



Board Meeting Minutes

Pearkes Recreation Centre, **7:00 P.M.**, Thursday, Feb. 12, 2015

1. Adoption of Agenda & Jan. 2015 Minutes

Moved RW/Seconded CF – Approved

2. Cuthbert Holmes Park Management Plan

Guest presentation by Gary Darrah, Becky Goodall from Saanich Parks

- Document will be posted on the Saanich website next week.
- It will also go through several committees and hoping to get the plan to Council before the summer
- The board agreed to add info to the newsletter alerting members that they can find the draft plan on the Saanich website. Becky will send Vera the details.

3. Board Retreat Planning

- Ellis House has been confirmed as the location although their kitchen may not be open by the May 3rd meeting date.
- Transportation to Ellis House by boat is being investigated.

4. New Board Director

Gabe nominated Chris Bullock for a position on the board. The motion was seconded by Christine. The motion was approved.

5. Reports

a. Finance – Chris

- Additional grant revenue is from the gardens.
- Donation revenue was up a bit
- Grant revenue is also related to the gardens
- Donations in-kind reflect gift card donations from Canada Day sponsors
- Additional expenses are largely due to building of the gardens
- This year saw \$4800 deficit because monies were being loaned to the community gardens

b. Membership – Christine

- Lots of renewals are coming through online
- Christine has a system in place to reach members to remind them to renew their membership.

Christine has been testing out a service called Digio. This service would allow the GTCA to store and share documents with the members. Currently there are problems with posting large documents to the website and many members do not like to receive/open attachments. The service would enable the GTCA to send links to documents and it also allows the GTCA to see who has downloaded the documents. The cost of the service is \$14.99 USD/month.

Christine moved/seconded VWW \$14.99 USD with no locked in contract.
Christine moved that the board purchase this service. It was seconded by Vera and approved by the board.

c. SCAN Renewal /New Council – Rob

Mayor Atwell was at SCAN and was well received. Reported on what Council was doing.

d. West Gorge Transportation Committee – Pam

- Met new head of engineering.
- Tree story for the June Newsletter.

e. GWI – Rob

Three communities are sending water reports?

f. Land Use Committee/Developments – Rob

- Ian Sutherland has seen Saanich staff who told him that the A1 zone is too large. There are still many things going on.
- Digging is ongoing at the Saanich Living. Currently oil remediation is underway.
- Property tax. An issue was raised by a member who noted that some properties (around Boleskine) were assessed significant property assessment increases, while other property assessments in the neighbourhood remained relatively flat. The owner called the GTCA because she was told by Saanich that the increases were related to those properties being deemed as having higher density potential have been deemed to have potential for greater property density hence increasing the property values. Board is looking for more information about how the assessments have been done.

g. GTUF- Gabe

Workshop scheduled for March 21st in the Lam Room. Linda Gilkenson will speak about gardening.

h. Community Table – Gabe

Community tables will continue.

6. Parks

Community Garden – Gabe

- Two grant applications are going in.
- Suggestion to send letters to the ministers.
- Gabe asked to dip into the line of credit to get the beds built. Board agreed.
- The group is also looking at crowd funding.
- There are now 43 members. There is a list of 75 people involved with the garden.
- Fence is up around the garden and it scheduled to come down in March. One person has complained however the garden is currently under construction and the fence is there to protect people.
- The gravel in the garden is not scooter accessible and has to be revisited. There may have to be some additional work done.

7. Communications

a) Newsletter –Vera/Christine

The newsletter is well underway and will be ready for distribution in the first week of March.

b) Websites/Social Media - Marcus

No report.

8. Oil Tank Forum

Had a good panel. Dorothy Chambers did a good job presenting. The oil tanks continue to be an issue. Saanich has built a database of all oil tanks however not every oil tank was registered.

9. Tillicum School Boulevards – Scott

The traffic situation has always been bad but currently the area around the school is chaos before and after school as a result of the additional curb put in by Saanich. Saanich has now agreed to put in an additional sidewalk to try to make the area safer.

10. Colquitz Fish Fence Signage– Vera

Vera is working on the signage and project must be completed by March 31st.

11. AGM

The plan for the AGM is to have a short business component, honour Harry Lewis with a special Saaquatch award and then have a meet & greet with members of Saanich Council.

Additional items:

- **Pump Station:** This long delayed project is going to tender and will be in construction during the Canada Day picnic.
- **Roof on Obed:** Rob received a call from a lady who is having issues with a roofing contractor. She was hoping that the GTCA could provide recommendations. The board agreed that it was not in the position to do this however The Heritage group taking over the School House will be holding information sessions in the future.
- **Canada Day:** First meeting of the year will be on Monday, 17th, 7 pm at Chris' house.