

**MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL GOVERNANCE & PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD TUESDAY, JULY 15, 2015, 8:30 A.M.**

1. THE CHAIR CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 8:30 A.M.

Committee Members Present: Mayor Helps in the Chair; Councillors Alto, Coleman, Isitt, Loveday, Lucas, Madoff, Thornton-Joe and Young.

Staff Present: J. Johnson – City Manager; P. Bruce – Fire Chief; K. Hamilton – Director of Citizen Engagement & Strategic Planning; J. Jenkyns – Deputy City Manager; R. Woodland – Director of Legislative & Regulatory Services; T. Soulliere – Director of Parks & Recreation; J. Tinney – Director of Sustainable Planning & Community Development; B. Dellebuur – Acting Assistant Director of Transportation & Parking Services; J. MacDougall – Assistant Director of Parks; J. O’Connor – Manager of Financial Planning; J. Schmidt – Manager of Legislative Services; C. Mycroft – Assistant to City Manager; C. Havelka – Recording Secretary.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

2.1 Approval of the Agenda

Action: It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Alto, that the Agenda of the July 15, 2015, Special Governance & Priorities Committee meeting be approved.

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3. Strategic Plan Grant Presentations

Mayor Helps outlined the process for grant application presentations, advising that each organization is allocated five minutes to present and Committee members may ask questions afterwards. The questions will be recorded and forwarded to the applicants for their response through e-mail.

3.1 AIDS Vancouver Island

Committee received a presentation from AIDS Vancouver Island in support of their Strategic Plan Grant application for \$73,744, regarding supervised consumption services, specific to the Yes2SCS program.

Committee had no questions.

3.2 Central Middle School

Committee received a presentation from Central Middle School in support of their Strategic Plan Grant application for \$16,473, to build an unstructured play area for middle school children in grades six to eight.

Questions:

1. Is your committee open to engaging with Fernwood and Rockland Neighbourhood Associations to determine how these improvements may have a general community benefit? (e.g.: use of greenways after school hours).
2. Is there a potential for the School District to make a contribution for this project?
3. A lot of your budget is for trees and the City has a nursery. Would an in-kind contribution from Parks be satisfactory?

3.3 Communica Dialogue and Resolution Services Society

Committee received a presentation from Communica Dialogue and Resolution Services Society in support of their Strategic Plan Grant application for \$10,000, to assist with dispute resolution, conflict and communication skills development.

Questions:

1. You mentioned that this is an \$80,000 program which includes \$10,000 from the City. Is this annual operating dollars that the City would support?
2. How many people do you serve within the City of Victoria?
3. How much money do you get from other municipalities?

3.4 Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria

Committee received a presentation from the Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria in support of their Strategic Plan Grant application for \$12,500, to develop a project to eliminate poverty and build community prosperity.

Questions:

1. Will there be follow-up on actions related to the strategies identified in the application in terms of specific actions and outcomes?

3.5 Downtown Blanshard Advisory Committee - Quadra Village Community Centre (Application 1)

Committee received a presentation from the Downtown Blanshard Advisory Committee – Quadra Village Community Centre (Application 1) in support of their Strategic Plan Grant application for \$10,000, regarding a food skills program for youth.

Questions:

1. What will be the amount of the honorarium for youth?
2. How will the operations of the truck be dealt with as a social enterprise and not a conventional business operation? Noting that the City cannot not subsidize a business?
3. Will applications from youth from other neighbourhoods in the City be considered and how will that occur? Noting that the application stated that youth from the Quadra Village area will be considered first.

3.6 Ecole Margaret Jenkins School Parent Advisory Committee and School District 61

Committee received a presentation from Ecole Margaret Jenkins School Parent Advisory Committee and School District 61 in support of their Strategic Plan Grant application for \$22,000, to build a naturalized playground at the school.

Questions:

1. Clarification on the section where it states that 15% percent of Victoria residents are benefiting from the program; what is meant by that?
2. Is the applicant requesting funds from Oak Bay and if so, how much?
3. Would the applicant be open to consulting with the Fairfield Gonzales Community Association to determine what would be the general community benefits outside of school hours?
4. Would this project provide an opportunity to extend the greenway provided by the Chandler/Gonzales pathway?

3.7 Fairfield Gonzales Community Association

Committee received a presentation from Fairfield Gonzales Community Association in support of their Strategic Plan Grant application for \$20,700, to complete the greenway path to Margaret Jenkins School.

Questions:

1. The report references consulting with the City's Parks Department. Would they be open to consulting with the Engineering Department for the transportation section of their project? This would be an interdisciplinary approach the City supports.
2. Would an in-kind contribution from the City for some or all of the requested projects be acceptable?
3. What connections are contemplated at Chandler and the sidewalk at Fairfield Road, in context with issues with the infrastructure that don't function as part of the network?
4. Are any roadway improvements anticipated at the Fairfield Road crossing?

3.8 FED Restaurant Society

Committee received a presentation from FED Restaurant Society in support of their Strategic Plan Grant application for \$10,000, to fund their long-term vision with projects that accelerate sustainability through a Food Eco District.

Questions:

1. Clarify what is meant by a bike kitchen.
2. Elaborate on the general community benefit for the proposed initiatives, distinct from the benefit for member restaurants, noting the City's inability to subsidize businesses.
3. How are you going to address issues around older buildings in the City and the weight of roof top gardens; how that is a disadvantage and what are you doing to address that?

3.9 Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition

Committee received a presentation from the Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition in support of their Strategic Plan Grant application for \$17,000, regarding two projects: TransForm Event Series and Two Wheels Good.

Councillor Young withdrew from the meeting at 9:24 a.m.

Questions:

1. Is there an opportunity to use one of the Transform Events to partner with the City in its public engagement around the City's proposed Cycling Network?
2. Further, what opportunities do you see for partnering with Citizen Engagement and Engineering specific to enhancing the work the City is doing?
3. Are you going to request funding from all municipalities?

3.10 Greater Victoria Placemaking Network Society

Committee received a presentation from the Greater Victoria Placemaking Network Society in support of their Strategic Plan Grant application for \$23,000, to co-host the TransForm event series and to create a Great Streets ToolKit project.

Questions:

1. Clarify how these projects overlap and the distinction between this application and the application from the Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition.
2. Elaborate on the distinction between the role and value added by the Placemaking Network and what is the City's responsibility. What would be your wish in how the City should participate?

3.11 Home is Where we Live - LifeCycles Project Society

Committee received a presentation from Home is Where we Live – LifeCycles Project Society, in support of their Strategic Plan Grant application for \$30,000, to

help fund and to grow their program of harvesting fruit and supporting local food production objectives.

Questions:

1. Elaborate on the mechanism you are using to provide social justice in the distribution of food; the metrics in terms of pounds of food to various agencies.
2. What are your metrics in terms of your proposed expansion in terms of pounds of food harvested?

3.12 InterArts Centre for Makers

Committee received a presentation from InterArts Centre for Makers in support of their Strategic Plan Grant application for \$20,000, to creatively use public space for public use, such as the Thinklandia Festival.

Questions:

1. Provide information on how this project aligns with the City's Strategic Plan, as it's not filled out in the application.
2. Regarding the request for seven days use of the Yates Street Parkade, what is the value of that and impact of that, in terms of the capacity of this often full parkade?
3. Is the requested use of the parkade for in-kind and/or cash only and to what extent could the City's contribution be in-kind?
4. Is it possible to align communications for this project with the City to reduce the City's cash outlay?

3.13 James Bay New Horizons

Committee received a presentation from James Bay New Horizons in support of their Strategic Plan Grant application for \$10,000, to increase the core funding for community outreach for seniors.

Questions:

1. Clarify the outreach that will occur beyond Jubilee and James Bay neighbourhoods.
2. Is this project envisioned as a one-off project, or a shift towards on-going operations for the James Bay New Horizons?

3.14 Literacy Victoria

Committee received a presentation from Literacy Victoria in support of their Strategic Plan Grant application for \$10,000, to provide literacy to those who struggle with this skill.

Questions:

1. The application states that this project will potentially impact 30,000 people. Provide more details regarding those numbers and how many people are residents of Victoria.

Committee recessed at 10:03 a.m.

Committee reconvened at 10:08 a.m.

3.15 The Bateman Foundation / The Robert Bateman Centre

Committee received a presentation from the Bateman Foundation / The Robert Bateman Centre, in support of their Strategic Plan Grant application for \$10,000, to connect people with nature and develop that relationship through art.

Committee had no questions.

3.16 Threshold Housing Society

Committee received a presentation from the Threshold Housing Society in support of their Strategic Plan Grant application for \$12,500, to help provide housing for homeless youth.

Questions:

1. Clarify the August 1, 2015 milestone to search for appropriate rental opportunities; does that mean private sector landlords? More detail is needed.

3.17 Umbrella Society for Addictions and Mental Health

Committee received a presentation from the Umbrella Society for Addictions and Mental Health in support of their Strategic Plan Grant application for \$10,500, regarding their project to enhance the property of the recovery facility for men.

Questions:

1. Provide clarity regarding the raising of the house and did this renovation provide the six new rooms?
2. Will the labour required for the new fencing and other garden construction be resourced through residents of the home?
3. Have you investigated whether the materials and supplies required for the construction can be donated?

3.18 Victoria Sexual Assault Centre

Committee received a presentation from the Victoria Sexual Assault Centre in support of their Strategic Plan Grant application for \$25,000, to provide services for those impacted by sexual violence.

Questions:

1. Will you be asking for funding from the other municipalities as this benefits people from all over the region?

2. Clarify the respective roles of Island Health and other partners for operating costs

3.19 Victoria Conservatory of Music

Committee received a presentation from the Victoria Conservatory of Music in support of their Strategic Plan Grant application for \$10,000, to install a new sign for the Conservatory at Pandora Avenue and Quadra Street.

Questions:

1. Provide more information on the analysis that led to the decision to locate the sign on the Pandora side of the building, considering the entrance is being re-orientated to the Johnson Street side of the building. In the future, would there be additional signage on the Johnson street side?

4. ADJOURNMENT

Action: It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that the Special Governance & Priorities Committee meeting of July 15, 2015, be adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC639

Mayor Helps, Chair