



**Southeast Vancouver Seniors
Arts and Cultural Society
Meeting # 44
Champlain Heights Community Centre
3350 Maquinna Drive, Vancouver
Thursday Jan 19, 2012 at 10:30 AM
www.SVSACS.org - tel. 604-325-0163**

Minutes

Present: Lorna Gibbs, George Grant, Manfred Hagen, Commissioner Aaron Jasper (VPB), Belen and Nelson Didulo, Margaret Homonnay, Mohinder Sidhu, Bert Massiah, Jean MacPherson, Philip and Naomi Mah, Pat Deibert, Des Burke, Wendy Emslander, Kari Ward, George Anderson, Donna Davies, Tom Chin, Tom Holmes, Keith Jacobson, Pietro and Rosario Cassano, Anna Fiorini, Sharon Yau-Ling Tong, Con. Heather Brown (CPC), Gail MacKay, Lucy Kadian, Debbie Barber (VPB), MP Wai Young and staff: Joey Cheung, Kyle Simunovic.

1. Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 10:30 am.
2. Approval to alter Agenda: Request made by Chair for Motion to alter Agenda to accommodate MP Wai Young's schedule with arrival to be 11:15. Moved by Nelson Didulo, 2nd by Pat Deibert, carried.
3. Approval of the Minutes of Meeting of 43 (incorrectly labeled Meeting 42) – moved by Philip Mah, 2nd by Manfred Hagen, carried as corrected.
4. Reports: Presidents Report – Lorna

- **Vancouver Coastal Health:** On December 1st, Lorna and George met with representatives of Vancouver Coastal Health to explore the possibility of developing a mutually beneficial partnership for a co-located facility. Coastal Health does not have Capital Funds, preferring to lease space. The West Vancouver Community Centre may be a model that could be replicated at Killarney Community Centre. SVSACS representatives will tour the West Vancouver facility in the spring.
- **Community Recreation Program Grant:** Through MLA Kash Heed we received information about this fund and that our project may qualify. Only Municipal Entities can make applications for funds. Lorna contacted Vancouver Councillor Raymond Louie who, with the help of Malcolm Bromley of Vancouver Parks Dept., very quickly brought all Financial and Social Planning Groups together and prepared necessary documents. A formal Application was then approved by Vancouver Parks Board and sent with recommendation to Vancouver City Council for consideration. On Dec. 15th, seventeen SVSACS members and supporters attended at City Hall for the Council Meeting and several spoke to the Motion. The Motion to apply was carried unanimously. The proceedings can be viewed at:

<http://cityofvan-as1.insinc.com/ibc/mp/md/open/c/317/1201/201112150915wv150en,001>

- **Application for Charitable Status:** The Canada Revenue Agency will not consider our application until two Articles of our Constitution, filed under the *Society Act* of British Columbia is amended. To this end a special General Meeting of our Society is scheduled for Wednesday, January 25th, 2012, 11:00 am at Champlain Heights Community Centre to

consider a **Special Resolution** to amend SVSACS' Constitution. The changes required are to replace Article 2 with:

To operate a senior centre offering structured programs directed towards the alleviation of loneliness and isolation.

Add Article 4:

"Pursuant to Article 3, the organization to which the assets are distributed must also be a qualified donee as described in subsection 149.1(1) of the Income Tax Act (Canada)."

The **Special Resolution** must be filed with the Registrar of Companies of British Columbia and copied to the Canada Revenue Agency and received by the CRA no later than March 2, 2012.

Commissioner Jasper, Gail McKay, Lucy Kadian left the Meeting at 11:25

5. MP WAI YOUNG – PRESENTATION RE SENIORS' CENTRE

Wai Young, MP for Vancouver South, gave a brief overview of her progress in championing our request for Federal Government funding of the proposed Seniors Activity Centre at Killarney. She explained that funding requests to the Federal Government must follow a procedure. The procedure first requires formal commitment of funding from the Provincial and Municipal Governments for the needed infrastructure. The **City** of Vancouver has already committed funds and land and we now await a formal commitment of Provincial participation.

To help in securing Provincial commitment, MP Young has consulted with Kevin Falcon (Minister of Finance and Deputy Premier) and Michael De Jong, Q.C. (Minister of Health). Both Minister Falcon and Minister De Jong expressed some degree of support. However, MP Wai Young learned that the **Provincial** Government now requires financial commitment from senior citizens in Southeast Vancouver before the Provincial Government will make any formal commitment.

To satisfy the requirement put forward by Ministers Falcon and De Jong, our MP recommends that an escrowed fund be established through a charitable organization where monies donated by seniors can be held in escrow specifically for furnishing of the proposed facility. Tax receipts would be issued for amounts greater than \$20.00. The numbers of supporters is more important than the dollar amounts raised. Timeline would be the end of February 2012. This fundraising activity will be used to gauge the will of the people. Ms Young told us that she had met with local Chinese seniors groups who were really enthusiastic and keen to contribute. Seniors will only be asked to contribute according to their means or wealth.

Ms Young also noted that federally funded facilities cannot be targeted to a specific demographic group but must be open to all. She suggested we consider broadening our scope to include, as an example, a cultural facility.

MP Young has identified two reservoirs of cash that might be made available for the Seniors' Centre Project but cautioned that no promises had been made. She noted that one of these parties is not interested in small projects but liked building "big state-of-the art" projects and that we might be the beneficiaries.

In closing, Ms. Young's staff distributed a survey in English, Chinese and Punjabi. Surveys will be used to determine the degree of commitment from seniors' organizations for the project and establish types of programs desired. A copy is attached.

6. Discussion & Business Arising – Resolved: SVSACS will host a luncheon **February 17, 2012** before the screening of *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*. Collingwood Policing Centre will arrange the food and be reimbursed. **Reservations are necessary**. Please contact CPC at 604-717-2935, between **Feb. 1 and Feb. 14**, to add your name to the luncheon list.

7. An Extraordinary General Meeting to deal with changes to Constitution will be held at 11:00 a.m. on 25 January at Champlain Heights Community Centre. Please be on time, as we have to vacate the room in exactly one hour.

8. Our next regular meeting is February 16, 2012 at 10:30 am at Champlain Heights CC.

9. Meeting Adjourned at 12:15

Please note:

MP Wai Young is hosting a Community Open House Jan. 25, 2012, 3:00 pm to 5:30 pm to celebrate Chinese New Year (Year of the Dragon). Location: Constituency Office 6406 Victoria Drive. All are welcome. Please bring canned goods for the Food Bank and wear your SVSACS pin.

Champlain Heights Community Centre:
<http://vancouver.ca/parks/cc/champlain/website/>
3350 Maquinna Drive, Vancouver.
Phone: 604 718 6585

SVSACS PARTNERS are all working together to get a real Seniors Centre for you!

