

MINUTES
GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
BOARDROOM, SERVICE AND RESOURCE CENTRE,
411 DUNSMUIR STREET, NANAIMO, BC
MONDAY, 2020-FEB-24, AT 1:00 P.M.

Present: Acting Mayor B. Geselbracht, Chair
Mayor L. Krog
Councillor S. D. Armstrong
Councillor D. Bonner
Councillor T. Brown
Councillor E. Hemmens (arrived 1:53 p.m.)
Councillor Z. Maartman
Councillor I. W. Thorpe
Councillor J. Turley

Staff: R. Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture
D. Lindsay, General Manager, Development Services
B. Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works
Supt. C. Miller, OIC, Nanaimo Detachment RCMP (arrived 1:02 p.m.,
vacated 1:02 p.m.)
T. Doyle, Deputy Fire Chief
B. Corsan, Director, Community Development (vacated 1:39 p.m.)
F. Farrohki, Manager, Communications
L. Bhopalsingh, Manager, Community Planning
J. Rose, Manager, Transportation (arrived 1:28 p.m.)
C. Sholberg, Community Heritage Planner (vacated 1:39 p.m.)
K. Kronstal, Social Planner (vacated 1:39 p.m.)
B. Zurek, Planner (arrived 1:08 p.m. vacated 1:39 p.m.)
D. Blackwood, Client Support Specialist (vacated 1:08 p.m.)
S. Gurrie, City Clerk
S. Snelgrove, Recording Secretary

1. CALL THE GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETING TO ORDER:

The Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

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

Supt. Miller entered the Boardroom at 1:02 p.m.
Supt. Miller vacated the Boardroom at 1:02 p.m.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES:

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting held in the Boardroom, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Monday, 2020-FEB-10 at 1:00 p.m. be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

4. REPORTS:

a. GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT EXCELLENCE:

1. Municipal Government Advocacy

Introduced by Sheila Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services.

By unanimous consent the Governance and Priorities Committee reordered the agenda to discuss Agenda Item 5 (d) 1. Coordinated Strategic Policy Review 2020-2021 Status Update as the first item.

b. COMMUNITY WELLNESS/LIVABILITY:

1. Coordinated Strategic Policy Review 2020-2021 Status Update

Introduced by Lisa Bhopalsingh, Manager, Community Planning.

Lisa Bhopalsingh, Manager, Community Planning, provided a presentation regarding:

- 2020 strategic policy review timelines
- Council's engagement in the process
- Council's development of different options and strategic directions
- Guiding principles

D. Blackwood vacated the Boardroom at 1:08 p.m.

B. Zurek entered the Boardroom at 1:08 p.m.

- Integrated process with Council as the steering committee:
 - Allows a more inclusive process for Council to be aware of moving parts
 - Allows utilization of the four committees of Council which will be included and involved in process
- A strong stakeholder engagement model will be used
- This process will aim to include those who have traditionally not been engaged in planning processes as they face barriers or think of themselves as not part of the community
- Youth and community members with diverse backgrounds will be involved
- Drafted internal project charter which is a fluid document to be updated from time to time
- Request for statement of qualifications (RFSOQ) issued
- Background research conducted on:
 - Parks, Recreation and Culture GIS Analysis

- Steep Slopes Development Permit Area Review
- Land Inventory and Capacity Analysis
- Demographic Analysis
- Opportunity to update plans and confirm the City is on the right track
- Next steps:
 - Regular meetings with technical staff
 - February 2020 consultants confirmed and finalize background research
 - March 2020 branding launch and engagement plan for Council endorsement
 - May/June 2020 engagement kick off to run into early July to capitalize on City events such as Canada Day
- Hope to be able to pair down and align City documents

Farnaz Farrohki, Manager, Communications, continued the presentation and advised:

- Logo for Official Community Plan (OCP) Plus program, City Spark, taps into a demographic that doesn't usually engage on civic related matters
- 20-45 year age range is the target to be engaged
- Logo is natural and spontaneous
- Use of colour is significant and each colour represents a concept
- Tag line "Our City, Our Voices" is meant to be inclusive and unique with the intent to capture as many voices as possible

Committee discussion took place regarding:

- Appeal and challenges of logo and tag line
- Bang the Table is one tool to use for engagement
- Online engagement works for a fair sector of the population
- Some engagement ideas will be the typical ideas such as engagement in shopping centres, with the School District and children and youth

J. Rose entered the Boardroom at 1:28 p.m.

Lisa Bhopalsingh, Manager, Community Planning, continued the presentation regarding:

- Leveraging connections for engagement
- Looking to Council for their connections to different groups
- Health and Housing Task Force hosting a series of design labs with the expectation that some participants will be people who are marginalized
- Broad level of engagement as the project is not specific to one department
- RFSOQ includes planning and indigenous student consultation as part of the process
- Next step is to return to the Governance and Priorities Committee (GPC) with an engagement plan

Committee discussion took place regarding:

- Igniting new ideas with the theme "spark"

- Font issues between curvature in logo
- Playfulness of logo
- Play on wording not being perfect and being abstract
- Connection between Nanaimo, the logo and the documents to be discussed

By unanimous consent the Governance and Priorities Committee reordered the agenda to discuss Agenda Item 5 (e) 1. Governance and Priorities Committee Agenda Planning next.

B. Corsan, K. Kronstal, C. Sholberg, B. Zurek and J. Rose vacated the Boardroom at 1:39 p.m.

c. AGENDA PLANNING:

1. Governance and Priorities Committee Agenda Planning

Sheila Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services, advised that Single Use Checkout Bags and Coordinated Strategic Policy Review 2020-2021 had been added to the agenda planning document. Crosswalk Safety and Women's Participation on City of Nanaimo Task Forces have not yet been discussed but are listed on the document to be updated.

Committee discussion took place regarding:

- Transit and Crosswalk Safety:
 - Inviting Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) transit staff to present to Council to have a focussed conversation around transit delivery in the City of Nanaimo

J. Rose returned to the Boardroom at 1:43 p.m.

- Bus stop design, pros and cons of covered bus stops, increasing number of transit hours, outlining pros and cons of having lit crosswalks, how to make crosswalks safer for drivers and pedestrians
- Integration of transit services within the City

Jamie Rose, Manager, Transportation, advised the City will be co-authoring a review and partnering with the RDN to look at the entire system of transit including walking and biking.

Committee discussion continued regarding:

- Crosswalk lighting, LED lights, prioritization and safety
- Staff drafting a report regarding crosswalk allocation to come to the second GPC meeting in April
- Overall understanding of crosswalks and how pedestrians and cars enter crosswalks

Councillor Hemmens entered the Boardroom at 1:53 p.m.

- Staff bringing forward professional best practices for safety measures at crosswalks
- Include conversation about parking rates, fees and parking on streets

- Two part transit discussion with second part to be completed after the rapid transit study is finished
- Staff to return with best practices, data analysis and review of overarching system including Staff's approach

By unanimous consent the Governance and Priorities Committee determined that Women's Participation on City of Nanaimo Task Forces will be discussed at a future Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting.

The Governance and Priorities Committee meeting recessed at 2:08 p.m.

The Governance and Priorities Committee meeting reconvened at 2:19 p.m.

a. GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT EXCELLENCE: (Continued)

1. Municipal Government Advocacy

Farnaz Farrokhi, Manager, Communications, provided a presentation regarding:

- How advocacy ties into government mandates and leveraging opportunities

Councillor Thorpe returned to the Boardroom at 2:21 p.m.

- Building relationships with not-for-profit agencies and stakeholders
- What to advocate for and why
- Importance of Council having data and research to effectively advocate for City needs
- Who to advocate for and what success looks like individually and for Council as a whole
- City resources required for projects and initiatives
- Use of triple constraint triangle
- Leveraging stakeholders in advocacy efforts
- Opportunities for advocacy regarding social disorder through design labs
- Federal government advocacy through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Convention and connecting with the Minister for Families, Children and Social Development
- Federal "Reaching Home" dollars designated through the Homelessness Coalition and a community board through the Coalition
- Connections between Minister's mandates and City objectives to do with social disorder
- Council already in touch with Minister's Robinson and Darcy regarding social disorder in the City of Nanaimo
- Work of HelpSeekers and Turner Strategies with Health and Housing Task Force
- Council will determine what they wish to focus their advocacy efforts on
- Secure meetings with provincial cabinet ministers and public servants to present advocacy issues selected by Council

Roundtable Committee discussion took place regarding:

- What Council wants to advocate for and why:
 - Advocate to Provincial Government for more Crown Prosecutors
 - Advocate for additional dollars for restorative justice
 - Crown system and Police may be able to provide statistics
- Appropriateness of advocating for City of Nanaimo specifically and process to do so
- Determine process to identify issues and what steps to take when, after advocating, the answer is no
- Continue advocacy work on social disorder:
 - Advocate for therapeutic community to be built in Nanaimo
- Advocate for tertiary hospital or expanded health services:
 - Write to MLA
 - Ask people to share their experiences, positive or negative and provide them to MLA
 - Use strategy for those affected region wide
- Utilizing strategic advocacy when an issue arises:
 - Council needs to determine their position and be clear about who speaks to what and in what context
 - Council having position statements on emerging topics and coordination of positions
 - Council reacting to events rather than being proactive
 - Strategy that creates political leverage to get services the community needs regardless of issue
- Climate change is an issue for the planet but immediate issue is social disorder
- Importance of having a site prepared for a therapeutic community
- Coordinated advocacy by identifying one topic, bringing it to the table and holding a GPC on how to approach advocacy on specific topics
- Utilize a template document to outline Council's position
- Specifically having a strategy on homelessness, health, housing, addiction, social disorder, public safety
- GPC part two to develop advocacy strategy/framework for the agreed upon topic
- Topic to be discussed will be: Advocating for something the City can achieve related to mental health, addictions, homelessness, housing, social disorder and public safety issue

Staff advised:

- Systems mapping from Health and Housing Task Force will advise what is unknown
- Nanaimo Affordable Housing Society often provides housing for those who are struggling mentally
- John Howard Society provides housing for those who aren't struggling with addiction
- Systems mapping will identify top 50 individuals who require an inordinate amount of supports, who are underserved and assist them to free up supports for others

Committee discussion continued regarding:

- Key topic of homelessness, health, housing, social disorder, public safety, addiction, justice system
- Opportunity for justice advocacy work
- Gathering and combining data while understanding Staff capacity
- Staff to return with framework for Council to expand upon which is different than attachment A of the staff report

It was moved and seconded that the Governance and Priorities Committee recommend that Council:

1. endorse “Attachment A” (Effective Municipal Government Advocacy Efforts) of the report titled “Municipal Government Advocacy” dated 2020-FEB-24;
2. direct Staff to proceed with drafting a robust social disorder advocacy strategy as outlined in “Attachment A” (Effective Municipal Government Advocacy Efforts) of the report titled “Municipal Government Advocacy” dated 2020-FEB-24; and,
3. Schedule a Governance and Priorities Committee meeting to review specific topics Council wishes to advocate for and why.

The motion carried unanimously.

5. QUESTION PERIOD:

No one in attendance wished to ask questions.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 3:52 p.m. that the meeting terminate. The motion carried unanimously.

C H A I R

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

CORPORATE OFFICER