

District of Squamish OCP Community Advisory Committee



Meeting: Monday, February 29, 2016, 6:30 p.m.

Location: Council Chambers, Municipal Hall

Public Attendees:

Lisa Ames
Toran Savjard
Shannon White

Absent:

Mayor Patricia Heintzman
Councillor Karen Elliott
Deanna Bell
Christina Bergin
Kristine Good
Karen Cook
John Hawkings
Grant McRadu
Sarah McJannet

Council:

Staff:

Jonas Velaniskis
Christina Moore
Gary Buxton
Matt Gunn

Consultants:

Vince Verlaan (Modus)
Dan Wilson (WCS)

NOTES:

1. Adoption of Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. The agenda was adopted as presented. It was noted that the group did not have quorum (6 members) so no decisions could be made. Only information could be presented.

2. Project Update

Vince Verlaan provided a project update. The project exceeded 700 surveys, and over 350 people attended the evening event, and over 80 students attended a world café at the Howe Sound Secondary School, in addition to another event held for District staff. An event with the Squamish Nation was also being planned as part of the initial phase. Overall we have connected with over 1,000 people in phase 1.

A summary of the phase 1 material to date has been created in the document circulated earlier this morning.

3. Review Phase 1 Engagement Summary

There was a reasonable age and gender balance. There was a larger representation from the 30 – 39 age group. This may be due in part to the younger demographic and also due to heavy social media outreach that may resonate with this group, more than typical media.

The group asked about “Sense of place” which was a key phrase that emerged from the “Vision Tree” exercise. Dan Wilson noted that there were many comments that described Squamish as

distinct and different, and related to the community's sense of place. The term is really a "bucket" to capture a wide variety of similar descriptors.

The initial phase has identified 6 key themes

- Smart, well planned growth
- Economic development and local jobs
- Local and regional transportation
- Affordable and diverse housing
- Sustainable environment and recreation
- Sense of community

The input from the staff event, the youth world café and any input from the Squamish First Nation would need to be added to this document. Until this is done, then the document should remain a private draft.

Dan Wilson noted that in preparing the document, Modus went through every comment submitted, and sorted and then distilled them into groupings that are presented.

Staff asked for comments on the document to come back over the next week; the end of day Monday March 7 2016 is the deadline for comments. Comments should be sent to Christina Moore (cmoore@squamish.ca).

4. Discuss Phase 2 Activities

Modus outlined the phase 2 activities, principally through the OCPizza night; self - formed and guided groups, with workbooks to follow through, and then a deep dive workshop to explore specific topics in more detail. These were being scheduled for April and May.

The group asked about if staff could assist or facilitate in the pizza night events. Staff responded that this would depend largely on staff resources. Perhaps for larger groups, but could not be done for large numbers of small groups.

Staff were deliberately trying to delay meetings in Phase 2 with special interest groups, so that their feedback would be heard in conjunction with input from the entire community. Meetings with special interest groups would be far more effective in Phase 3, when specific issues and solutions are being proposed.

Staff and Modus were also planning an internal workshop in March to review the overall readability of the plan, and to review who uses the OCP and for what purpose, so that the document can be written to meet as many of the user needs as possible.

5. Next Meeting

The next meeting date was selected as Monday April 11, 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers.

The meeting terminated at 7:35 p.m.