presentation regarding the Social Planning Grant Program available to non-profit societies and recognized religious organizations. Social Development Grants totalling \$60,000 and Community Service Grants of \$25,000 are available annually for projects falling under the categories of social equity, community diversity, wellness, and vibrant neighbourhoods. The program objectives under these categories are broader than in past years with the goal being to accommodate a wide range of creative ideas from the community. The grants can be allocated to single projects or split amongst multiple organizations, as considered case by case. Staff will review grant applications and criteria for presentation to the Finance and Audit Committee, who will make final recommendations to Council.

6. REPORTS:

(a) Revised Social Development Strategy

J. Horn distributed an updated *Social Development Strategy* document that had been revised by staff in 2013 but has yet to be endorsed formally. He asked for committee members to review and provide comment on the document.

(b) Affordable Housing Strategy – Terms of Reference

K. Kronstal provided a presentation regarding the Affordable Housing Strategy that is currently being established. The final strategy will be a guiding document to help Council make strategic decisions regarding housing issues in the future. In the past, Nanaimo's planning staff has capitalized on opportunities as they occurred and counts many successes in this area over the past ten years. These include the establishment of low barrier housing in partnership with the provincial government; providing support to organizations building affordable housing facilities through land and services contributions; and, improving zoning provisions to encourage contributions from developers. With a formal Affordable Housing Strategy in place, a more focused, strategic approach to these issues can be established for even greater gains in the future. One representative of the Community Vitality Committee will be appointed to serve on a Steering Committee to provide direct input into finalizing the Affordable Housing Strategy. There will also be multiple opportunities for public engagement. It is anticipated it will take 15 months or longer to complete the process.

P. Waatainen vacated the Board Room at 5:49 p.m.

7. OTHER BUSINESS:

(a) Election of a Vice Chair for the Community Vitality Committee

By unanimous consent the committee members determined that a Vice Chair position be established for the Community Vitality Committee, as allowed within the committee's Terms of Reference. Dennis McMahon was the sole nominee for the Vice Chair position.

It was moved and seconded that Dennis McMahon be appointed as Vice Chair of the Community Vitality Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

8. NOTICE OF MOTION:

- (a) D. McMahon advised that he will be bringing forward the following motion for consideration at the Regular Meeting of the Community Vitality Committee to be held 2017-JUN-07:

"Whereas on 2014-MAR-10, the City has adopted *A Cultural Plan for a Creative Nanaimo 2013-2020*;

Whereas the actions recommended in this document have not been prioritized;

Whereas this document has not been updated in three years:

Be it resolved that *A Cultural Plan for a Creative Nanaimo 2013-2020* be added to the 2017 Annual Strategic Directions for the Community Vitality Committee as Item 13; and,

Be it further resolved that the Committee devise a strategy to review, update and prioritize the plan with recommendations to City Council for inclusion in the City's Cultural and Financial Plan."

9. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 5:53 p.m. that the meeting terminate. The motion carried unanimously.

  
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CHAIR

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

  
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CORPORATE OFFICER