



# QUAYSIDE COMMUNITY BOARD

## Meeting Notes

February 12, 2025

Meeting Location: Anchor Pointe, 1135 Quayside Drive

In attendance:

Barbara Duggan (The Lido), David Highfield (Rialto), (Promenade), Kendra Johnston (Tower 1), Calvin Chrustie (Excelsior), Maureen Albanese (Laguna Landing), Naomi Scott (Anchor Pointe), Roberta Neumann (Promenade), Jean Francois Chenier (Riversky 1), Karen Tomkins (Dockside)

The meeting was chaired by Karen Tomkins and called to order at 7:02 pm. There is no longer a requirement for a specific number of representatives in order to have a quorum. Based on our new Governing Principles and Procedures, a meeting may proceed if there is a sufficient number of representatives in attendance to advance the agenda, and to pass a motion, a majority of those present must vote in favour.

### **Flood Mitigation**

**Due to the critical importance of this topic, the Board is planning to invite our guests back to speak to a larger community meeting, with the intention of including surrounding areas.**

**Watch for additional information to be provided in the coming months!**

Representatives from the City of New Westminster attended the meeting in response to a request from the Board to address the topic of flood mitigation:

- Brad Davie, Deputy Fire Chief
- George Otenio, Senior Infrastructure Engineer
- Wes Halliday, Manager of Public Works
- Kwaku Agyare-Manu, Fire Department

The following is a brief summary of the discussion, with links to additional information:

- The Fraser Basin Council undertook risk assessments for the Lower Mainland using federal tools for calculating potential damages to buildings and critical infrastructure. The City took this information and applied it to the City.
- New Westminster has four areas at risk of a high water emergency (ranked in the order of highest risk to lowest risk)

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- Queensborough,
- Industrial area between the Quay and the Queensborough Bridge,
- Braid industrial area,
- Quayside area.

*Flood Mitigation, continued*

- The City has an Emergency Operations Centre, with experts and representation from all service areas, and a strategy to carry out the emergency plan, and communicate with residents.
- It is critical that instructions from the City be followed in the event of any emergency, and that residents not rely on other sources such as Facebook Instagram, personal messages etc.
- A number of different methods will be used to by the City to ‘get the word out’ in the event of an emergency
  - Phone # 604-239-4936 for recorded messages
  - City website: [Welcome to New Westminister | City of New Westminister](#)
  - Emergency alert system
  - Media outlets (ie, radio/TV)
- It is recommended that each building designate an individual to monitor these communications and share critical messaging.
- There will generally be about a week’s notice before a high water emergency, as a result of regular monitoring of river levels.
- In the event of an emergency, residents may be advised to either:
  - Evacuate (routes will be provided by the City to facilitate the most safe and efficient evacuation.)
  - Shelter in place (remain indoors, keeping all doors, windows and vents closed.)
- The mitigation plan has been approved, but is not financed. The City does not have sufficient funds to carry out the recommended work (for example, improved dyking) and would require support from other levels of government in order to proceed.
- Ruby indicated that it is important to get residents to understand the need for the Climate Action Fund.
- Additional information may be found at the following links:



*August 2023 Council meeting where flood resilience strategy was discussed:*

<https://pub-newwestcity.escribemeetings.com/Meeting.aspx?Id=bfc2e41a-5708-417e-97a6-d79d79bffb2&Agenda=Agenda&lang=English>

*Flood Resilience Plan, Flood Depth Maps & Proposed Mitigation Plans:*

<https://www.newwestcity.ca/services/public-safety/flood-management>

*New West Record Article on Flood Resilience:*

<https://www.newwestrecord.ca/local-news/terrifying-study-spells-out-potential-flood-impacts-in-new-west-7509883>

It was agreed that this is a topic of significant concern and interest and accordingly, the Board will plan for a follow up meeting, involving the broader Quayside community, and perhaps also Queensborough.

## **Elections of Officers**

- As per the Governing Principles and Procedures that were adopted at the December meeting, there is a requirement for a new slate of officers to be elected each year, with eight week's notice (which was provided in December.)

### *Election of Officers, continued*

- The following nominations were put forward:
  - President – Karen Tomkins
  - Vice-President – Kendra Johnston
  - Treasurer – Maureen Albanese
  - Secretary – Naomi Scott
  - Member at Large – David Highfield
- All nominees accepted, with the following understanding expressed at the meeting:
  - The President and Vice-President will share duties on a roughly equal basis.
  - Karen agreed that she will continue to prepare minutes for each meeting, which will then be shared with Naomi for storage and distribution.
- All nominees were acclaimed. The Past President role will remain vacant.
- Barb Duggan expressed a willingness to assume responsibility for liaising with the City relating to the flood mitigation issue, which was enthusiastically accepted by the other Board members present.

## **Treasurer's Report**

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- Maureen briefly commented on the Treasurers Report, which will be circulated with the meeting notes.
- Annual dues are now payable, and Maureen is following up with property managers for those who have not yet remitted.

### **Other Business**

- Trees on Quayside Drive: Naomi advised that the Board has engaged a lawyer who is currently reviewing our request. The expected cost of the initial legal opinion is \$800-\$1,000.
- By-laws: David indicated that at our next meeting, there will need to be a motion to finalize discarding of our former by-laws.

### **Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting will be held on March 26<sup>th</sup> in the common room at Anchor Pointe

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6: 30 pm.

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*February 17, 2025*