

## Highlands Parent Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

**April 7, 2015**

*Executive Present:* Erin MacNair, Dana Cave, Brandy Hughes, Kirstie Pirie, Marnie Premont, Tracey Lebedovich, Marnie Giblin, Anna Archer, Eric Stodt, Jennifer van Eijnsbergen, Jason Krupa

*Next HPAC Meeting:* Next HPAC Meeting May 12, 2015, 7:00pm, Highlands Elementary

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### **1. Welcome and Executive Introductions**

- Co-Chairs - Dana Cave/Brandy Hughes
- Secretary - Tracey Lebedovich
- Treasurer - Eric Stodt
- Fundraising - Marnie Premont/Jan Van Eijnsbergen
- Communications - Kirstie Pirie
- SPC – Anna Archer
- Safety Coordinator – Erin MacNair
- DPAC – Jason Krupa
- Member at Large: Marnie Giblin

### **2. February 3, 2015 HPAC meeting minutes were approved**

### **3. Capilano Water Main Project: Steve Billington, Metro Vancouver Community Liaison Officer**

Contact Steve, Community Liaison Officer: [icentre@metrovancouver.org](mailto:icentre@metrovancouver.org) (please include "Capilano Water Main Project" in the subject line) / phone: 604-436-6986

- Project Area – Cleveland Dam parking lot to Edgemont (Capilano Rd North to South)
- Will be built in 200m sections so Capilano Road doesn't have to be closed
- Construction will start 2<sup>nd</sup> week in August
- 7am to 8pm Monday to Saturday – a 200m section will be closed each day
- Off the road during Christmas
- August to Jan may affect Highlands traffic
- Capilano will be open to local traffic – locals will receive local access passes
- Major detours Sept to Jan 2016
  - o One will go from Ridgewood Drive to Highland Blvd to Montroyal
  - o The other is to move people up Westview to Delbrook Ave
- Buses that go up Capilano will go up Highlands instead
- Construction trucks will go up Capilano
- Temporary traffic lights will be at Ridgewood & Edgemont and Highland & Ridgewood

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- They will have extra flaggers helping where required
- School Zone Safety – Traffic in front of the school will probably increase
- Time to lobby and ask the District of NV about what could be done for kid's safety in the future
- Steve Billington will be available during the project for any community concerns
- They have met with Emergency Services to insure routes are kept clear

Parent Questions/Concerns:

- o Parent: Has there been any talk about making changes to Highland Blvd where the street is extra wide at the crosswalk? Will speed on Highlands be monitored?
- o Steve: They will hire an officer around Canyon Heights School who can also patrol the Highlands School area. They can also introduce flaggers when/where needed as well.
- o Erin: District wants to put curbs at Belmont crossing
- o Parent: There is almost no curb at the Belmont crossing with lots of kids walking over there and parked cars have been blocking the sight lines when they park on Belmont.
- o Parent: no curb along Ridgewood as well
- o Steve: They can look into Ridgewood
- o Steve: They will look into including 4-sided crosswalks at Edgemont & Ridgewood and at Ridgewood & Highland
- o Parent: Skyline and Glenview are shortcuts and may need safety monitoring as well
- o Steve: The mayor lives on Highlands and is well aware of the safety concerns. They also have the power to put in temporary speed bumps
- o Steve: during the first few months, they would like to hear from parents once everyone sees what the actual traffic patterns are.

**4. Cheakamus Centre: Conor McMullen, SD44 Director of Educational Programs**

- Conor has been an outdoor educator for 20+ years
- Has been in this new role for the past 14 months
- Outdoor School is still owned and operated by the School District
- Outdoor School has been in operation for 45 years
- Outdoor School has been on the chopping block for years due to budget cuts
- There is a need to do more with the school and the site outside of when the SD44 students are there so the program stays financially viable
- There are only a handful of districts left in the country that have outdoor school programs
- Environmental learning lighthouse
- New partnership with Listel – provides hospitality staff and services – they manage events (weddings/retreats/corporate) outside of school program times
- 2013 name change to Cheakamus – “people of the fish weir”
- New website – cheakamuscentre.ca
- More marketing saavy with a more broad-based appeal
- Vision – to be a dynamic centre of excellence for environmental learning, leadership and sustainability
- Creating a hub for innovative and authentic educational experiences
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- Environmental Learning –
    - o is a key element in the holistic education of all students
    - o works best when integrated across the curriculum
    - o encourages, targets, relevant and meaningful approaches to learning
    - o helps children understand the nature and complexity of environmental issues
    - o fosters a sense of connection with community and place while promoting advocacy and stewardship
  - Outdoor school in fall/winter is magical with fish, eagles... so its very different for Grade 6s.
  - Starting in Grade 10, students can train to become councilors
  - Lots of kids coming back after graduation (Alumni Society)
  - Supports social-emotional experiences for the kids
  - New building recently earned LEED Platinum
  - Outdoor School is nut-free
  - The kitchen weighs the leftover food to see which meals may or may not be popular with the kids
- Outdoor School Open House is coming up on Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup>

**5. Administration Greeting and Updates (Todd Henderson and Blair Martin)**

Todd – newsletter going out Friday about the new waste diversion program

- Start date was Jan 1<sup>st</sup> – schools must conform within 6 months or fines are levied
- Waste-free lunches are encouraged
- This is a metro Vancouver initiative
- Should be a smooth transition

Blair – track and field is being kicked off

- Now includes Grade 4 and 5s
- More information coming home soon
- Have staff onboard
- Staff will announce when tryouts are starting
- Kids need to bring back the blue forms
- June 4<sup>th</sup> – Swanguard meet
- Any questions, you can email Blair Martin
- High jump & sprints/relays – needs helpers if there are parents willing to help with practices (contact Blair)
- Field qualifications will need parent helpers as well

**6. Recent Event Re-cap**

- Movie night – 140 people, \$700 profit for the HPAC (juice, water, popcorn)
- Grade 7's had a bake sale
- Very successful evening

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**7. Budget**

- \$32,000 planned to be raised this year + \$9,000 grant (currently we are already at \$36,000)
- We had a budget of \$52,000 at the start of this year – we haven't spent as much as we had planned to so there will likely be funds leftover
- Two new budget items will need to be approved now as payment is needed before the beginning of next year:
  - **Vote:**
    - o ePACT (electronic management of emergency forms): \$1000
      - new budget item was approved by vote
    - o WOW (Walk or Wheel): \$400
      - new budget item was approved by vote

**8. Succession Planning for 2015/2016 HPAC Executive**

Dana:

- We are still looking for Fundraiser(s), President & Vice President or Co-Chairs, and Safety Coordinator
- It works well to divide the tasks
- If we don't have these positions filled we lose our \$41,000 Contingency Fund as we can no longer be a non-profit
- People may not be quite aware of all the things the HPAC does for the school
- Some people still don't understand all that is at stake
- Fundraising doesn't have to be a huge deal – can be a dedicated cheque drive for a dedicated project (like the natural playground)
- Chair/Co-Chair must be filled
- Next PAC meeting on May 12<sup>th</sup> is the vote day – we need people by this date

**9. Upcoming Events**

- Parent Education Seminar: What if your relationships were better? April 22, 7pm
- Spring Fair: May 9 – 12-4pm – order forms will come home soon:
  - o all the fun stuff that we had last year
  - o Elsie from Kids Club will help with the Spring Fair doing the bbq
  - o will also do the Entrepreneur Fair (Dana and her sister Marnie will need to double check any items that might be sold)
  - o Brandy will be doing the spring plant sale
- Talent Show: May 5 – at the Capilano U Theatre – audition schedule is posted by the office

**10. Natural Playground Update**

Tracey gave a playground update and showed the playground designs

- proposal will be submitted to the school district on April 8<sup>th</sup>
- maintenance needs to be done by the HPAC (not the district)
- still could use more volunteers for the maintenance crew (have a good list of 35+ so far)

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**11. Safe Routes Advocates Update**

Erin will do an update next time, meeting ran too long.

**12. Open Discussion**

Ran out of time

**13. Next PAC Meeting: May 12, 2015**