

WOODWARDS SQUAT FINANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes 01 November 2002 - Day 49

Committee members present: Joseph Hervé Luc Lortie, Jean-Guy Levesque (kitchen coordinator), Dan Lindsay, Julian Owczarek, Doris Louis.

The Woodward Coalition is turning over finances to the squat today after the financial statement is complete.

If money is available after the finances are turned over the squat will purchase a pay-as-you-go cell phone (\$50).

Starting today gasoline for Julian's vehicle is going to be purchased through the status native discount program.

The kitchen coordinator is responsible for all incoming donations and assigning kitchen work crews.

Dan will be responsible for contacting the United Church for ongoing maintenance of the portable toilets.

The squat wants to try to get ongoing reliable donations of styrofoam cups, plates, and plastic utensils from outside organizations.

A list of security is needed.



Friends of the Woodward Squat | www.woodsquat.net | friends@woodsquat.net

Please note that FWS is a material support group. It does not represent the Woodward Squat, Woodward Coalition for Social Housing, or any other of the many groups and individuals currently involved in the DTES housing action.

W.O.O.D.S.Q.U.A.T. #35

WEATHER FORECAST FROM ENVIRONMENT KANADA

Today

Sunny. High 11.

Tonight

Clear. Low plus 1 to minus 5.

Monday 04 Nov

Mainly sunny. Fog patches in the morning. High 11.

Demo Against the Training Wage 6pm Burrard Skytrain

Tuesday 05 Nov

Cloudy with sunny periods. Low 4. High 10.

1pm High School Students Visit the Squat

Wednesday 06 Nov

Rain. Windy near the water. Low 6. High 10.

9pm Squat Meeting to Discuss Injunction

Thursday 07 Nov

Rain. Windy near the water. Low 6. High 10.

9am Meeting for the W58 at Courthouse

10am Court Appearance for the W58

THREE CAMERON WARD LETTERS MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

DAY 51 - SUNDAY - 03 NOV 02

Letter from Cameron Ward to The City - October 29

Attention: Tom Zworski

Dear Sirs/Mesdames:

Re: Provincial Rental Housing Corporation v. Doe et al.; S.C.B.C. Action No. S025117, Vancouver Registry (Woodward's Building Occupation)

Our clients have received an undated form of letter addressed to "To Whom it May Concern" which suggests that they may be in non-compliance with the City's Street and Traffic By-Law. Please advise which section(s) of the by-law you are relying upon.

If the City is contemplating enforcement proceedings against these people in the event that some are still in alleged non-compliance after noon on October 30, 2002, we expect the City to follow its usual practices in these matters. In our view, the fact that these people are among the most marginalized and disadvantaged in our society does not entitle the City to treat them with anything other than the same procedural fairness and respect that the City shows to other residents who may be alleged to be in non-compliance with City by-laws.

Yours truly, A. CAMERON WARD & COMPANY [signed]

Letter from Cameron Ward to George Abbott - October 27

Attention: Hon. George Abbott, Minister

Dear Sir:

Re: Woodward's Building Occupation

I do not appear to have received any response from you or your staff to my letter to you dated September 17, 2002 (copy enclosed), which referenced our discussion the previous day in the presence of the media wherein you agreed to meet with me to discuss the Downtown Eastside. I trust this is an oversight and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours truly, A. CAMERON WARD & COMPANY [signed]

Letter from Cameron Ward to The City & Premier - Oct 31

Attention: Hon. Gordon Campbell, Premier; Mayor Philip Owen

Dear Sir, Your Worship:

Re: Woodward's Building "Squat"

I am a lawyer retained by Terry Hall, Claude Maurice and Kerry Pakarinen to represent their interests in any legal proceedings arising from the actions of a group of people who have been in or around the old Woodward's building since September 14, 2002. These people, who are among the most destitute and marginalized in our society, are pressing for more social housing in the City of Vancouver.

It has become apparent to me that police action is not the solution to the Woodward's issue. After all, some one hundred Vancouver riot police and ERT members forcibly removed, arrested and detained fifty-four people on September 21, 2002 and the "squatters" are now present in much greater numbers. This is a social and housing issue, not a law enforcement issue.

In my opinion, the measure of any government can be found in how it treats its most disadvantaged citizens. I implore you, as the leaders of the two governments most directly involved in this matter, to meet with me and/or some of these homeless people, listen to their concerns and attempt to find a short-term solution to this problem that does not involve the use of force. I would be pleased to arrange such a meeting at a time and place convenient to you.

In closing, I hope that you do not dismiss me as a member of some "special interest" group, unworthy of your attention. I am a taxpayer and voter who has been a member of only one provincial political party, the B.C. Liberals, and I am a former president of the Vancouver-Little Mountain riding association of that party. I have had an office at Victory Square for the last nine years and I am deeply concerned about the steady increase in poverty and homelessness that I have witnessed in this area. I believe that my personal views on this subject are in the majority.

I look forward to receiving the courtesy of a response to the foregoing suggestion from you or your staff.

Yours truly, A. CAMERON WARD & COMPANY [signed]