Rockland Neighbourhood Association
Minutes - Meeting of the Board of Directors
Virtual Meeting
Wednesday, June 9th, 2021

Present: Art Hamilton, Sandra Jackman, Bob June, Dave Clarke, Dave McWalter, Patricia Kidd, Chantal Meagher, Carollyn Yardley, Brittany Calder, Charlayne Thornton-Joe (council liaison), Gary Pemberton (neighbourhood liaison)

Absent: Pearl Arden

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM

May 12th minutes
Accepted as presented, Motioned by Bob

Councillor's Report (Charlayne)
Tomorrow night is the public hearing on 1475 Fort St development. The city has received quite a few letters of concern from neighbours.

Good news for businesses and restaurants as covid numbers decline and things are opening up. The majority of city's focus has been on homeless issues, Beacon Hill Park traffic flow and restoration, and Trutch Street potential rename. Tomorrow, council will be discussing Canada Day celebrations and deciding whether to cancel the event or turn the focus to Truth and Reconciliation. Discussion ensued. Council has sent a letter to the province regarding prolific and repeat offenders.

Nominations for the Honourary Citizen of Victoria are underway.

The city will be applying for provincial covid funding to restore 24/7 camping parks to their former state. Clean up is expected to be less extensive than the law courts park. There is concern about bringing back sensitive environmental areas.

Neighbourhood Update (Gary)
The June My Great Neighbourhood staff report was distributed prior to the meeting.

Victoria Together Against Graffiti group has returned. BC Hydro has committed funding to paint over graffiti on poles and utility boxes. A volunteer coordinator for James Bay has put together a group of 35 volunteers to "own the block" and cover graffiti. Gary is hoping to get a volunteer coordinator for every neighbourhood and will send info to Patricia and Charlayne. Patricia will put this item in the newsletter and advise folks to contact Gary for a paint kit.

Neighbourhood Grants are still open. These are processed on the last Thursday of each month.

RNA would like the Rockland Ave speed reader installed before the Richardson St bike lanes so we can see the before and after effect of traffic and speeding.

Calendar Review
The board will break for the summer and have our next meeting on September 8th.
Art will pay the Directors and Officers liability insurance, due July 30th, and submit request to the city for premium reimbursement.

Rockland Yard Sale - We are proceeding assuming that this will go ahead on August 21st. Patricia will put this in the newsletter.

VCAN Update
The VCAN affordable housing projects letter was sent to council. There is frustration amongst all neighbourhoods regarding the proposed changes to Neighbourhood Boundaries. The feeling is that there are more pressing issues (such as corridor plans) that we have been waiting for action on.

Committees Reports:

Land Use (Bob)
LUC will be at council for 1475 Fort St tomorrow. All else somewhat static.

1737 Rockland: Developer has submitted an updated proposal dealing with city concerns. It's expected go to the committee of the whole this summer.

Fort and Oak Bay has been revamped with input from Pam Madoff and LUC. There is a new architect and a request to rezone will be likely be forthcoming.

Linden and Fort St Heritage homes are rezoning to ligitimize their zoning. This is a housekeeping issue only, not a change of use or building.

Social (Pearl)
Patricia to get an update from Pearl and ask GH to see if it is possible to have the biannual event this fall. Chantal will talk to Langham Court about co-hosting an event with us. Sponsoring a night of music at Government House was discussed. This would be for 2022 as there are no music events at GH this year.

Membership (Art and Brittany)
We currently have 120 members

Welcoming (Dave)
No update

Environment and Woodland Garden (Dave C)
Dave attended Gonzales mapping project meeting, and the City's place making workshop. Seedling starters were distributed at Govt House at the end of May.

Woodland Garden - Janet restarted the program with Central Middle School students. Twenty four students helped volunteers move dirt, weed and set up plant markers. This will continue next year. There is potential to apply for My Great Neighbouhood Grant to have music in the garden. Dave proposed that we prepare a list of opportunities that Janet does not wish to address and seek another contractor to deliver services using a portion of the $10k grant funding. Boulevard gardens and pollinator friendly plants were discussed.

Communications (Patricia)
The RNA newsletter has been very well received. Patricia requested that directors share pertinent info with her for inclusion. She will add a link to the city's monthly My Great Neighbourhood report.

Treasurer (Art)
RNA currently has $35k in the bank, of which $10k is funding for the Garden

Unfinished Business:

RNA Coordinator Position - no updates. Chantal will be drafting a job description.

New Business:

The AGM is to be held by November 1st 2021. Chantal will check with Langham Court to see if the venue is available. Patricia will add a call for board members in the RNA newsletter.

RNA Roles and Documents - Art would like to gather pertinent RNA documentation and post on a common site. Roles were discussed and the potential of rotating the role of President was raised. Bob has documentation that he will share with Art.

Liability Insurance - The board discussed the General Liability insurance that was previously managed by Fairfield NA. Art to speak with an insurance representative.

8:43 meeting adjourned.
Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 9th, 7 PM by Zoom. Please advise Sandra if unable to attend.