**Rockland Neighbourhood Association**

**Minutes —** Meeting of the Board of Directors

Volunteers’ Cottage, Government House

Wednesday September 12, 7 p.m.

**Present**: Marc Hunter (MH), Art Hamilton (AH), Anthony Danda (AD), Dave Clark (DC), Bob June (BJ), Dave McWalter (DM), Susan Wynne-Hughes (SWH), Lawrence Bortoluzzi (LB), Pamela Madoff (PM), Gary Pemberton (GP)

**Absent**: Janet Simpson (JS), Stephen Roughly (SR), Lisa Macintosh (LM),

**Guest**: Danielle McQueen (DLM)

Meeting called to order at 19:04

* Introduction of guests

* Agenda
	+ Motion to approve (AD/LB)
		- Approved unanimously
		- MH: Identify any item that stands out in importance, so that it may be moved forward in the agenda.
* Minutes of 13 June 2018
	+ Motion to approve (AD/LB)
		- Approved unanimously
* Councillor’s report
	+ GP: Next intake for “My Great Neighbourhood” grants is October 15th
		- Up to $5000 for projects, up to $1000 for celebrations.
		- City staff encourage a pre-application meeting to ensure proposals contain the correct components.
		- AGGV may be applying for a grant this time around.
	+ Workshop (with Volunteer Victoria) October 13th 10 am until 3 pm targets Neighbourhood Associations and others who want to engage with citizens.
		- Looking for 3 RNA attendees
	+ Johnson Street Bridge south-side pedestrian-only walkway open, with associated plazas
		- There will be a new park on the north side. Timeline not yet set. Will be tiered to provide a natural amphitheatre.
		- Shoreline walkways will eventually connect the Regents Hotel with Canoe Club. Capital Iron properties may have been sold for development.
	+ Urban Chickens. Moving towards compliance – 2 coops have been removed and total number of chickens is 15 or less. New staff member in bylaw compliance.
	+ Sept 20th council will get an update on status of Fairfield Gonzales LAP.
		- We will be able to build on the templates established in previous planning exercises, including citizen-led Heritage Conservation Area proposal
* Calendar Review
	+ September 30 - Hallmark Heritage membership due.
	+ October – renew Website maintenance – Scholefield Web Technology Services
	+ October 15 - newsletter deadline
	+ October 15 – My Great Neighbourhood grant application deadline
	+ November 14 - Board meeting – strategy session, prepare for AGM
	+ November 28 - Societies Act deadline
	+ February 2019 - Base Funding Grant Application
* Business Arising
	+ DC: Rockland Greenway Signage project.
		- City staff will now proceed with the fabrication and installation of four double-sided signs along Rockland Avenue
		- We worked with City staff to apply the approved “Visual Victoria” procedures and specifications to our proposed design and installation of signs at four locations.
		- Within those constraints and our budget we have our 3 “Tier 1 and 2” locations (Craigdarroch Castle, Government House and the Art Gallery) on each sign, along with some “villages”.
		- The east-facing sides of these flag-style signs give directions and distances to downtown features.
		- Destinations that are smaller than “Tier 2” cannot be accommodated at this time. This includes Langham Court Theatre and Wentworth Villa.
		- We have not yet addressed the aspects of the project that deal with developing and presenting information on heritage homes, trees and other features.
	+ BJ, LB: surveys with UVic
		- We have allocated $3000 to the UVic information development project, but we haven’t heard back about their actual budget needs.
		- Preliminary survey created by student Stephan. Part of a 6 week course assignment. Data was based on 2011 data, 2017 data would be better. Follow-up meeting soon.
		- Questionnaire was good but needed better organization. Could be resident on our website.
		- Actual surveys could be undertaken by UVic at some cost to us.
		- Track Volunteer hours in anticipation of some funding requirements.
	+ MH, DLM: Social events. Danielle McQueen will lead.
		- LG hosted wine and cheese event every second year has rising costs – last year was close to $4000. Due to drive towards full cost recovery by Government House
		- Other recent examples include movie night; Canada 150 event; local block parties.
		- DLM Toronto experience.
			* Pumpkin collection for the night after Halloween.
		- Other suggestions
			* Possible music event at Government House outdoor stage.
			* Annual block party, invite all Rockland, hosted by a different block every year.
			* RNA Booth at AGGV Urbanite
			* Neighbourhood night at AGGV or Craigdarroch Castle
	+ Dave Meslin workshop on Creating a Culture of Participation. BJ and SWH attended
		- For some neighbourhoods, all resident are members, Membership by donation, (with the objective of getting a large email address bank).
		- Block ambassador for each condo or apartment to be a champion and conduit for information.
			* For next month's agenda, consider some of the pros and cons, sensitivity of our budgets to voluntary contributions.
				+ Motion (BJ, DC) to discuss at October meeting. Carried
		- Cultural Rockland - a theatre event; an art gallery event; a garden tour; play up the cultural precinct.
			* Langham Court is Canada's second oldest Community theatre at 90 years.
		- Slogan and branding.
		- Families focus childrens' playground.
	+ RNA Awareness and Membership Strategy; Neighbourhood Block Party tabled until next meeting
* New business
* Location of speed reader board (discussion)
	+ Rockland at Royal, or at Joan.
* Rockland-wide Yard Sales
	+ Very successful event; especially the option of tables at the Art Gallery – required the loan of additional tables from local Scout Hall
	+ Expenses for photocopies, for Times-Colonist print ad
		- Motion (DC, AH), To allocate extra $40 for Scout Hall honorarium. Carried
* Funding model for biannual Government House event
	+ AD - What is the willingness to pay?
	+ DC – Old model was $10, not tied to membership fee.
	+ DLM - By donation model. Target goals, with increasing levels of amenities e.g., Live band, wet bar.
* Potential developments of
	+ 1035 Joan Crescent. Owner aging, family considering options
	+ 1735 Rockland at Lyman Duff
* LB will handle secretary duties for October. DC, BJ regrets.
* Oak Bay corridor development proposal public hearing. 5 hours didn't seem to impact the outcome.
* Empower Bob to speak on behalf of RNA at Rezoning Public Hearing
	+ Motion (BJ, AH) Empower Bob to speak on behalf of RNA at Rezoning Public Hearing - Carried
	+ AH process is flawed. Outsiders swayed impacted neighbours.
* Request for input into Oak Bay Corridor Development
	+ Is it already a part of Gonzales LAP?
	+ 1811 Oak Bay Avenue rezoning.
	+ 6 pending projects in Gonzales and Jubilee neighbourhoods.
* Complaint re: 944 St Charles
	+ Hedge encroachment on Greenway with no sidewalk
* Meeting was adjourned at 21:02 (MH/DC)

Next Board Meeting-12 September 7 p.m. Volunteers’ Cottage, Government House.

Send regrets to LB