**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