

NORTH SHORE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY ISSUES

Thursday, May 25, 2023, 5:30 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting (In-person and Virtual via MS Teams)

MINUTES

Members:

Louisa Bridgman
Alexis Chicoine
Michelle Katerberg
Vanessa Mendoza
Loreigh Mitges
Marilynne Nowell
David Parke
Nancie Parker
Robert Richard

Staff Liaisons:

Nick Giannone, Staff Liaison, DNV
Christel Lindgren, Staff Liaison, CNV
Maeve Bermingham, Staff Liaison, DWV
Mary Jukich, Committee Clerk, DNV

Regrets:

Jennifer Branston
Cyndi Gerlach
Pam Horton
Cllr. Shervin Shahriari, CNV

Council Liaisons:

Mayor Mike Little, DNV
Cllr. Nora Gambioli, DWV

1. Welcome

The Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

2. Capital Works Presentation

2.1 District of West Vancouver

Lea Shepherd provided a presentation on the capital projects from the District of West Vancouver, Community Services Department which are planned for 2023 and projects that were completed in 2022, or are still ongoing.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Loreigh Mitges and seconded by David Parke
To adopt the agenda.

CARRIED

4. Adoption of the Minutes

Moved by Marilynne Nowell and seconded by David Parke
To adopt the April 27, 2023 minutes.

CARRIED

5. Public Questions

A question was raised on whether the committee's terms of reference would be revised to align with the new BC *Accessibility Act*. Information was provided that work was underway to comply with the Act and continues to be a work in progress with all three municipalities.

6. Business Arising

6.1 Access Awareness Event

On May 11, 2023, the working group discussed possible ideas for this year's Access Awareness Week and developed the following social media message:

The North Shore ACDI brings awareness to Council and City staff on how to create a committee advises on housing, parks, streetscapes, shared pathways, access to trans

The working group also discussed possible ideas for next year and there was interest in repeating the same format as a prior event hosted by the City of North Vancouver wherein invited guests, staff and Council tested the physical environment simulating a disability using wheelchairs, canes, and also components for people with neurodiversity. In terms of next steps, the working group will continue to explore possible options for the event.

6.2 Inclusive Grants – Letter to the MP

Originally, the grants letter was composed to incorporate accessibility features within grants; however, the re-written letter was developed to incorporate accessibility features for all types of grants and the letter also incorporated inclusive language.

Moved by David Parke and seconded by Loreigh Mitges

To approve the letter as presented and to be sent to the Provincial and Federal repres

CARRIED

6 New Business

7.1 Park Audit – City of North Vancouver

Christel Lindgren, staff liaison, reported that normally park audits are undertaken at a park that will go through a major renovation and the committee members visit the park to give advice on what can be updated through an accessibility perspective. For this year's audit, the City of North Vancouver Parks Department was consulted and proposed an audit of a dog park

particularly as there is a new dog strategy in the City. In addition, the Parks Department also proposed, as alternatives, an audit of a community garden or the Moodyville playground.

On discussion, committee members indicated that as there are already some guidelines in place for community gardens and as the purpose of the audit is to educate staff, it may be beneficial to visit a dog park for this year's audit. It was also suggested to invite all representatives from all three municipalities to participate in the park audit and learn from shared experiences.

7.2 Respectful Conversations

This item will be addressed at the June month end meeting.

7.3 Mayor and Council Correspondence

Committee members previously requested clarification with respect to correspondence which is sent to Mayor and Council and whether the correspondence was read and an impact. Information was provided that the responsibility would be with staff liaisons to follow up with any recommendations from Mayor and Council, and bring those recommendations back to the committee.

7.4 Community Safety

Louisa Bridgman provided a brief summary on a recent personal safety issue that took place in the Lonsdale & 15th area. Mayor Buchanan and some members of City Council were also contacted with respect to this issue, and suggested that to ensure the safety of everyone in the community, a letter of support from ACDI be written in this regard.

7 Reports

8.1 Ambleside Local Area Plan

Committee members reviewed the Ambleside Local Area Plan report, and the following motion was proposed.

MOVED By Robert Richard and seconded by David Parke

The ACDI is pleased to review the three draft themed approaches for potential redevelopment for the Ambleside Local Area Plan. The committee strongly recommends that components from all three concepts be integrated into one plan. The options focused on building form and capacity. The ACDI looks forward to engaging further on other elements in future stages of the Ambleside LAP development, and hopes the recommendations presented here will be applied to

Ambleside specifically and considered for the municipality more generally.

CARRIED

8 Accessibility Issues in Front of Council

- District of North Vancouver
 - At Monday's Council meeting, the Bond Street development came forward to Council.
 - Mayor Little provided an update on some transit initiatives being considered including upgrading the current R2 bus route to a bus rapid transit and having a second rapid bus line from Lynn Valley to downtown.
 - In terms of the *Accessibility Act*, Corporate Services are well underway on their work on the *Act* and a representative from Corporate Services will engage with ACDI in the summer.
 - There are a few Facilities projects underway and some recommendations from the ACDI have been implemented. The Project Manager will be providing the committee members with an update in the near future.
 - An update on the Phibbs Exchange washroom issue will be brought to the June meeting.
- City of North Vancouver
A report was not provided.
- District of West Vancouver
 - Discussions are underway with a potential company to undertake the renovation of the Navy Jack House.
 - Council agendas are now distributed three days before Council meetings.
 - Horseshoe Bay Park is scheduled to open in July.
 - The bike lanes between 25th and 31st were approved.
 - In terms of the Ambleside local area plan, eight weeks of public engagement was recently completed and it is now moving into the analysis period. The letter of recommendations regarding the local policy responses for the future of Ambleside will be added to the public record and analyzed accordingly. Staff are anticipating to be in front of Council with an update on the Ambleside engagement process in July.

- With respect to the *Accessibility Act*, over the course of the summer, work will be undertaken to develop a timeline and workplan in order to adhere and comply with the *Act*. It is anticipated that two meetings will be scheduled with the committee in a roundtable format, with a third party consultant facilitating the discussion. It expected that these meetings will take place at the end of June/early July and late July/early August.

9 Any Other Business

No other business was presented.

10 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Date of Upcoming Meetings

- June 29 – Month End Meeting