

MINUTES of a special meeting of the COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, Community Meeting, of the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the District of Oak Bay, held in the Neighbourhood Learning Centre, 2121 Cadboro Bay Road, Victoria, B.C., on Wednesday October 2, 2019 at 7:00 PM

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Coast and Straits Salish Peoples. Specifically we recognize the Lekwungen speaking people, known today as the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations, and that their historic connections to these lands continue to this day.

PRESENT: Mayor, K. Murdoch
Councillor A. Appleton
Councillor H. Braithwaite
Councillor C. Green
Councillor T. Ney
Councillor E. Paterson
Councillor E. W. Zhelka

STAFF: Chief Administrative Officer, L. Varela
Communications Specialist, H. Goodgrove

Residents raised questions and concerns regarding the future of Oak Bay Lodge. Residents asked how the Lodge could be developed in a way that makes sense for the community and what could happen to the land the Lodge currently sits on. A desire was expressed for facilities that allow Oak Bay residents to remain in the municipality as they age.

A broader discussion around housing emerged from the conversation about Oak Bay Lodge. Residents expressed that there is a need for affordable housing in the municipality. Residents stated that there should be public engagement to ensure diverse housing options are available in Oak Bay, and that those options accurately represent the needs of citizens.

Residents expressed the desire to preserve the integrity of Oak Bay neighbourhoods and asked how barriers and opposition to allowing new forms of housing will be acknowledged and handled. Residents also expressed frustration in regards to the current Heritage Revitalization Agreement process, asking why the process is currently so complicated.

Residents asked for clarification on the Secondary Suites Study and the Housing Needs Assessment with respect to their simultaneous completion date, and asked if an update on the process to date could be provided. Residents also asked how the Community Plan and the Housing Plan coincide and asked for clarification on Development Cost Charges and Amenity Charges.

Residents also asked how the municipality can increase the proportion of taxes received from businesses rather than residents and asked if 4% of the municipality's tax dollars could come from businesses. Residents asked if the municipality is proactive in business applications and asked for clarification regarding how business types are selected.

With respect to roads and traffic, residents identified issues along Cadboro Bay Road near Bowker Avenue and Cranmore Road and highlighted the need for a reconfiguration of the

area. Residents also indicated a desire for a stop sign or crosswalk at Beach Drive and King George, noting that pedestrians are currently being forced on to the crosswalk on Beach Drive. Residents noted the patches of asphalt on Falkland Road along to Beach Drive and asked why patching is being done instead of resurfacing the road.

Bylaw enforcement was also a significant topic of discussion. Residents asked how much revenue is being generated from Bylaw infractions, how many Bylaw Officers Oak Bay has, and how Bylaws are enforced in the municipality. With respect to Bylaws, residents expressed concerns with Airbnb and short-term rentals in Oak Bay. Residents expressed that the bylaws regarding short-term and Airbnb rentals should be enforced, monitored and actively patrolled. Residents stated that they do not want to live on a street where houses have been converted to Airbnb rentals.

Residents requested more citizen engagement, advertising by the municipality, and a weekly column to highlight what Council is currently working on. Residents wished for the Special Committee of the Whole – Community Meeting to be more widely advertised to encourage increased attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Certified Correct:

Mayor

Director of Corporate Services