



P.O. Box 44152
VICTORIA, BC V9A 7K1

DRAFT MINUTES

Pearkes Recreation Centre, 7:00 p.m., Thursday, October 4, 2018

In Attendance: Gabe, Vera, Chris K, Scott, Arden, Elise (and Lucia!), Russ, Ed, Katherine, Chris B.

Regrets: Irena, Evan, Pam, Phil, Rob

1. **Guest Presentation:** Glenys Verhulst, Saanich Sustainability Planner.

2. **Approval of minutes** from September meeting. Russ motion/ Vera seconded.

3. **Agenda Adopted.** (2 additions) Chris K motion/Arden seconded

4. **Reports:**

A. Finance: See report submitted by Chris Kask

B. Membership: Irena away.

C. Communication:

- i. Newsletter: Vera has lots of content, beginning to put it all together.
- ii. Website: Evan absent. Existing website expires at the end of October. Need to talk to Evan regarding the possibility of putting new website online (or should we pay for more time for the existing website?)

D. Board Transition Process: See 'GTCA Vision, Objectives & Board Operating Principles Draft v.4' document, 'GTCA Strategic Actions DRAFT v.1' document and GTCA General Operating Principles Draft v.7' document. Discussed possible edits and minor changes. Please look at these documents further and send your edits and suggestions to Gabe. Will go back to transition team again.

5. **Initiatives & Collaborations:**

A. Governance:

- i. SCAN: Gabe reported there will be a SCAN Workshop on Community Associations, Saturday, November 24th, 1-430 at Prospect Lake.
- ii. Council: Gabe reported that the Strategic and Financial Plan Engagement report, describing possible actions supporting community input into the development of these plans, was received and discussed by Council. Also received from Saanich staff was a report on actions in support of the federal Truth and Reconciliation recommendations, exploring what role the municipality has in this process.

B. Building Developments:

- i. Gorge and Tillicum. No new news since last meeting.
- ii. Gorgeous Coffee (in same location as above.) Chris B wanted to discuss this item separately, as many of us lament the loss of a 'community meeting place'. We hope to see some suitable replacement within the new project and will express these concerns to the developer.
- iii. Obed and Harriet. Project team would like to come to our November meeting. We thought this was a good idea but Gabe will also organize a smaller meeting with them prior to this (shortly after the upcoming election.)

C. Boulevards, Parks & Waterways:

- i. Cuthbert Holmes Park: Vera reported that the Fish Fence panels are in and Dorothy and crew are ready for the salmon! No real signs of camps but lots of partying seems to still be happening (drug paraphernalia, trash etc.). Vera reported that one regular park occupant/visitor has been randomly cutting trees and plants, leaving piles. Saanich Parks is trying to find him in action and put a stop to it.

- ii. Gorge Park: 'Cleanup' event was a success. There were a few folks sheltering/gathering in the park and the interactions were mixed, mostly good. The RV is STILL parked in the parking lot along with a few regular overnight tent campers each evening in the park.
The GPCG 23 Sept. 'Fall Celebration' event in the park was a success. Lots of people, a sunny afternoon, nice music and mingling. Raised \$618 towards the gardens. Still some concerns about trying to involve more 'helpers'/hands for such events.
- iii. Gorge Waterway/PI/GWI Phil attended the recent GWI meeting. Concerns that came up were Canada Geese populations and their impact on eel grass, lighting under the new Johnson St Bridge (as it relates to predation of spawning salmon and other fish headed up the Gorge), as well as the impacts of the ongoing McKenzie Interchange project (See Phil's notes for more.)
- iv. Boulevard Trees: Scott, Gabe and Pam met with Jillian Tusan and Saanich Parks staff. We aim to get our quota (approx. 25 trees) planted each year in the neighbourhood. Please spread the word and lets get this happening!

D. Transportation: Nothing at this time

E. Art, Culture & Celebration:

- i. Lights on the Gorge - Chris B brought a proposed budget (\$300) for approval. Motion, Gabe, 2nd Russ, (approved.)
- ii. Gorge Can Day Picnic - Nothing to report at this time.
- iii. Music In The Park - 2 vendors haven't yet paid us. Russ has sent emails asking again.

6. Other Items:

A. December Meeting (always less formal) decided to be at Vera's house, December 6th.

B. Upcoming meeting re: 321 Gorge Rd, (email to come.)

C. Gorge Tillicum Refugee Sponsorship Group: Upcoming events: 'Desserts and Storytelling, Oct. 27th, 7pm at Pearkes, a fundraiser. Please spread the word! Pushing for donation deadline.

D. VCKC 50th anniversary: No one attended, nothing to report.

E. Tillicum Narrows: Scott has been in contact with the Ministry of Transportation who have asked for input to a new 'Stop of Interest' sign for the Gorge Bridge/Tillicum Narrows location. Scott has connected Ministry staff with Songhees First Nation to give their input. Will keep in contact with this and see where it will go.

7. Additions to the Agenda:

(See: items B. iii and E.iii.)

Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm Moved by Arden, seconded by Chris B.

Next Board Meeting
Time: 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Date: Thursday, November 2, 2018
Place: Pearkes Recreation Centre