



## **Draft MINUTES**

Pearkes Recreation Centre, **7:00 P.M.**, Thursday, Nov. 3, 2016

**In Attendance:** Rob Wickson, Scott Karpes, Katherine Brandt, Chris Kask, Vera Wynn-Williams, Marcus Fedoruk, Pam Loadman, Ray Farmer, Bill Williamson, Richard Bouchard, Irena Jazwinski and Gabe Epstein.

**Regrets:** Trevor Hancock, Christine Fedoruk, Chris Bullock

**Guests:** Constable Andy Stewart, Saanich Police Bike Patrol

### **1. Adoption of October Minutes**

Moved BW/Seconded SK – Approved

### **2. Adoption of Agenda**

Moved GE/Seconded SK – Approved

### **3. Park Watch Program – Constable Andy Stewart, Saanich Police**

- Park Watch, modeled on Block Watch, was started by Constable Lisa Brushetta. Several Park Watch signs have already been installed but few people have signed up
- It was noted that many people were not aware that they needed to sign up
- The board agreed to market the program through GTCA social media and newsletter
- Suggestion to look for a GTCA volunteer to establish a similar program in our neighbourhood using Block Watch as a template

### **4. Reports**

**a. Finance** - Financial statements were distributed prior to the meeting. Chris Kask noted that the association was in better position than at the same time next year.

#### **b. Membership**

Rob reported that Christine was planning a meeting in January to look at the membership committee. Bill and Irena agreed to help with membership.

#### **c. SCAN/Council – Rob**

##### **SCAN**

- Bill had attended the SCAN meeting and found it very interesting because it was a forum where community associations shared stories, common issues etc.
- Rob noted that Jennifer Crocker-Hall and Janice Hall of Serious Strategic Solutions, the consultants hired to do the governance review, attended the meeting. They were planning the public launch of the governance review on Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Rob was chosen to be the SCAN Active Transportation representative

- Bill was planning to attend the Community Association 101 workshop put on by SCAN

### **Council**

- Rob did not attend Council.

### **d. McKenzie/Hwy 1 Intersection Task Group**

- Katherine reported a discussion with Saanich Engineering regarding the parking for parents dropping off children to attend school across the highway who are using Portage Road as a short term parking location – PICES group opposed to parking altogether and engineering unwilling to commit to the issue either way – the change to the landscape after the interchange will leave a little unoccupied land which could be used unofficially.

### **e. Transportation Committee – Pam**

- The Transportation meeting was scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> from 7 - 9 pm in the Owen Room at Pearkes
- The intention is for it to be a small, member focussed meeting with additional invited guests from a list to be developed by Pam and Rob
- Bill to email members/recent members and post on Facebook

### **f. Land Use Committee/Developments**

#### **Uptown/Douglas Corridor Plan**

- The committee's failure to allow alternates for absences resulted in Rob's attempt to attend via Skype which was unsatisfactory
- Discussion was about the light industrial area behind the Red Lion being utilized for housing
- Saanich is working on a 30-year plan for the area
- Phase 3 of public consultation will begin in the new year

## **5. Parks**

### **a. Cuthbert Holmes Park**

- McKenzie Interchange project is beginning to cut into the park
- New sign for the fish fence install has begun
- Over 800 fish have come through the fish fence so far
- Fish fence needs repairs due to age and vandalism

### **b. Gorge Park Community Garden**

- More funding is possible from agencies which Gabe is following up
- A change of leadership is ongoing as documentation is updated and roles change
- Use of toilet and cost of maintenance an issue with the group with maintenance now bi-weekly at a reduced cost of \$120 but considering removing it for the winter
- Gabe asked if GTCA would consider funding as a 'public service' for the winter
- Chris will review financial status and report next meeting and gardens group left to decide if toilet to be removed or not

### **c. Fish Fence Future**

- Fish fence needs a group to take over the after the resignation of Barry Goodwin and Chris Bos. Dorothy has secured a temporary licence from DFO and arranged volunteers for the fence. She can continue with the fence but needs a group to do the paperwork, licensing etc.
- Options are 1. Take down the fence or 2. GTCA take it over like GPCG
- GTCA to look into the official status of Victoria Fish and Game Protective Association who have been taking care of the fence since 1973
- Need to have more information before the board can make any decisions on an increased role with the fish fence

### **d. Walter Street**

- Saanich Parks had created a draft plan for the park
- Plan indicates that numerous trees will be removed and replaced
- There is no path through the park or cross walk connection to Dysart
- Only two Adirondack chairs for seating which seems inadequate

### **e. Gorge Park Clean Up**

- Gorge Park clean is re-scheduled for November 5<sup>th</sup>, 9 am to noon
- Volunteers to meet in Gorge Park across from Fairway
- Marcus to pick up coffee and donuts

## **7. Communications**

### **a. Newsletter – Vera**

- November issue had been sent to the printers and would be ready the following week

### **b. Websites/Social Media – Marcus**

- New website will be launched around March/April when the current hosting expires

## **7. GTCA Constitution/New Societies Act – Bill**

- Bill, Vera, Rob, Christine and Chris K. would meet to discuss changes and then bring a proposal forward to the board

## **8. Saanich Police Focus Group – Bill**

- Bill reported that the Saanich Police were consulting widely and were looking at broad questions like: what are they doing well, what could be improved, what should be their focus etc.
- This an ongoing consultation so ideas or comments could be sent to Bill or directly to the consultant at [mike@kimmik.ca](mailto:mike@kimmik.ca)

## **9. Living Street Symposium Feedback – Richard**

- Richard attended and noted that there were more staff there then attendees
- Councillors Judy Brownoff and Vicki Saunders were in attendance
- Streets should be a tool for people to enjoy themselves
- Saanich is supportive of the idea of “block parties”
- The board recognized that the residents of Earl Grey street hosted a fantastic Halloween event on their street

#### **10. Gorge Waterway Single Authority – Richard**

- It was noted that many issues on the Gorge Waterway are complicated because of the overlapping authorities
- It is clear that the Gorge Waterway needs a single authority
- It was suggested that the GTCA speak to John Roe and look at successful models from other jurisdictions
- Rob noted that this should be part of the Saanich governance review currently being done by consultants

#### **11. 321 Gorge Road– Richard**

- Richard suggested that the GTCA start putting together a business case for taking over the house at 321 Gorge Road
- Irena suggested that the agreement that the Canoe and Kayak Club has on their facility would probably give the GTCA a good idea of what the financial and legal responsibilities of such an arrangement would be
- It was noted that Christine and Gabe had previously worked on principles of what could be done at the house

#### **12. Canadian Heritage Application – Chris K.**

- Chris reported that he was in the process of completing the Canada Day grant application so if there were any additional requests they should be forwarded to Chris ASAP
- It was noted that swag, particularly the flags and tattoos were very popular

#### **13. Nail, Bail and Sail – Scott**

- Scott reported that the event which involves small teams building a wooden craft and sailing it, could be a fun weekend event
- It was suggested that the event could take place on a weekend either in May or June

#### **13. Newsletter Volunteer Appreciation – Vera**

- After some discussion the board decided to hold the appreciation event in conjunction with the AGM instead of the December Board meeting and Christmas Party

**Next Meeting & Board Christmas Party**

**Time: 7:00 – 9:00pm**

**Date: Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016**

**Place: Vera's Place**