

P.O. Box 44152

VICTORIA, BC V9A 7K1

***DRAFT* MINUTES**

**Pearkes Recreation Centre, 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 13th 2020**

**In Attendance:** Gabe, Vera, Scott, Chris K, Arden, Phil, Russ, Paul, Katherine, Irena, Ed, Chris B (Guests: Rob, Deanna Noyce, Anne and Steve, Christine) **Regrets**: Pam, Elise, Evan, Lewis

**Guest Presentation:** Cielo Developments, Stan Sipos re 3400 Tillicum Road development proposal

1. **Agenda Adopted.** Gabe motion/Scott seconded. (All in favour.)
2. **Approval of the Minutes from Jan. 2020 meeting.** Paul motion, Katherine seconded. (All in favour.)

**Reports & Updates - Board:**

1. **Communication:**
2. **Newsletter** slightly delayed. Is coming together, should be done late next week.
3. **Board Organizational Matters:**
4. **Working Groups:** Groups will now send out their reports before the meeting to streamline meetings/report time used. Decided to establish a Local Economy Working Group as well. Decided to rename the “Arts WG” as the “Arts, Culture & Celebration WG” to widen its scope and, potentially, draw in more volunteers.
5. **CAP-GTCA Working Group:** In lieu of LAP (Local Area Plans) that have been quite delayed, perhaps we can start a group that can develop a Community Action Plan. This could enhance community engagement, build relationships, and provide information about what residents envision for the community. A CAP could help us (and other organizations) make more informed decisions. Rather than this being a ‘board’ task, this could be something we ‘kick off’ and let percolate. Some discussion about how we might make a ‘template’ for a document that is simultaneously ‘streamlined’/quick AND also inclusive/extensive…
6. **AGM Planning:** Looking to have a panel of speakers/people on development -- including Frank Ambrosio, a Saanich Planning Department person, and someone else to speak about ‘Housing’. Date: April 2/20, at Silver Threads.

Proposed Constitution Changes for AGM: The Board discussed and we decided not to make these small changes at this time as it’s a lot of work filing changes and not really benefitial.

Role of ‘Membership Secretary’ to change to ‘Membership Coordinator’ -- with the role including action to enhance relationship between directors and other GTCA members. Vote: motion Arden, seconder Irena, all in favour. Scott to stand for role of Membership Coordinator, (stepping down as Secretary.) New Secretary?? Also, the following directors will step down from the Board: Elise, Evan, Lewis. (Jon already sent his resignation email.) The rest staying on. Five new directors interested in joining -- will make 18 in total.

1. **Development Process:** Looking atstreamlining process from our end. Options presented -- will be considered, initially, by the Buildings Working Group.

**Board Activities – Current and/or New:**

1. **Green Spaces and Waterways:**
2. **Green and Blue Working Group**: Report from Anne
3. **Gorge Park Community Gardens**: New GPCG contract between Board and Saanich will be ready soon. It will run until 31 Dec. 2021 -- after that, the Gardens will separate from the Board and operate independently.
4. **Cuthbert Holmes Park:** Vera recently walked the park with Dorothy -- found some garbage but no camps. Sign being built in the park (as part of TCH McKenzie Interchange) received a ‘stop work’ order. Sign is required but was being done on park land in an unsatisfactorily way. Dorothy and Julian recently learned that the ‘replacements’ for the removed Trembling Aspens and Garry Oaks are being looked at and there appears to be a suggestion to plant $1.5 million worth of trees BUT only $41,000 of that to be planted in Saanich? Not happy to hear this, (neither is the Board, will be lots of discussion...)
5. **Gorge Park Meeting:** Meeting wasJan 30th -- some directors met with Jason Clarke, Pacifica Housing and Saanich police regarding the RV’s parking in the parking lot and tenters in the park.Concerns around garbage, drinking, drug use, smoking, etc. in the park. We learned that apparently, Pacifica Housing goes to the park regularly and meets with these folks. Also, ‘pour out’ (for alcohol) apparently not enforced for alcoholics.
6. **Developments and other Building Uses:**
7. **Buildings Working Group:** Report presented
8. **Development Updates:** Development at 992Gorge Road W /Rockwell -- it appears that Abstract Developments is open to looking at changes. Long process still to come on this one.
9. **Mobility and Transportation:**
10. **Mobility Transportation Group** Update to come via email.
11. **Gorge Road, Storm Drain (and other work):** Vera to give updates via email and, hopefully, something from Saanich to go into the Newsletter.
12. **Art, Culture and Celebration:**

**A. Arts Working Group:** Identifying priorities - hoping to begin something very soon.

**B. Gorge Canada Day Picnic:** Chris reports that grants are all in/applied for. No big changes. Shawn and Carmen (car show) will be away this year

**C. Gorge Park/Earth Day Cleanup:** April 25th, Scott to check in with Saanich Parks.

**D. Music in the Park:** Daniel Cook and the Radiators have been chosen (Russ) and food, etc. is all being sorted.

**Reports & Updates – Saanich:**

1. **Reports and Updates -Saanich:** SCAN: Nothing to report.
2. **Saanich Council/Staff:** Nothing to report.

**Reports & Updates – Projects Beyond the Board:**

1. **Boulevard Brigades:** Nothing to report.
2. **GWI:** Nothing to report.
3. **World Fisheries Trust:** Offering to have our logo on a new sign, we are in full agreement.
4. **GT Refugee Sponsorship Group**: Work ongoing. Phil reported an upcoming ‘clothing swap’ fundraiser. The group is still looking for more monthly subscriptions.
5. **Oil Tanks**: Saanich is committed to phasing out oil tanks within 10 years (430 tanks per year) as part of the new Climate Action Plan. Ed is looking for case studies of people transitioning off oil or gas to heat pumps.

16. **Date Change for April Meeting:** As Thursday, April 9th is just before a long weekend, we decided to change our monthly Board meeting to Tuesday, April 7th. Scott to check on moving our booking.

**Meeting adjourned** at 9:00pm. Moved by Scott, seconded by Gabe

**Next Board Meeting**

**Time: 7:00 - 9:00 pm**

**Date: Thursday, 12 March, 2020**

**Place: Pearkes Recreation Centre**