



P.O. Box 44152
VICTORIA, BC V9A 7K1

DRAFT MINUTES

Pearkes Recreation Centre, 7:00 p.m., Thursday, May 9th, 2019

In Attendance: Gabe, Vera, Chris K, Scott, Irena, Arden, Pam, Chris B, Katherine, Phil, Paul

Regrets: Evan, Elise, Lewis, Jon, Ed, Russ, Rob

Learning Opportunity: Stan Sipos and John (?) of Cielo Properties came to share ideas and collect feedback on potential development designs for the property where the empty Bingo Hall sits between Burnside/Tillicum. They are interested in building something 'mixed use' (Commercial/Residential) but are open to other ideas. They are very sure they want to have a parking ratio of 1:1 (and, apparently, they were told the same by Saanich Planning.) They are leaning toward 6 storeys, with a concrete podium and wood frame construction above. Will come back to us with ideas now that they've spoken to us and heard our initial feedback.

1. **Agenda Adopted.** (no additions) Arden motion/Chris B. seconded. (All in favour.)
2. **Approval of the Minutes from April meeting.** Gabe motion, Phil seconded. (All in favour.)

Reports:

3. **Finances:** Report submitted by Chris Kask - no further discussion
4. **Membership:** Irena said not much change since last meeting. Gearing up for Canada Day. Please sign up to help!
5. **Communication:**
 - A. Newsletter proof is ready. Newsletter and Canada Day insert going to print for May 21st.
 - B. The old website is now 'gone' and Vera and Brenda are still working on the new WIX platform. Looking for good landscape photos of the neighbourhood.
 - C. Brochure still in the works (Vera.)
 - D. Banner: At a cost of approx. \$250, a 'pop up' banner can be made for us. Vera to bring a mock up version to the next meeting.
6. **SCAN:** Nothing from SCAN.
7. **Saanich Parks and Recreation Washroom Strategy:** Saanich has new plans for washrooms in parks, including plans for 321 Gorge Rd W for 2023.
8. **Gorge Park Community Gardens:** The Plant Sale was a success, over \$1500 raised! There are now 62 people on the waiting list to join the Gardens .

9. **Gorge Park Cleanup:** Smaller turnout than we often have. New location was good for getting things done at the Community Gardens end of the park but perhaps we need to go back next time to our usual spot?

Planning for Current and/or New Actions:

10. **Working Groups:** See Gabe's 'Working Groups' paperwork.
11. **Building Developments:** SNP Daycare update: Lawyers discussing the lease with Saanich. SNP still raising funds.
12. **Gorge Canada Day Picnic:** Membership tent (Irena will be putting out the call for volunteers to help out for the day.) Amica will be the 'Presenting Sponsor'. 99% sure we are moving the 'Main Stage' to the opposite (Tillicum) end of the event, to the natural 'amphitheater' near 321 Gorge Rd W.
13. **Lights On The Gorge:** Nothing big to report, just that Kay will still help. Still looking for one more volunteer to plan the event.

Reports and Updates - Projects beyond the Board:

14. **Improving Access to the Gorge Waterway:** Scott attended this meeting, held at Vic West Community Centre and hosted by Jack Meredith. A series of meetings are being held, looking at improving local swimming access to the Gorge. A balance of interests and concerns being looked at in this process. Will report back.
15. **GT Refugee Sponsorship Group:** Phil reported that the group is still struggling to get the last \$4000 together for the next deadline. Encourage people to sign up for a monthly regular donation.
16. **Climate and Ecosystem Action Group:** Interest is building for this newly formed group. Looking to set up a table at the Canada Day Picnic.
17. **Nail Sail Bail:** This returning event will occur on June 8th as part of World Oceans Day. Ask Scott if you want to sign up!
18. **Wastewater Conveyance Pipe:** Russ away, no report.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58pm. Moved by Chris B, seconded by Vera

Next Board Meeting

Time: 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Date: Thursday, June 13, 2019

Place: Pearkes Recreation Centre / Queen Alexandra Room