

Downtown Blanshard Advisory Committee Board Meeting

Monday, October 23, 2023, 6:00 pm

QVCC Youth Centre

MINUTES

Board Members Present: Cheryl Wolfe-Milner, Fapu Duan, Firas Daoudy, Hana Akai, Keith Davis, Leslie Kenny, Matt Takach

Regrets: Frankie Chao, David Turner

QVCC Staff: Kelly Greenwell

Minutes: Leslie Kenny

1. Welcome and Introductions - Cheryl (Acting Chair)

- New board members welcomed
- Keith Davis tabled his resignation, with regret, due to unforeseen personal circumstances.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved: Leslie

Seconded: Matt

In favour 6 ; opposed 0; abstentions, 0

Motion carried.

3. Approval of the Minutes of June 26, 2023

Moved:

Seconded:

In favour 6 ; opposed, 0; abstentions, 0

Motion carried.

4. Agency Report – Kelly

Youth and Family Counsellors (YFCs)

- YFCs are receiving Grief and Loss Training through QVCC and Fairfield Gonzales Community Association
- Contracted through Learning and Living Through Loss
- Kayleigh Gladstone is the new Indigenous Youth and Family Counsellor at Victoria High School.

Youth and Family Outreach

- Kara Windram is the new Indigenous Youth and Family Outreach Worker at Vic High. The position has expanded and is more challenging than in the past.
- VIRCS (Victoria Immigrant and Refugee Centre Society) has included QVCC Youth and Family Outreach in its funding application for refugees and newcomers.

Camptastiq Summer Camp

- Full range of elementary-school-aged summer camps ran through the summer
- Provincial subsidies and bursaries were available
- A few Summer Jobs students are now working in Out of School Care I.

Out of School Care

- Higher than usual number of children are eligible for 1-to-1 worker this year.
- Funds are available but challenges filling positions
- Great to have extra staff on hand

Youth Centre and Programs

- Summer Connections for Youth ran through the summer – very popular
- Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays were out-trip days
- Food Skills for Youth is hot
- Youth will be cooking at Family Night

Early Years Programs

- Carly Weaver has returned (previously here on practicum) as the Early Years Program Coordinator.

Community Support Program

- New volunteers added to our team offering food processing and preparation for distribution.

Gardens

- Several garden workshops and work parties over the summer.
- A survey went out to allotment gardeners – results to follow
- Camas Books has taken over care of the Apothecary Garden

Neighbourhood Small Grants

- The Project Celebration event for the 2023 projects was held last week

Facilities Rentals and Programs

- We continue to host a wide range of external community groups from Little Kickers Soccer to Arabic School.

Indigenous Culture

- Gordy Bear hosting drum nights at QVCC
- Drawing interest from around Victoria
- Indigenization plans now included in quarterly reports for all QVCC programs.

Equity

- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Plans now a regular part of all programs
- Equity Committee is active, welcomed new member Lisa Crossman
- Coalition of Neighbourhood House agencies (10 incl QVCC) conducting EDI Policy reviews and needs assessment.

Quivering Village Carnival and Creep-house

- This Friday, October 27 in the gym.
- Carnival Games, a graveyard, a zombie shooting gallery and haunted maze.
- “Very scary”

Building Maintenance Issues

- City has always provided maintenance services but persistent problems with downstairs plumbing are not getting resolved. Exterior siding also needs repair.
- We are monitoring, may need some assistance from the Board

5. Board Orientation and Housekeeping

5.1 Review of Board Job Description

- Leslie reviewed Board/ED roles and responsibilities
- Governance boards vs working boards
- Summary of how meetings are run and what to expect

5.2 Discussion/ Brainstorm: Hopes as a Board Member

- More funding, more board involvement, filling our Exec positions, listening and understanding, learn about QVCC, learn about Centre promotion and publicity, strategic planning development (with help from an outside consultant), feedback from community, cloud access.

5.3 Meeting Times in 2023-24

- Keep the Monday 6 pm meeting time
- Agreed we will add a September Board meeting (Sept 9, 2024)
- Aim to finish meetings by 8:00 pm

6. New Business

- 6.1 Resolution to purchase a refundable \$500 share in Realize Strategies Co-op, in order to participate in the [Vancity Credit Union Investment Pool](#) for Nonprofit Organizations.

Moved: Leslie Kenny
Seconded: Cheryl Wolfe-Milner

Whereas there is currently the potential to earn significant, low risk interest on all DBAC bank accounts,

Be it resolved that the Executive Director is authorized to initiate a \$500 Co-op Share purchase in Realize Strategies and to authorize all Downtown Blanshard Advisory Committee accounts earn a floating interest rate (currently prime minus 1.85%).

Moved: Leslie Kenny
Seconded: Cheryl Wolfe-Milner
In favour 7; opposed, 0; abstentions, 0
Motion carried.

6.2 NAC / Evergreen Terrace Update

- The Quadra Village Neighbourhood Action Committee (NAC) will host a public meeting with BC Housing on **Tue, Nov 7, 7 pm at QVCC** (downstairs) to review the Evergreen Terrace zoning application.
- Final public meeting before the application is sent to Victoria
- NAC is reducing its profile for now; fewer meetings needed under the Missing Middle policy
- Keith will stay involved with the Evergreen project

7. Nomination and Election of Executive Positions

- Three the four roles were filled.
- Secretary will stay vacant for now
- The Board can appoint a new director to replace Keith

Be it resolved that the Board approves the following 2023-24 executive appointments:

Chair – Leslie Kenny
Vice Chair – Hana Akai
Treasurer – Matt Takach
Secretary – Vacant

Moved: Cheryl
Seconded: Firas
In favour 7; opposed, 0; abstentions, 0
Motion carried.

8. Appointment of Cheque Signers (two additional)

Be it resolved that the Board appoints Cheryl Wolfe-Milner and Matt Takach to serve as cheque signers.

Moved: Hana
Seconded: Leslie
In favour 7; opposed, 0; abstentions, 0
Motion carried.

9. Board Committee Appointments

Be it resolved that the Board appoints Leslie Kenny and Matt Takach to serve on the Finance Committee.

Moved: Cheryl
Seconded: Firaz
In favour 7; opposed, 0; abstentions, 0
Motion carried.

- Appointments to the other committees are deferred to our next meeting.

10. Adjourned at 8:28 pm