



Board Meeting Agenda
Pearkes Recreation Centre, 7:00 P.M., Thursday, Oct. 2, 2014

1. Adoption of Agenda September 2014 minutes

Minutes adopted.

2. Reports

- a. Finance – Chris
- b. Membership – Christine
 - Returns have trailed after the mailing.
 - End of year report will be sent for the next meeting.
- c. SCAN/Council – Rob
 - Had a presentation from the amalgamation YES group.
 - Saanich Civic League has agreed to fund election forums.
 - Little appetite from the board to put on a forum.
- d. West Gorge Transportation Committee – Pam
 - Proposed cross-walk at Gorge Road and Milgrove.
 - Sewage pump station not going to tender until November which means that paving of Gorge Road will be done much later. There may be an opportunity to deal with all of Gorge Road.
- e. GWI – (Craig Elder)
 - Will not send letter re: Portage Road development.
- f. Land Use Committee/Developments – Wendy
 - Saanich Senior Living
 - Saanich Senior Living is waiting for permits hence no work is happening.
 - Senior Living donated some old wood from the site to the community garden.
 - Portage Road (955 & 961)
 - Meeting held September 11; not many neighbours turned out other than those who were opposed
 - Developer will probably not proceed until spring (has missed the building “window”)
 - One neighbour changed his mind to support the development after hearing the developer’s presentation
 - One neighbour has asked that the GCTA’s ‘report’ to Saanich be made available to “members of the community”.
 - 2925 Qu’appelle
 - Owner proposes to add 8 quites to the back of the existing apartment building

- Wendy has met with the architect and reviewed the plans. There does not seem to be a high impact to the neighbourhood.
 - Architect and developer were advised by Saanich Planning to contact the GTCA; they want to make a presentation to the board. LUC is trying to meet this month and will invite them to present there.
- 321 Gorge Road West (old brick house next to the Gorge Canoe and Kyak Club)
 - Property is owned by Saanich. Plan is to deem it heritage and continue to rent out. However, the GTCA has not been consulted and is interested in future use. There are a few questions about what heritage designation means. Rob proposed writing a letter requesting a need for more information and a conversation. The board is particularly concerned about future uses of the building.
- g. GTUF- Gabe

Starting a process to re-evaluate the organization and determine the next phase of the work.
- h. G.T. Community Table – Gabe
 - Lights on the Gorge will be held on December 21st. Still looking at locations, particularly a potential partnership with the Canoe and Kyak Club.

3. Parks

- a. Community Garden – Gabe
 - Garden is currently being built. Irrigation is in and the paths are done. Rain gardens are excavated.
- b. Gorge Park - Rob
 - The paths are too close to the water and work is being to improve safety along those paths.
- c. Park Clean- up
 - Katherine suggested engaging scouts and guides to help with the clean-up. The spring clean (usually around Earth Day) would be the best.

4. Communications

- a. Newsletter –Vera/Christine
 - Most of the content is in and Vera to start laying out the newsletter this weekend. Vera to advise if more content is required.
 - Newsletter will be ready last week of October or first week of Nov.
- f
- b. Facebook – Marcus
 - Board agreed that when a development application is posted on the Saanich website then the GTCA can post a link on Facebook. A link to the Council package, which includes all the letters, should be posted on Facebook and the website. The role of the GTCA is largely facilitating the process of bringing the developers together with the neighbours and other concerned community members.

- 500 likes on the Facebook page.
- c. Twitter- Marcus
No report
- d. Websites – Marcus
No report

5. Board Retreat Planning – Rob

- Had a couple of meetings to start the planning process. Looking at a day away. Still trying to find a location. Still looking for a facilitator. Facilitators charge \$500 per day and a one-day session would take a full day of planning and reporting – so the fee would be around \$1000.
- Move retreat planning to May and advertise in the newsletter to see if there are any facilitators who would like to help us out.

6. Task Force to create an Agriculture and Food Security Plan for Saanich.

Gabe distributed a draft letter for review. The board reviewed the letter and the board approved the letter.

7. Fish Fence Signage – Vera

After some going going back and forth with Saanich there is clearer direction on the fish fence sign. Saanich estimates that the total cost of the sign to be about \$8500. Vera to donate design services and the GTCA has grants for \$2500, which will cover the hard costs of the sign frame and the sign production. Saanich will pick up the production and installation costs.

Vera working with the Fish Fence folks to determine the content.

8. Tillicum Street Banners – Vera

The banners along Burnside Road were part of street improvement initiative years ago and the currently installed banners are the last batch of banners. These banners were installed in the spring and will show start to look shabby and worn out. Saanich has no replacement banners as the project envisioned that the GTCA or Tillicum mall take over the production of banners.

Vera has contacted the mall to see if they would support the banners and had been referred to the RioCan VP. Vera will contact the RioCan VP and report back at the next meeting.

9. Tillicum School Boulevards – Scott

There are curbs put in some by the school. Scott put up images on Facebook and there was some negative reaction because of the impact on parking. The curbs have now greatly narrowed the road.

This an opportunity to engage with the staff and the PAC of the school to see if the GTCA can help.

10. Meadow Park Initiative – Wendy

Wendy presented a draft plan for a public space in the unused portion of Meadow Park. Currently underutilized portion of the park contains only one bench and one picnic table, both of which are in large puddles during the rainy season. It was mentioned that Saanich owned several properties bordering the park and it would be good to know if they had any plans for that portion of the park.