



MINUTES

Pearkes Recreation Centre, **7:00 P.M.**, Thursday, June 2, 2016

In Attendance: Rob Wickson, Scott Karpes, Richard Bouchard, Katherine Brandt, Gabe Epstein, Chris Kask, Vera Wynn-Williams, Marcus Fedoruk, Chris Bullock, and Trevor Hancock

Regrets: Christine Fedoruk, Pam Loadman, Ray Farmer, Irena Jazwinski

Guests: Bill Williamson

1. Adoption of March Minutes

Moved RB/Seconded GE– Approved

2. Adoption of Agenda

Moved RB/Seconded TH– Approved

3. Reports

a. Finance

- No report

b. Membership

A reminder to all board members that Canada Day Picnic is a prime opportunity to sign up members and that board members would be asked to sign up for shifts at the GTCA Membership tent.

c. SCAN/Council – Rob

Council

- Saanich wrote a letter to Minister Stone, signed by the CAO, stating that Saanich does not approve of the proposed design.
- Police are asking for input into their strategic plan. Rob encouraged board members to check out the Park Watch link he had sent around.
- Saanich has released their annual report.

d. Transportation Committee – McKenzie/Hwy 1 Intersection Task Group

- Transit is asking for a speed change limit – returning back to 50 km/hr from 40km/hr.

McKenzie Interchange Project

- Rob reported that the MOTI (Janelle and team) had asked for a meeting with GTCA.
- It was agreed that if the GTCA set the parameters of the meeting then there was a greater likelihood of having any impact on the planning process.
- Rob would respond to the meeting request and outline the GTCA terms.
- Rob reported that he was travelling to Ottawa on business and he would try to meet with some of the people providing the federal portion of the funding.

- Katherine reported that parents from Marigold and Spectrum are also meeting with MOTI. She noted that many parents are upset about the lack of consultation particularly about the removal of vegetation behind the schools and the relocation of the pedestrian overpass.

e. Land Use Committee/Developments

Boleskine

- Boleskine/Whittier development has applied for a variance and is asking for 60 parking spots for 90 units. The developer is trying to encourage different modes of transportation.
- Rob noted that parking is an issue in this neighbourhood because many of areas of Saanich near the Goose are effectively becoming “Park and Rides”. Commuters come in from the suburbs, park in neighbourhoods and ride their bike into town so that they will not have to pay for parking downtown.
- In order to raise the awareness of parking issues, residents should be encouraged to call bylaw enforcement.

951/961 Portage Ave.

- The Land Use Committee had a meeting with Ian and Patrick (Aquatech) and they are trying to get this process going again. Rob reported that PISCES is against the development even though environmental issues are being addressed.

Douglas/Uptown Corridor

- Saanich is doing surveys which largely focus on Uptown.
- Katherine noted that the surveys and meetings are asking for people’s vision of the neighbourhood, which seems very vague as most people don’t have any background.

BCLC Casino Application

- There was opposition to locating a casino at the bingo hall location and to expanded gambling in general.
- Chris Kask noted that many organizations like the GTCA do receive funding through gaming grants.

4. Parks

a. Gorge Park Community Garden – Gabe

- The GPCG raised \$1000 from the plant sale and got \$300 from Island Savings.
- A pollinator bed has been built and a sharing bed (pick yourself veggies)
- Strawberry beds are also pick yourself

b. Meadow Park Parking – Trevor

- Trevor brought up the issue of a business running out of houses near Meadow Park, using up all the parking at Meadow Park. He noted that not only was this unfair to park users but also raised the issue commercial businesses being run out of houses.
- Katherine reported that she has called bylaw enforcement about parking issues on her street but that not much has changed.
- It was suggested that instead of focusing on specific issues the board should deal with the general issue of parking.

b. Cuthbert Holmes Park

- There are more campers in the park and park users were encouraged to report camping activities to the Saanich Police bike patrol at 250-471-4321.

5. Communications

a. Newsletter – Vera

No report.

b. Websites/Social Media – Marcus

No report.

6. GTCA Constitution - Rob

- Rob and Vera attended the SCAN workshop on June 1st.
- The GTCA will have to revisit its constitution in order to meet the new guidelines.
- Rob would try to set up a meeting with the Executive over the summer.

7. Canada Day – Chris Kask

- Planning is in the final stages and everything looks good.
- The board agreed that it was a good idea to conduct a short survey at the membership tent in order to get a sense of community priorities. Vera agreed to draft the survey.

8. Eileen Archer Project – Scott

- Scott brought the framed Eileen Archer photos to the board meeting to show the board. (The expenditure of \$500 had been approved at the previous board meeting.)
- Scott would be presenting the framed picture to Tillicum School at their 100th year celebrations.

Next Meeting

Time: 7:00 – 9:00pm

Date: Thursday, September 8 , 2016

Place: Pearkes Community Centre