

GORGE TILlicUM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

BOARD MEETING, September 14, 2023

PRESENT: Phil Lancaster, Vera Wynn-Williams (Chair), Chris Kask, Katherine Brandt, Paul Savinkoff, Scott Karpes, Gabe Epstein, Reb Stevenson, Mauricio Curbelo, Chris Bullock (Scribe), Marie-Nicole Dubois, Jennifer White, Brandon Devnich, Richard McGinnis, Xi Yao, Keith Johnson, Jennifer Douglas, Kelly Yates, Joseph Calenda (Guest speaker).

REGRETS: Arden Little, Meghan Mergaert

GUEST PRESENTATION: Joe Calenda spoke on city planning issues, outlining a Saanich development process he had shepherded, and suggesting the needed improvements in this process in general. He then answered several questions from those present.

1. MEETINGS. Agenda approved. June 2023 Minutes - MSC (Moved, Seconded, Carried)

2. COMMUNICATIONS

- **NEWSLETTER** should come out in mid-October. Deadline for items, or notification of items, September 30. Michael Laing has offered design services, and Scott has offered copyediting services. Both offers were accepted by Vera, who remains as editor. There is a great need for more carriers, particularly for the area North of Burnside. (Please volunteer to Gabe for this area.) Chris Kask volunteered to work on a document outlining the distribution process, outlining who is responsible for what. This offer was warmly accepted, as it would make volunteering easier. (Gabe will send Chris the document he has on this process.)

3. FINANCE REPORT had been circulated beforehand. Chris K's presentation focused on the Canada Day picnic, which made a minor loss for the first time ever, due to a number of factors. Entertainment expenses are one area that could be reduced. It was agreed that Chris will host an early planning meeting to discuss ways and means of adjusting the ratio of costs to revenues as well as any other possible modifications to the picnic to improve it.

4. WORKING GROUP UPDATES

- **Arts, Culture and Celebration WG**
 - Recent events.* Reb commented on the Rudd Park music event, and the Tillicum Mall Community event, where the interactive area map that Arden provided was a great success.
 - Exploring an Identity Event, October 15.* Chris B explained the nature of this poetry, song and prose event, and invited participation. He also requested a President's Letter advertising the event to our members, and a budget.

--*Budget*. Chris K responded to the budget request by proposing that, as we did last Fall, we approve a budget of \$3,000 for all the ACC activities from Fall 2023 to Fall 2024. M-Chris K, S-Phil, Carried.

--*Pumpkin Parade, Nov 1st*. Reb explored whether there were a sufficient number of muscular volunteers to make this event work. Brandon, Phil, Mauricio, and Andrew (by proxy) offered. Gabe and Chris B offered back up. It was agreed the event would proceed.

--*Lights on the Gorge*. The ACC proposed that we pause this event for this year. A spring family gathering on the other side of Burnside might be a replacement this year. This was agreed.

- **Natural Areas and C&E WG** has not met recently. Gabe mentioned that a couple of people he knows are looking for collaborations in their efforts to clean up the Gorge. They will write a piece for the Newsletter.
- **Food Resilience WG** has not met recently.
- **Land Use Committee.**

--*Tour with Mayor*. Phil reported that the Land Use Working Group had walked the neighbourhood with the mayor and the run-down condition of things here had impacted him.

--*Ironclad Tillicum/Obed/Albina Development* has apparently been sold to another developer conditional on issuance of a development permit. It is unlikely that the interior layout will remain the same because of changed building costs, increased interest rates, and changing market conditions.

--*Transit*. A discussion of the inadequacies of service proposals for #11, #25 and other busses. Phil will continue exploring options and will follow up on BC Transit's offer to host a public meeting. (Subsequently fixed for 28 September, location TBA)

5. ALBINA SUPPORTIVE HOUSING. The Community Advisory Committee for this property has met once, and Arden has provided an update on that meeting. Arden should be contacted about any unwelcome activity on the grass strip opposite the Housing building.

6. CUTHBERT HOLMES PARK ISSUES. Dorothy Chambers is concerned about people lighting fires in the park in these dry conditions. Apparently only calls to 911 get action on this issue.

7. APPOINTMENT OF NEW DIRECTORS. A motion to appoint Xi, Richard and Brandon to the Board was moved, seconded and carried. A further motion to appoint Brandon to the role of Communication Coordinator and Xi to the role of Membership Coordinator was MSC.

8. Motion to Adjourn was MSC.