



**SENIORS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE
UNOFFICIAL NOTES (DRAFT)**

June 17, 2016

A working session of the Seniors' Advisory Committee was held on June 17, 2016, at 9:30am, in Committee Room 1, Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

PRESENT:

Eva Beda
Thomas Crean
Eddy Elmer (Recorder)
Beatrice Ho
Gudrun Langolf
Dellie Lidyard
Dale Lutes
Jim McCully
Colleen McGuinness (Chair)
Scott Ricker (Vice-Chair)
Brian Tucker
Eva Wadolna
Jacqueline Weiler
Bob Worcester

ALSO PRESENT:

Councillor Elizabeth Ball, Vancouver City Council
Andrea Brown, Vancouver Public Library
Don Klimchuk (for Taryn Scollard), Engineering Services
Laura Mackenrot, Persons with Disabilities Committee
Chris Morrissey (Immediate Past Chair)
Carol Yee, Transportation Planning

ABSENT:

Trustee Fraser Ballantyne, Vancouver School Board
Anthony Kupferschmidt
Park Board Commissioner Erin Shum
Councillor Tim Stevenson, Vancouver City Council

GUESTS:

Chanel Ly, Youth for Chinese Seniors

1. Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Beatrice Ho, SECONDED by Jackie Weiler

THAT the minutes of the May 20, 2016 regular meeting be approved.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Southeast Marine Drive and Knight Street Interchange Improvements

Don Klimchuk, Engineering Services, provided an overview of the [planned improvements](#). Committee members welcomed the proposed changes and offered the following suggestions:

- a. More effort should be made to improve pedestrian safety on the Knight Street Bridge.
- b. Greater measures should be taken to reduce speeding in the area. Speeds along Marine Drive, for example, remain very high, which poses a danger for pedestrians on both sides of the road.
- c. Improved signage should be installed to remind drivers to remain in the correct lane.
- d. A right-hand exit off Knight Street might be considered in order to improve access to the area north of the interchange.
- e. Bus stops in the interchange, especially on the island, should be moved to safer locations.
- f. Good lighting should be installed to allow pedestrians to easily locate and operate crossing signals.
- g. Given that there are few businesses in the area, public toilets should be installed so that pedestrians and bus drivers do not need to use the park as a bathroom.

4. 105 Keefer Street and Redevelopment of Chinatown

Chanel Ly of “Youth for Chinese Seniors” discussed her organization’s [concerns](#) regarding the proposed [13-storey mixed-use building at 105 Keefer Street](#) in the heart of Chinatown.

Ms. Ly stated that this project typifies the kind of redevelopment that is making Chinatown increasingly unlivable for low-income, monolingual Chinese seniors. In particular, she feels that these redevelopments displace affordable, culturally-appropriate services (e.g., grocery stores, pharmacies); cultural community spaces; and seniors’ social housing. Ms. Li is also concerned that these redevelopments threaten the unique architectural heritage of Chinatown. For Chinese seniors in the area—many of whom have lived here their entire lives—Chinatown no longer feels like home.

Thomas Crean suggested commercial-nonprofit partnerships as a way to create culturally-appropriate, multi-use facilities in the area. Eva Wadolna suggested that the character of Chinatown could be preserved by making it attractive to tourists as an authentically Chinese experience.

Councillor Ball reiterated that all levels of government want the benevolent society buildings to be preserved, which is why they have worked with the societies to secure private funding in this regard. She also expressed hope that co-ops would return to the area, which are a great way for people of all economic levels to live together.

ACTION: Ms. Ly will keep the Committee updated about the redevelopment. As the process moves along, the Committee might be in a position to make specific recommendations to Council.

5. St. Paul's Hospital Relocation

Eva Wadolna provided an update about a stakeholder meeting that she and other members attended at City Hall. Her comments include the following:

- a. No reference has been made to the special needs of seniors.
- b. No plans have yet been made regarding green space for dementia patients.
- c. There is an assumption that an increasing numbers of visits to the hospital will be via public transit, ignoring the fact that severely ill or disabled people cannot use transit. As a result, Providence Healthcare might underestimate the required number of parking spaces.
- d. There has not yet been discussion with TransLink to ensure that bus stops are located in the closest possible proximity to the new hospital.
- e. There has not been much discussion about the need for affordable, nearby accommodation for out-of-town visitors and hospital staff.

Regarding the streetscape around the new hospital, Ms. Wadolna indicated that the same principles described in [our motion](#) regarding the West 10th Avenue Medical Precinct should also apply here.

ACTION: A meeting of all City of Vancouver advisory committees should be convened to discuss this project. It should also be raised at the Council of Councils meeting in the fall. Furthermore, the BC Seniors Advocate should be enlisted to advocate on behalf of seniors who will be affected. Future Seniors Advisory Committee members should actively monitor this project.

6. Seniors' Advisory Committee Strategic Plan

Gudrun Langolf suggested that the Committee draft a mini strategic plan for the rest of the term, focusing on the City's Age-Friendly Action Plan.

ACTION: Dale Lutes will draft a plan, which Eddy Elmer will edit.

7. Committee Liaison Reports

a) *Vancouver City Council*

In response to her request for information, Councillor Ball discussed a memo she received on June 14 from Kathleen Llewellyn-Thomas, General Manager of Community Services, regarding City initiatives for seniors housing.

Scott Ricker asked Councillor Ball about Hollyburn Property's [proposal to redevelop 1640-1650 Alberni Street](#) with a 42-storey market rental building. Mr. Ricker expressed concerns regarding the shadowing that will be caused by this tower and wondered whether there will be any public amenity contributions. Councillor Ball responded by discussing the [Rental 100 Policy](#) and indicated that in order to balance return on investment with the provision of affordable rental packages for existing tenants, community amenity contributions are sometimes waived.

b) *Park Board*

No report.

c) *School Board*

No report.

d) *Staff Liaison*

Don Klimchuk, speaking on behalf of Taryn Scollard, provided an updated about improvements to Point Grey Road from Arbutus Street to Jericho Beach, especially improvements to sidewalks. Bob Worcester expressed concern about cutting down trees in the area.

e) *Vancouver Public Library*

No report.

8. Subcommittee and Task Force Reports

a) *Communications*

Eddy Elmer indicated that new brochures have been printed and will be distributed to members as soon as possible. He also indicated that the BC Seniors' Week proclamation from the Mayor's office is ready for pick-up. It will be read by Councillor Stevenson at the West End Seniors' Network Strawberry Festival on June 25. SAC members will host a table at the festival.

Colleen McGuinness indicated that she sent a [description of the Committee's role](#) to the *Vancouver Courier* for inclusion in their new seniors lifestyle magazine.

b) *Community Engagement Subcommittee*

Beatrice Ho is helping Dr. Kendall Ho find a suitable location in Killarney for his next digital medicine presentation. She will also ask Anthony Kupferschmidt if a presentation would be possible at the West End Seniors Network. On June 24, Ms. Ho will attend the West End Community Planning Table, where the BC Seniors Advocate will speak. She also indicated that she had received an invitation from Vancouver Coastal Health to attend an open house regarding individuals with uncertain immigration status.

c) *Housing Subcommittee*

Members provided an update about a stakeholder meeting they had attended regarding visitability. At the meeting, they reiterated the importance of ensuring that all new housing is accessible both inside *and* outside. Dellie Lidyard expressed

concern that some stakeholders wished to revisit the City's new accessibility guidelines.

Members indicated that they had not yet heard back from Pat Ryan, Chief Building Official, regarding which elements of the new Building By-law that he feels are not feasible.

ACTION: Councillor Ball will help arrange a meeting in advance of Mr. Ryan's October report to Council.

d) Transportation and Mobility Subcommittee

See Appendix A.

Ms. Lidyard inquired about the status of the Committee's [motion of September 18, 2015](#) regarding pick-up and drop-off locations at SkyTrain stations.

e) Social Isolation & Loneliness Task Force

Brian Tucker introduced the idea of a world café on social isolation and loneliness among seniors. A draft of a proposal will be presented at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Eddy Elmer, SECONDED by Eva Wadolna
THAT this meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Regular Meeting:

DATE: Friday, July 8, 2016
TIME: 9:30am
PLACE: Committee Room 1, Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall

The Committee adjourned at 12:30 pm

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Appendix A:

Report of the Transportation & Mobility Subcommittee

A meeting of the Transportation & Mobility Subcommittee was held on June 17, 2016, at 9:00am, in Committee Room 1, Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

PRESENT: Gudrun Langolf
Dellie Lidyard (Chair)
Dale Lutes
Laura Mackenrot (Persons Disabilities Advisory Comm.)
Eva Wadolna
Bob Worcester

1. Welcome New Member

Dale Lutes was welcomed as a new member.

2. Parking Near St. Jude's Hospital

3. Working Meeting with City Staff

Dellie Lidyard and Eva Wadolna will work on a response to questions from Christine Edwards.

4. Public Toilets

Gudrun Langolf will e-mail a draft motion for discussion at the next meeting.

5. Pick-up/Drop-off Locations at SkyTrain Stations

Dellie Lidyard, Gudrun Langolf, and Dale Lutes will attend a meeting with Ian MacPhee. SAC's motion regarding this issue (passed September 2015) will be provided to staff and the TransLink representative at the meeting.

6. Crosswalks

The crosswalks at West 6th Avenue & Arbutus Street, as well as Wallace Street and Point Grey Road received approval and will be completed this summer.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30am.