

**GTCA Board Meeting Minutes – 11 November 2021**  
**Thursday, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm – via ZOOM**

Present: Gabe, Vera, Reb, Gabe, Paul, Michele, Meghan, Chris K, Arden, Erica, Scott, Mauricio, Katherine, Pam  
Regrets: Phil, Chris B, Larry, Ed,  
Guest: Natalie Laframboise (Walter Ave)

**Governance**

1. Meetings

- a) Agenda review additions: Climate action group; move to approve: Paul, Second: Gabe; all in favor
- b) Approval of the October meeting minutes :move to approve: Paul; second: Michele; all in favor

2. Finances

- a) Report: see reports attached. Event expenses not in current monthly report; \$1500 for pollinator funding could go into surplus.

3. Members

- a) Report: 5-6 new members in last 6 months. Scott will do a mail out. Vera will put an ad in the newsletter for membership. All working group chairs will ask working group members to join.

4. Communication & Conversation

- a) Communications: no report
- b) Newsletter: proofs should be out tomorrow. Digital newsletter an option for 1-2 newsletters (not June). Pearkes Rec Centre bulletin board not appropriate for whole newsletter but use instead for working group activity, events, and selected parts of the newsletter only.

**Projects**

5. Natural Areas (Green spaces & waterways)

- a) Natural Areas Working Group - report
  - a. Boulevard Brigade: west side boulevard and traffic circle fall cleanup is complete. East side 50% complete but should be complete by end of Nov. Pam motion: for the GTCA to give \$300.00 to the boulevard brigade to buy bulbs for fall plantings in all boulevards/circles. Seconded by Reb; all approved
  - b. Walter Park: no report
  - c. Pollinator Map: UVic event in Community Gardens on Nov 4 a success with education and creation of an on-line neighbourhood map.

6. Art, Culture & Celebration

- a) Arts, Culture & Celebration Working Group – Pumpkin parade was successful. Would like to repeat next year. Recent donation (\$25,000) could be used for artistic sign at Tillicum and Gorge -- (in front of Chevron station) as a welcome to neighbourhood/village (e.g. wooden, carved art, plants around it) -- and for coverings for hydro boxes.
- b) Lights on the Gorge: outdoors event 4:30 pm Dec 19<sup>th</sup> with lantern parade, carols, GTCA tent with hot drinks. Michele: motion to budget \$300.00 for Lights on Gorge event costs, second Gabe; all in favor
- c) Canada Day 2022: grant applications are in. Planning committee to start Feb. Gabe spoke with Jason Jones @ Saanich regarding inclusion of Indigenous artists/musicians via the IYAKT project
- d) Budgets for all events: idea put forward to create an events budget at the beginning of every year. Fundraising methods could be explored (e.g. Fairway cards, Development CACs, fundraising events)

7. Buildings (Developments and other building uses)

a) Council Discussions

- Proposed Saanich Planning work plan: Saanich Official Community Plan needs updating. Council was unsure if planning can occur without the Local Area Plans being updated. Discussion deferred.
- Provincial legislation effect on Saanich Planning: Rob Fleming, Lana Popham present at a meeting with SCAN. Province is advocating for less single family zoning across all municipalities. Saanich and provincial planning not currently well aligned.

b) Development Applications – no updates

- Albina supportive housing
- 3319 Douglas Street (Aryze Proposal – out of our area)
- Raymond Street (Metis Nation Purchase – out of our area)

8. Mobility and Transportation

a) Mobility & Transportation Working Group – no report

b) Tillicum Road Campaign: council acknowledges that the LAP proposals for Tillicum Road are important and has moved the timing forward.

c) Gorge Road Construction: potential start date: March 22, 2022. Road will be redesigned to accommodate separated bike lanes on the south side, with impacts on boulevards on the north side. Vera has asked Saanich to give home owners information about these impacts.

9. Other Projects and Collaborations

a) Gorge Park Community Gardens - Coordinator Team; will separate from GTCA end of Dec 2021. The GPCG Society is negotiating with Saanich for new contract. Fall shut down of the garden site is in process. Minimal movement in giving up/obtaining plots (only one changeover); wait list has about 85 people on it.

b) Climate and Ecosystem Group: group will discuss Saanich Climate action plan next week and report back with action options for GTCA with regard to climate change and ecosystem well-being.

10. Board Discussion – December holiday Board Meeting: Vera will host at her home to vaccinated board members. (Non mandatory meeting).

Motion to adjourn (20:55 hr): Chris K: second: Arden; all in favor