



Mission

Strengthening the Oaklands community by providing programs, services and resources for its residents, businesses and visitors.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – TUESDAY, APRIL-05-16

Oaklands Neighbourhood House, 2629 Victor Street

Present: Kim Walker, Jeff Lougheed, Laurie Morgan, Elaina Mack, John O'Brien, Kate Lauzon (board candidate), Gary Pemberton (City of Victoria)

Regrets: Traci Fontana-Wegelin, Marianne Alto

1. Adoption of Agenda

Jeff motioned to adopt the agenda with changes. John seconded. Motion carried.

2. Adoption of Minutes

Directors reviewed and approved the draft March minutes.

3. Decision Items

VCAN request (see attached demolitions.eml)

- Directors discussed the issues and implications of the request, including a discussion on the differences between “heritage houses” and “period houses”.

ACTION: Kim to reply to Janet that we would like to stay informed on the issue and that OCA would be willing to host the topic at a Land Use meeting once the task force has specific recommendations/ actions for consideration.

E-voting process

- Kim discussed the level of work required to clean up email votes and the need to be more efficient. Directors discussed the pros/cons of using e-voting, such as Survey monkey.

ACTION: Elaina to talk to Traci/Allieren about use of data saving (dropbox, google drive, etc.); interim solution - use survey monkey to record votes/motion and focus on discussion in emails; long term goal is to include discussions/votes as part of our domain (e.g. private wiki group)

Issues from Committees that need attention

- **Parks:** John talked about re-working the volunteer posting on the website to focus on the Parks Committee (as opposed to the community garden project). Directors discussed the importance of recruiting for specific phases and components of the initiative while finding a balance with volunteer skills and levels of commitment.

ACTION: John to meet with Anna, Ben and Traci to discuss volunteer recruitment for the Parks Committee and volunteer recruitment posting more generally (possibly including Kim)

- **Land Use:** Kim noted that she attended the recent Land Use meeting. A few City staff came to talk about the Doncaster path, Ryan street upgrading and a sidewalk. Several issues emerged from the meeting, including the notification/consultation process. It might be useful to put a report together to document and clarify the process.

- Gary noted that there is an upcoming interdepartmental meeting to figure out a variety of protocols, consultations, etc. Kim noted that a few concrete examples might be helpful to clarify roles/expectations.

ACTION: Kim requested that Gary explore the possibility of drafting a report/flowchart with the City to help document the consultation process. OCA could provide feedback on the report based on our own interpretation/minutes.

4. Board Transition

- Assignment of officers & committee chairs (with related discussions on the roles & responsibilities of officers, chairs & committees)
- Meeting schedules – 1st Tuesday board, executive (April 12th, July 12, October 11, January 17), finance to be determined, Land Use (last Tues)
- Selection of Officers: Kim Walker (President), Laurie Morgan (Vice President), Elaina Mack (Secretary), and Jeff Lougheed (Interim Treasurer)
- Signing authorities & cheque signing schedule: Every Wednesday to sign at your leisure
- Bios & photos: Reminder to complete survey monkey link by April 10

5. Board Orientation, Part 2

- Community Association relationship to City of Victoria: Gary Pemberton provided some feedback on the history of the relationship (e.g. facilities and base funding model). He noted that community agencies have a fabulous return on investment, based on Jim Diers/Seattle community model. The Council is moving more to a neighbourhood centric model (e.g. making grants more accessible). In the long term, Council would like to adopt more of a participatory budget model. Directors discussed the need to ensure that community associations are equipped with additional funding to support the participatory process, including justifying the rationale on funding decisions.
- Role of Neighbourhood Coordinator, Gary Pemberton (see attached) – Gary talked about the snapshot document on Oaklands to be sent to Councilors monthly. The document will include capital projects, announcements. Kim talked about the usefulness of posting/circulating this information on our website. John mentioned that it would be useful to get more notice about initiatives happening in Oaklands (e.g. painter in Oaklands park). Gary plans to participate in the monthly meetings, he sees himself as a neutral resource.

ACTION: Gary to discuss the importance of advanced notice for consultations at the City's upcoming interdepartmental gathering.

6. Information & Handouts

- 2016 Board & Staff contact information
- Stream Daylighting project Correspondence from Dorothy Field
- Criminal record check letter

ACTION: Directors to pick up forms and submit individually to the City of Victoria police

7. Adjournment

Next meeting is Tuesday, May 3

Next Neighbourhood Association board meeting: April 5, 2016

Capital and Maintenance Projects

1. New Stormwater Utility

Victoria has moved to a stormwater utility, or a user pay system. This means that stormwater services like pipes, catch basins and street cleaning will no longer be funded through property taxes, and instead owners will receive a bill similar to the water and sewer utilities.

Though the fee will not increase net revenue to the City, your rate will be based on your property's characteristics. It may therefore change from the current portion of your property tax bill. The first stormwater bill will be sent in the fall of 2016.

The City is offering incentives for property owners who manage rainwater more sustainably. The Rainwater Rewards program offers credits and rebates for installation of cisterns, rain gardens, permeable pavers and other rainwater management methods.

To book a presentation for your community association please contact the Stormwater Specialist at stormwater@victoria.ca or 250.361.0443. To find out more information, please visit www.victoria.ca/stormwater.

Park Projects

1. Community Gardens

In February 2015, Council approved an updated Community Garden Policy and Boulevard Gardening Guidelines. Finalized policies and guidelines will become available on our website later this spring.

City Engagement

1. Community and Land Use Committee Process Meetings

A review of the Community and Land Use Committee process is underway. Invitations have been sent to all neighbourhood associations. A series of three meetings will take place in City Hall 5 p.m.-7 p.m. Dinner will be provided. One meeting has already taken place on March 2. Upcoming meetings include:

- Wednesday, April 6
- Wednesday, April 20

Staff have requested that one or two participants attend from each CALUC, with additional participants welcome to attend as observers. In this manner, each CALUC will have an equal voice. The purpose of the meetings is to review and improve the CALUC process, clarify roles and responsibilities, and determine what additional support and communication might be required.

2. Youth Engagement Strategy

The City of Victoria is looking for 10 enthusiastic youth, ages 12 – 24, to become part of a Youth Team that will help revolutionize how the City engages with young people and how youth engage within their community.

From city planning to smaller neighbourhood pop-up projects, to how information is shared, the City is exploring new ways to engage young people in their community as well as identify innovative, meaningful approaches for youth to become more involved in shaping where they live.

This is a unique opportunity for youth to shape how local government responds to the needs of young people. The Youth Team will lead the engagement of their peers and develop a youth engagement strategy this summer. Each member of the team will receive a \$1,000 honorarium. A short video or written submission is required to apply. The application deadline is Thursday, April 21, 2016.

Neighbourhood Projects

1. My Great Neighbourhoods Grant Program

A new grant program to fund placemaking projects in the public realm will be introduced this spring. The My Great Neighbourhood Fund will provide opportunities for citizen-led, neighbourhood-based enhancements to public space. The fund is designed to bring people together to create a positive physical legacy in their neighbourhood, and animate under-utilized community spaces. Guidelines and application information are being developed and will be available in coming weeks.

2. Create Community Colour mural project

Professional artist Christine White and three youth will be painting the City's emergency kiosk in Oaklands Park starting in early April (start date TBA, weather permitting) as part of the Create Community Colour mural program sponsored by the United Way Greater Victoria and coordinated by the City of Victoria. The project transforms former graffiti hotspots into colourful murals and coats them with anti-graffiti seal to prevent further vandalism.

Artist's work can be viewed here: www.christinewhite.ca

Christine White (Mural Site #6)



Christine White is a multi-disciplinary artist, based in Lekwungen Territory. Murals are a form of communication by beautifying large surfaces. Being a part of the *Create Community Colour Mural Program* gives the opportunity for local artists to share their gifts with the public. She is excited to collaborate with Youth artists and promote positivity through the visual language. The topics she wishes to explore will portray strong independent women, encourage the use of bicycles and deepen our relationship with native plants. Her over all mission is to connect people through art. Christine thrives

on collaboration and wants to hear how you relate with these themes.

For more information: www.victoria.ca/publicart

Special Events

None at this time

City Services and Announcements

1. Biketoria

Engagement with the neighbourhood associations has now completed. Feedback from the community, the consultant's analysis, recommendations and costing for the proposed network along with staff recommendations will be presented to Council in late April.

2. Growing in the City - Urban Food Production on City-owned Lands

In February, Council approved recommendations to:

- Adopt the revised Community Gardens Policy (2016);
- Approve the land inventory of City-owned property for community food production;
- Endorse a new Urban Food Tree Stewardship pilot program; and
- Adopt the revised Boulevard Gardening Guidelines, and instruct staff to prepare associated bylaw amendments.

Neighbourhood Concerns

1. Doncaster Pathway project

The City will be attending the CALUC meeting April 4th to collect feedback on project plans for this pathway. The proposed improvements in this plan include:

1. A wider (3.5m paved pathway)
2. Demarcated separated travel lanes for pedestrian and cyclists; and,
3. A Bowker Creek interpretive feature integrated into the pathway paving.

Land Developments

None at this time.



Subject: OCA - FYI Stream Daylighting project

From: Oaklands Community Association Board <Board@oaklandsca.com>

Date: 31/03/2016 3:16 PM

To: John James O'Brien [REDACTED] Jeff Lougheed [REDACTED] Elaina Mack

[REDACTED] Laurie Morgan [REDACTED]

CC: Traci Fontana-Wegelin <ED@Oaklandsca.com>

More correspondence, fyi & for the record.

Kim

At 4:35 PM 15/03/2016, Dorothy wrote:

Thanks, Kim. Oaklands is part of the Rock Bay Creek Watershed so it would be great for all the communities if you can be involved in some way.

Yours,

Dorothy

At 03:31 PM 15/03/2016, you wrote:

Hi Dorothy,

Thanks for sending us your note regarding the stream daylighting project. I will share this information with the rest of our Board members. Our next meeting has a full agenda but let's keep in touch and see how we might be able to be of service in letting our Oaklands community members know about your project.

Cheers,
Kim

Submitted on Thursday, February 25, 2016 - 09:46

Submitted by anonymous user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are: First Name: Dorothy Last Name: Field E-Mail: [REDACTED]

Message: I am part of a group just beginning to work towards daylighting bits of the stream that rose in Fernwood, touched Oaklands, and ran through Quadra/Hillside and Burnside/Gorge. The stream is now culverted but the city has been encouraging about this idea. This initiative will be a way to tie in the various communities in the Rock Bay watershed. It will be years before any daylighting actually happens, but we plan to begin with signage, community activities and working on water awareness until that time. I'm writing to make sure Oaklands is aware of this group. If you'd like, I can talk to your board or meet with whomever might be interested. Thank you. The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<http://www.oaklandscommunitycentre.com/node/7/submission/1199>