

**Kitsilano Parent Advisory
Council**

c/o Kitsilano Secondary School
2550 West Tenth Avenue
Vancouver, B.C.
Canada V6K 2J6

Chair:

James Burton

Vice Chairs:

Mary Chipmann
Lisa Herrera

Secretary:

Andrew Larigakis

Treasurer:

Cathy Goodban

DPAC Representative:

Anne deWolfe

Kitsilano School Planning Team

PAC Representatives: James Burton, Jean Gordon

**Comments on the the start-up material supplied by the consultant
CitySpaces**

See the attached agenda that was used in the meeting last Thursday, the first of monthly meetings to be held until May. Jean and I attended; other attendees included two teachers (Karen and librarian Ms. Bombazino (I think that's her last name), two students (new faces), a partner of the architectural firm DA Architects and the project architect, Chris Atkinson, and three members of CitySpaces: Elizabeth FitzZaland, Andy Hiscox, and partner Gwyn Symmons, and Craig Sidjak.

CitySpaces is responsible for the minutes. When we receive them, we shall forward them to the Executive. Once they are approved by the KSPT, we can post them on the web. I imagine minutes of previous meeting will be on the agenda of each meeting (but this was not specifically discussed).

It's our concern that we keep the Executive as fully informed about the proceedings of these KSPT meetings as possible, so that at any time the Executive can make their positions known to the KSPT and any other players, and inform the PAC generally via the web or at meetings.

PAC representative's comments to the Team on the October 29, 2009 meeting:

1.
General expression of eagerness to be on to the next step in renewing Kitsilano High School.
2.
Proposed revision to the key objective statement, both to make sense of the sentence and to more accurately reflect the sentiments expressed by the consultants at the meeting: striking the word "potential" from the sentence: "The renewal will likely include a mix of demolition, new construction and potential renovation/seismic upgrade of some parts of the buildings." If the position of the VSB is that renovation/seismic upgrade of some parts of the buildings are not likely, then this should be openly stated.
3.
Elizabeth F presented a brief concise report on the Visioning event held last February, and made note of the support of the Premier for the PAC's Vision document.
4.
Funding for the project was discussed in very general terms: the project has been given funding as per all the schools currently in the process: the area standards formula plus 15%, in recognition of its NCLD (Neighbourhood Centre of Learning something-or-other) status.
5.
Meaningful integration of Community Centre facilities and programming requires the consultants to quickly engage the Community Centre Board and Staff in helping identify common goals for a renewed Kits High School. Consultants will get onto that.

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6.

The architectural consultants spoke of producing options for discussion. PAC representatives stated that they believe that developing options might be going over old and contentious territory, and that it would be far more helpful to have the consultants produce a series of tutorials on the major variables that will factor into developing a conceptual plan for the school, variables such as:

- phasing strategies: what constraints and opportunities does the existing building and site present?
- structural strategies for 1920s school structures:
- construction costing: how will the VSB approach re-use of buildings in their costing? Lessons from UBC Renew? Use of the Athena program (used by UBC)?
- Concrete implications of the 21st Century learning environment policy being developed by the VSB District Management Team (including Alex Grant)
- sustainability goals, and their impact on conceptual planning
- potential programmatic sharing with Community Centre
- potential facility/physical plant sharing with Community Centre
- site analysis, leaving aside the jurisdictional issues of land ownership
- jurisdictional issues (City, VSB, Board of Parks and Recreation)
- NCLD implications: what can Kits offer as a unique centre of learning?
[Suggestion: Centre of Sustainability Studies]

The general message from us was: we believe the conceptual planning should as a start engage in the issues noted above, so that the members of the team can offer useful input. Sustainability needs to be taken seriously, and coordination with the Community Centre.

End of notes.