



**DRAFT**

**GTCA Board Meeting Minutes – June 12 , 2024**  
**Thursday 7:00 - 9:00 pm, Saanich Neighbourhood Place**

Quorum of Directors present

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Guest Presentation by Alana McDonough, Saanich Planning

- Alana briefed the Board on the upcoming planning activities for the Gorge Tillicum community. The approach will align with the OCP and will focus on fleshing out granular design guidelines following the Centres, Corridors and Villages (CCV) approach adopted in the most recent OCP.
  - She spoke of a “parcel-based assessment” of what type of building could fit where.
  - The approach will include some pre-zoning in designated areas and will concentrate development density along existing transit routes.
  - She confirmed that the plan, when finished, will still need funding and that implementing it will depend heavily on private developers.
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1. Meetings

- a. Agenda approval – Moved by Scott, seconded by Paul.
- b. Approval of the May Minutes – moved by Scott, seconded by Xi.

2. Communications

- a. Newsletter – Newsletters were confirmed to be out for delivery in time for the Gorge Canada Day Picnic. No problems reported. Vera suggested doing a digital newsletter early fall, and potentially moving to a only two printed newsletters per year and two digital newsletters. Chris reminded the board that we have contracts in place for 3 printed newsletters.
- b. Welcome Package - The issue of preparing a welcome package for new residents was discussed. Many ideas were offered. For follow up in the autumn.

3. Finance Report - no report

4. Working Group Reports

**Gorge Canada Day Picnic**

- Social media posts for Canada Day had gone out. Susan Brice, Rob Fleming and Randall Garrison had confirmed their intention to attend.
- GTCA Tent schedule has been confirmed and will have a sign-up sheet for GTCA membership and posters.

- The after party will be hosted by Mauricio
- All systems go for a good Picnic.

#### **Arts WG**

- Music in the Park volunteers needed

#### **Land Use WG**

- Ironclad plans for the old Bingo Hall are advancing: groundbreaking ceremony held and preparatory work begun.
- Ironclad project at Tillicum/Obed/Albina is moving to Council shortly.
- Abstract work on 630 Gorge well advanced. Estimated completion early 2026.
- Il Greco awning application goes to Council in July.
- Abstract plan for 992 Gorge now calls for two phases of construction. More details to follow.
- Project at 1 and 21 Obed has advanced as far as demolition. No further news.
- Kang and Gill project going to Council soon.

#### **Climate WG**

- Councillors Phelps Bondaroff and Westhaver are working on a tree map for Saanich.
- There has been poor uptake of free tree offer from Saanich.
- Boulevard Tree policy does not seem to be achieving desired results in our community: many dying for lack of care, few new trees planted, no long term care plan in place.
- The Urban Forest Strategy is yet another grand Saanich plan about to be announced. Early indications are that it is confusing and, without a budget or specific goals, is unlikely to make much difference.
- WG suggests that Saanich should set a better example by looking after trees on public property better.

7. Adjourned at 8:45 – Motion to Adjourn Moved by Paul, Second by Scott.