



Vancouver Island Human Rights Committee

April 10, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Minutes prepared by
Virginia Vaillancourt

Released Unofficially: April 11, 2014
Adopted Officially: June 24, 2014

Attendance

Boardroom: Bert Farwell, Michael Doerfler, Michelle Ratsoy, Paul Jones, Virginia Vaillancourt & PSAC Rep: None.

Teleconference: Heather DuDoward, Kelly Megyesi, Paul Croes & Tracy Shudo.

Translators: Mary Butterfield & Sarah Coupe.

Regrets: Daniel Girard & Jim Sidel.

Meeting – Call to Order

VIHRC President Michael Doerfler called this meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Roundtable Introduction

The members in the attendance did their own introduction to each other as part of the opening roundtable conversations.

Old Business for Review

Adoption of the February 4, 2014 VIHRC Minutes:

The meeting minutes were reviewed at this time.

Motion: Virginia Vaillancourt made the motion to accept the minutes.

Seconded: Bert Farwell.

Carried: Unanimously.

New Business

Treasurer's Report:

President Michael Doerfler advised that he would be presenting the January and February 2014 Financial Statements on behalf of Treasurer.

January 2014 Financial Statement was presented.

Motion: Bert Farwell made a motion to accept the January 2014 Financial Statement as presented.

Seconded: Tracy Shudo

Carried: Unanimously

February 2014 Financial Statement was presented.

Amendments noted to February 2014 statement:

- Total expenses to be corrected to \$200.00 to reflect expenses.

Motion: Paul Jones made a motion to accept the February 2014 Financial Statement with above noted amendment.

Seconded: Michelle Ratsoy

Carried: Unanimously

PRIDE 2014 Plans/Update:

Virginia Vaillancourt reviewed the Victoria PRIDE Checklist that she presented at the January meeting with the committee. Virginia Vaillancourt discussed the items that the committee needs to start working on to prepare for PRIDE parade.

Task: Committee to send out request for volunteers to assist with PRIDE

Action: Paul Jones offered to draft a letter to send out to seek volunteers and will give the letter to Virginia Vaillancourt the last week of April.

Virginia Vaillancourt advised that she has already emailed the Victoria Labour Council after the January meeting and received a response back from their President asking her to contact them closer to the event. Virginia Vaillancourt is going to make contact with Kim Manton to see if she is working on a multi-union entry that our committee can join in.

Task: Committee to write letter request for donations

Action: Virginia Vaillancourt will update the letter from previous year and will have it sent out to committees through PSAC Victoria.

Registration for VIHRCs entry in the PRIDE Parade and Festival has been completed and PSAC BC REVP's has been sent the information to submit payment.

Swag for PRIDE was discussed.

Motion: Virginia Vaillancourt made a motion for VIHRC to spend \$500.00 on PRIDE Swag to hand out during parade and festival.

Seconded: Paul Jones

Carried: Unanimously

Action: Virginia Vaillancourt and Paul Jones will do the shopping in mid May for the SWAG and submit receipts to VIHRC for reimbursement.

PRIDE Flags

Committee checked out the PRIDE Fans that PSAC National sent for the committee to use for PRIDE events. Virginia Vaillancourt advised that she has confirmed that the PRIDE Fans replaced the PRIDE Flags that we have been using for years. Concerns were discussed that there was no consultation with each committee/region to see what works well within those specific communities. For VIHRC the PRIDE Flags are a huge hit for PRIDE Festivities in Victoria.

Action: Virginia Vaillancourt to send question up nationally to find out why no consultation was done regarding changing from the flags to the fans.

Action: Virginia Vaillancourt to find out from PSAC BC if there are flag poles left over that can be sent to VIHRC.

VIHRC's Proposal to City of Victoria:

Virginia Vaillancourt advised that she has a plan to make a proposal to the City of Victoria on behalf of VIHRC to have the crosswalks around Johnson, Broad and Pandora painted in PRIDE colors.

Virginia Vaillancourt feels it is important to continue to get VIHRC and PSAC out into the community and feels that this will be one way to do it further to the work of the Vancouver Island Human Rights Committee.

Virginia Vaillancourt's plan is to finish the proposal she is working on, with a caveat in the proposal that VIHRC will cover the cost of the painting of the crosswalks.

Virginia Vaillancourt would like to finish the proposal and bring it back to the committee meeting in June for discussion and passing and then work on next steps.

Virginia Vaillancourt has requested Paul Jones to go with her into the community around Johnson, Broad and Pandora to gain signatures of support from the businesses in the area in advance of presenting the proposal to the city.

Virginia Vaillancourt also advised that it is important to find a City Council member to support the proposal and assist with putting it forward to council members and she is currently researching a council member to discuss the proposal with for assistance.

Action: Paul Jones will draft a standard letter for request of support and will send to Virginia Vaillancourt.

PSAC BC Equity Reps Teleconference Call:

The following PSAC BC Equity Representatives below joined into our meeting via a teleconference call at 6:52 p.m.:

Aboriginal Representative:	Heather DuDoward
Women Representative:	Kelly Megyesi
PRIDE Representative:	Paul Croes
Members with Disabilities Representative:	Tracy Shudo

However Sargy Chima, as the **Racially Visible** Representative, wasn't able to participate.



VIHRC committee members asked questions to the representatives.

Questions included:

As you are coming to the end of your term, describe one highlight from the past 3 years and 1 disappointment and how we can overcome that in the future?

Have you been exposed to any human rights issues on the island? If so, are they similar or different from the mainland?

Various discussions ensued for a lively interesting session.

President Michael Doerfler advised that he would like to see this (Regional Equity Representatives to be involved with VIHRC) happen on a regular basis. Once a year perhaps in February or April.

Meeting – Call to Adjourn

VIHRC President Michael Doerfler called to adjourn this meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Next Meeting Notification

Tuesday June 17, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.
at the PSAC Office in Admirals Walk

Minutes Attachment

Submitted by Paul Jones of the minutes referring to HRC within PSAC NBoD Meeting from February 25-27, 2014.

Human Rights. Motion to increase the Human Rights Committee by the 6 members recently elected at the HR Conference bringing the representation to 58; an additional \$30,000 which is not covered in current budget. UNDE spoke against the motion stating that UNDE did not support the past increase to the committee bringing it to the current 52 and that a committee that large is unyielding. Part of the rationale

expressed by Sister Baldwin was that these 6 new members are currently not responsible to anyone; UNDE countered that the 6 members would be responsible to the body that elected them. Several members of the board made similar comments. REVP Prairies stated that the members ran for election to be delegates to convention, not to sit on a committee. Motion to table defeated. Original motion defeated 14/10.