



General Purposes Committee

Date: Monday, March 4, 2013

Place: Anderson Room
Richmond City Hall

Present: Mayor Malcolm D. Brodie, Chair
Councillor Chak Au
Councillor Linda Barnes
Councillor Derek Dang
Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt
Councillor Ken Johnston
Councillor Bill McNulty
Councillor Linda McPhail
Councillor Harold Steves

Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

MINUTES

It was moved and seconded

That the minutes of the meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on Monday, February 18, 2013, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

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COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

1. **REQUEST FOR SUPPORT LETTER IN RELATION TO A PROPOSED INCREASE IN 'PERSONS LIVING WITH DISABILITIES' (PWD) BENEFITS**

(File Ref. No.) (REDMS No. 3802364 v.2)

It was moved and seconded

That a letter be sent to the BC Premier in support of an increase in 'Persons living With Disabilities' (PWD) benefits to a minimum level of \$1200 per month.

CARRIED

LAW AND COMMUNITY SAFETY DEPARTMENT

2. **SHARK FINS**

(File Ref. No. 12-8000-04/2012) (REDMS No. 3589566 v.13)

May K. Leung, Staff Solicitor and Glenn McLaughlin, Chief Licence Inspector & Risk Manager were available to answer questions. A discussion ensued about:

- how shark finning and importation of shark fins are matters that are regulated within federal jurisdiction;
- the work the City has proposed to do with the BC Asian Restaurant Cafe Owners Association to develop and distribute a brochure dealing with the consumption of shark fins;
- the resources that have been invested in researching the matter. Staff was requested to provide further information on the approximate costs related to attaining independent legal advice, as well as staff time and other resources invested in researching the issue of shark fins;
- how other Canadian jurisdictions and other countries are dealing with the practice of shark finning. It was noted that shark finning in Canadian fisheries waters and by Canadian-licensed vessels is prohibited, and that sharks harvested in Canada must be landed with their fins; and
- how the shark population in BC is continually growing, and the feasibility of supporting the local shark fin industry. Staff was directed to work with the BC Asian Restaurant Cafe Owners Association to promote support for a sustainable shark fin industry in BC.

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It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled Shark Fins (dated February 22, 2013 from the General Manager, Law & Community Safety) be received for information.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded

That the meeting adjourn (4:20 p.m.).

CARRIED

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the General Purposes Committee of the Council of the City of Richmond held on Monday, March 4, 2013.

Mayor Malcolm D. Brodie
Chair

Shanan Sarbjit Dhaliwal
Executive Assistant
City Clerk's Office