

MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
SHAW AUDITORIUM, VANCOUVER ISLAND CONFERENCE CENTRE,
80 COMMERCIAL STREET, NANAIMO, BC
MONDAY, 2019-OCT-28, AT 4:30 P.M.

Present: Councillor J. Turley, Chair
Mayor L. Krog
Councillor S. D. Armstrong
Councillor D. Bonner
Councillor T. Brown
Councillor B. Geselbracht
Councillor E. Hemmens
Councillor Z. Maartman
Councillor I. W. Thorpe

Staff: J. Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer
R. J. Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture
D. Lindsay, General Manager, Development Services
B. Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works (arrived
4:33 p.m.)
K. Fry, Fire Chief
A. Groot, Director, Facilities and Parks Maintenance
L. Bhopalsingh, Manager, Community & Cultural Planning
M. Koch, Parks & Open Space Planner
R. Lawrance, Environmental Planner
M. Desrochers, Technical Support Specialist - Network
S. Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services
S. Snelgrove, Recording Secretary

1. CALL THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING TO ORDER:

The Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order at 4:32 p.m.

B. Sims entered the Shaw Auditorium at 4:33 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

(a) Remove Agenda Item 5(c) – Boathouse and Paddling Centre Presentation.

It was moved and seconded that Agenda Item 6(d) - Delegation from Nanaimo BMX Association be moved forward on the agenda to follow Adoption of the Minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

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

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES:

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held in the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Monday, 2019-JUL-15 at 4:30 p.m. be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

5. DELEGATIONS:

(a) Delegation from Nanaimo BMX Association

Keir Graaten, Nanaimo BMX Association, requested \$35,000 in order to fund an infrastructure upgrade and community development project proposed for the Marie Davidson BMX Park. He spoke regarding the value of the park in the community, the inclusiveness of the organization and that the new design will make the sport safer for riders and allow the group to host larger events.

It was moved and seconded that the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council refer the request from the Nanaimo BMX Association for \$35,000 for infrastructure upgrades to the Marie Davidson BMX Park to Staff to prepare a report for Council consideration as Council enters budget deliberations for this year. The motion carried unanimously.

6. PRESENTATIONS:

(a) Dr. Poteryko, Medical Director, Nanaimo Community, and Dr. Bell, Nanaimo Think Tank

Dr. Poteryko and Dr. Bell provided a presentation regarding community health which included:

- Benefits of cognitive behavioural therapy
- Nanaimo Regional General Hospital at capacity with more patients than beds
- Mental health crisis in Nanaimo with over 1000 patients waiting to see a psychiatrist
- Child poverty in Nanaimo
- Primary care office closures and access to primary care in the south end of Nanaimo
- Various programs such as Nanaimo family physician home visit program, Food 4U program, sponsored Nanaimo Walk with the Doc program, teen stress/anxiety group, youth wellness centre
- Friendship benches in Zimbabwe and bringing the program to Nanaimo
- Specialist Think Tank organization which represents the medical community with the purpose to come together to identify what they see the needs are in Nanaimo, to revitalize and encourage revitalization of family practice in Nanaimo, to prevent physician burnout and provide access to family doctors

Committee discussion took place regarding:

- Access for mental health for children under 12
- Advocating for health resources in the Nanaimo region
- Ageing demographics and civic infrastructure

(b) Mr. Kim Smythe, CEO, Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce, Presentation re: Field Surveys

Kim Smythe provided a presentation regarding findings and recommendations of the impact on businesses and residents related to homelessness and social disorder which included:

- Frustration rising to record levels as social disorder related to homelessness increases
- Increasing criminal activity related to increased drug and substance abuse
- Chamber responded to impact on business community by establishing impact survey of those within 1 km of tent city and has subsequently targeted businesses near Labieux shelter site
- Downtown night market launched in June 2018 to shine a positive light on city centre
- Impact on economic prosperity and attractiveness as a business destination

Committee discussion took place regarding:

- Upcoming meeting with the Honourable Minister Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Minister of Citizens' Services regarding the seriousness and challenges Nanaimo is facing
- Ability to attract businesses
- Jobs for those who have completed rehabilitation
- Priorities the City can work on

Councillor Armstrong vacated the Shaw Auditorium at 5:52 p.m.

(c) Dr. Natarajan, Cardiologist, Nanaimo Regional General Hospital, provided a presentation regarding Cardiac Care in Nanaimo

- Representing Medical Staff Association in Nanaimo Regional General Hospital (NRGH)
- Emphasis on a Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory (cath lab) and primary angioplasty where angiograms and stents are completed
- Causes of heart attacks, how they are diagnosed and how they are treated
- Urgency of time sensitivity for stenting after a heart attack
- Consequences and damage to the heart from heart attacks
- Density of cath labs in the UK compared to British Columbia
- Benefits of having a cath lab locally
- Cath labs allocated at Provincial level

Councillor Armstrong returned to the Shaw Auditorium at 6:17 p.m.

5. DELEGATIONS (continued):

(b) Delegation from Daniel Appell regarding Planning Process

Daniel Appell provided a presentation regarding:

- P.R.E.P (Propose, Research, Engage, Present)
- Evidence based and transparent method for planning
- PREP method presents a useful document in order for decision makers to make decisions in a proper way
- Everything which the planner knows is presented
- Proposal is researched and validity is looked for
- Public is thoroughly engaged and asked to contribute to the process
- Other kinds of experiences related to the land from the public are considered
- Acceptable for presentation to be different than proposal as engagement is considered

The Committee of the Whole meeting recessed at 6:25 p.m.

The Committee of the Whole meeting reconvened at 6:38 p.m.

Councillors Geselbracht and Maartman returned to the Shaw Auditorium at 6:39 p.m.

(c) Delegation from Rory Warnock regarding Heart & Stroke Foundation BIG BIKE Municipal Challenge

Rory Warnock spoke regarding the Heart & Stroke Foundation BIG BIKE Municipal Challenge planned for May 2020:

- Research grant with University of Victoria Neurobiology lab
- Heart to Heart program with NRGH
- Heart Smart Kids education program
- Requested endorsement of concept and for Council and City Staff to participate
- Team building event and chance for employee engagement

(d) Delegation from Rick Hyne regarding the Opioid Crisis

Rick Hyne spoke regarding:

- Crankshaw Holdings took over the Living Room in 2006
- Living Room provides support for patients living with addiction
- Building sees 500 patients a week and is home to 7 doctors
- There is potential to use space as possible youth centre or low barrier clinic
- Rebranded to Centre One which will be a single point of contact for those suffering from opioid dependence

7. REPORTS:

(a) East Wellington Park Management and Action Plan Update

Introduced by Richard Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture.

Presentation:

1. Madeline Koch, Parks and Open Space Planner, and Rob Lawrance, Environmental Planner, provided a presentation regarding potential uses for the park, implementation actions and a concept site plan.

It was moved and seconded that the Committee of the Whole recommend Council direct Staff to:

- hold an open house at the park and post the draft East Wellington Park Management and Action Plan to the City of Nanaimo's website to gather public input;
- submit a non-farm use application to the Agricultural Land Reserve for park development; and,
- report back to Council with the final draft plan.

The motion carried unanimously.

(b) 2019 Community Action Initiative Community Wellness and Harm Reduction Grant Application

Introduced by Dale Lindsay, General Manager, Development Services and Lisa Bhopalsingh, Manager, Community & Cultural Development.

It was moved and seconded that the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approve the City of Nanaimo's application to the 2019 Community Action Initiative Community Wellness & Harm Reduction Grant for \$50,000 for the purpose of supporting a peer-run skills and employment program. The motion carried unanimously.

8. QUESTION PERIOD:

There was no one in attendance to ask questions.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 7:27 p.m. that the meeting terminate. The motion carried unanimously.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

CHAIR

CORPORATE OFFICER