



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

GTCA Board Meeting Minutes -- 7:00 pm, 8 April 2021

Zoom meeting

Present: Gabe, Phil, Katherine, Arden, Scott, Vera, Chris K, Paul, Sharfa, Russ, Larry, Ed, Rob Wickson

Regrets: Chris B, Irena

Guests: Dean Murdoch

Presentation at 8:00 pm -- Dean Murdoch and "Better Mobility Saanich"

Governance

1. Meetings

- a) Agenda review – Deletion: Item 4c: Facebook Addition: racist incident on Tillicum. Adoption: moved by Vera, second by Russ, all in favor
- b) Minutes from the previous meeting – Approval: moved Phil; second, Vera; all in favor
- c) AGM Planning:
 - a. Board members seeking election for executive: Vera as President, Phil as VP, Gabe as Communications Coordinator, Scott as Membership Coordinator, Chris K as Treasurer, Pam as Secretary
 - b. Directors not seeking re-election: Russ, Irena
 - c. New candidates for directors: 4 people to be brought forward for nomination at AGM
 - d. Rob Wickson will run elections at AGM
 - e. Presentation: PowerPoint focusing on the current and future work of the GTCA
- d) May board meeting special guest: Chief Administration Officer for Saanich, Paul Thorkelsson will attend for 30-40 minutes. Bring questions forward to Vera prior to meeting.

2. Finances

- a) See reports attached
Coast capital account will need to be adjusted for new elected president

3. Members

- a) Report: Scott would like to be able to contact members individually via info@gorgetillicum.ca. **Action:** Vera will send Scott the account information.
- b) Membership process revision: After 1 May, all memberships expire at end of calendar year regardless of when membership was initiated. **Action:** Gabe will bring forward at AGM for vote to amend the bylaws.

4. Communication & Conversation

- a) Newsletter: Deadline for content April 30th. Newsletter holder at Pearkes Rec Center is broken. **Action:** Scott will check with Ray Farmer about building a new one.
- b) Website: no report. Chris K volunteered to do some website management

5. Working Groups

- a) Vision documents: all groups working on vision documents
- b) Build participation: may need to ask people to join instead of waiting for people to join.

Projects

6. Mobility and Transportation
 - a) Mobility & Transportation Working Group Report – group continues to work on vision document and a proposal for low impact approach to Tillicum Road with a phased approach. Awaiting reply from Saanich engineering re: meeting to discuss Gorge Road revisions.
7. Natural Areas (Green spaces & waterways)
 - a) Natural Areas Working Group – Working on vision document. Projects include Walter Park work (stewards working with Pulling Together), the pollinator project with UVic. UVic students have finished their work on an interactive community pollinator map and presented it to their class and community. Authorship will now be taken over by the working group.
 - b) Boulevard Brigades – boulevards are well cared for and bulbs are blooming with flowers. Weeding schedule will start as spring progresses.
8. Art, Culture & Celebration
 - a) Arts, Culture & Celebration Working Group – looking for a muralist/artist for Burnside mural. Fundraising continues and will be accelerated as the process becomes more fully developed. Go Fund Me has ~ \$800.00. Flyer for distribution to area businesses (for funding) is completed. Electronic version of flyer will be added to webpage.
9. Buildings (Developments and other building uses)
 - a) Buildings Working Group
 - Main Priority: Tillicum Road: advocating for street scaping and improved pedestrian environment. Saanich does not have formal planning or guidelines related to street scaping (unlike Sidney or other communities).
 - Uptown development: Vera has sent some information to the board regarding 12 and 20 storey towers to be built.
 - b) Albina Road BC Housing project: Board was informed on March 24th that the seniors building originally planned was cancelled and that a BC supportive housing project will be there instead. This will be a provincial project with little influence from Saanich. GTCA board will encourage community consultation prior to development and communication between BC housing, MLA and our community. **Action:** Gabe to contact BC Housing to encourage frequent sharing of details with the Board and the community.
 - c) Saanich Housing Task Force: Recommendations from Task Force will be taken to Council in June. They have distributed a public survey that Vera has sent to the board by email. **Action:** Gabe to copy survey to GTCA Facebook page for a second time.
 - d) Other Development Applications – no current applications
10. Other Projects and Collaborations
 - a) Gorge Park Community Gardens - Coordinator Team report: spring plantings, mulching, repairs are ongoing. There is a wait list for a plot of about 60 people.
 - b) Scavenger hunt – in initial phases of planning. Katherine asking for help to plan one in the GTCA community.

Other Reports & Updates

11. Saanich Community Association Network (SCAN) no report
12. Saanich council & staff Monday: Council will vote on reinstatement of an Open Forum at the beginning of all council meetings (15 minutes put aside for anyone to talk for 3 minutes)

Additions to the Agenda

13. Incident on Tillicum Road: video posted on social media of an incident near Gorge and Tillicum showing a woman shouting at another woman and her children. Comments were interpreted as racist and determined to be a police issue. **Action:** Ed to organize donations for flowers or a gift card.

14. Dean Murdoch Presentation : Reported on themes identified by the **Better Mobility Saanich** group:
 - a. Accessibility
 - b. Equity - income, age, disability
 - c. Education – awareness
 - d. Road designations – based on volumes of cars
 - e. Design – painting lines on roads
 - f. Signal timings, crosswalks
 - g. Regional connectivity – connections to trail systems, destinations
 - h. Reducing road racing
 - i. School travel
 - j. Speed and enforcement
 - k. Rural traffic – livable roads for Saanich

Feedback from GTCA:

- a. Walking and pedestrian safety as important as cycling with need for sidewalks
- b. Encourage public spaces and sidewalks (streetscapes) as places to create community as well as for walking/moving from A to B

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm: Moved by Phil; Seconded by Katherine