

Rockland Neighbourhood Association
Minutes - Meeting of the Board of Directors
Virtual Meeting
Wednesday, March 9th, 2022

Present: Art Hamilton, Bob June, Sandra Jackman, Dave Clarke, Patricia Kidd, Carollyne Yardley, Susan Evans, Charlayne Thornton-Joe (council liaison), Gary Pemberton (neighbourhood liaison)

Absent: Brittany Calder, Chantal Meagher, Dave McWalter, Asal Poinen,

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM

February 9th minutes

Accepted with a minor amendment, Motioned by David

Councillor's Report (Charlayne)

Charlayne introduced the new Chinese Community Museum in Fan Tan Alley, which is open Friday Saturday and Sunday 11 - 5.

1475 Fort St was supported by council, so is moving forward.

The board discussed how best for neighbours and Land Use Committees to get their questions answered at public hearings. Recently, our LUC had only one question answered of several, with the remaining not addressed by council or the planning director. Charlayne advised that if a question was answered previously, it will not come up again. Charlayne recommended a letter to the mayor asking her to have the questions addressed by the applicant. Discussion ensued about City Council processes in working with Land Use Committees and how best to bring issues with processes up with the city. Charlayne recommending attending a council meeting and expressing concerns. Also, the RNA can provide questions to Charlayne who will ensure council provides answers.

Council is concerned about continuous truck convoys and is trying to alleviate neighbour concerns. Police are enforcing bylaws (noise, parking). Businesses and residents are both impacted.

Council suspended its twin city relationship with Khabarovsk, Russia. City hall is lit up in the colours of the Ukrainian flag, and the Ukrainian flag is flying.

Government Street redesign: Draft concept designs are on the city's website and feedback can be provided to engage@victoria.ca. The plan includes View street being turned into a two way street and being used for the cruise ship transit bus.

Trutch street will be renamed to the Lekwungen word for truth (Su'it)

Neighbourhood Update (Gary)

The My Great Neighbourhood Report was handed out prior to the meeting.

Government Street redesign: Residents can participate in an online open house on March 9 at noon and also at 6pm.

The city has proclaimed 2022 as the year of the garden and June 18th is Garden Day. "Growing in the City" grants are available for new gardens. Expression of interest for grant funds is due June 1st. Additions for the existing Rockland neighbourhood garden can be done through My Great Neighbourhood grants.

Community Virtual Lunch and Learns:

March 16 - My Great Neighbourhood Grants (program launching April 1st)

April 20 - Neighbourhood Traffic Calming

Calendar Review

Post box is paid for the next year. Pat and Art have access.

VCAN Update (Chantal Meagher)

No update

Committees Reports:

Land Use (Bob)

- 1475 Fort St - approved by council and proceeding
- 1535/37 Despard - no activity, does not appear to be proceeding
- 1737 Rockland - infill - no updates
- 852 Pemberton - no updates
- Verrinder at Oak Bay Junction - Susan understands the developer has bought options on several properties, pending rezoning.

The board discussed Rockland's neighbourhood plan and corridor plans. Bob suggested that we ask Jocelyn Jenkins from the City of Victoria to present on corridor guidelines and Rockland neighbourhood plan at our next AGM.

Social

Suggestion to have an online event with a gardening expert.

Membership (Art and Brittany)

We currently have 426 members largely due to free memberships for people on the mailing list.

Environment and Woodland Garden (Dave C)

Dave will be using a portion of the Grant Coordinator funds to hire a second individual.

Communications (Patricia)

Please send newsletter items ASAP as it will be going out next week. Facebook has been updated but membership is low as the word has not gotten out yet. Susan will send info to Patricia for the newsletter.

Treasurer (Art)

RNA currently has \$40,180 in the bank.

Traffic (Carollyne)

No updates. The pothole at Joan Cres and Rockland is helping with traffic calming. Charlayne mentioned the city's Connect Victoria Ap which contains a service request section to report items such as this. Patricia will add this to the newsletter.

Unfinished Business:

AGM planning: We are aiming for an indoor meeting in early June, with an option to attend by zoom. Bob suggested we hire a techie to help us manage and facilitate this. Grace Lutheran and St Matthias were suggested for the location.

Missing Middle: Charlayne advised that she does not see this in the near horizon.

Potential Gonzales Rockland Merger: RNA received a letter from Gonzales enquiring about a merger, and potential polling of residents on this issue. Discussion ensued about polling and Charlayne shared the results of the city's survey. 348 people participated - 48% said Gonzales should have its own LUC. 16% said Rockland/Gonzales. 36% said continue status quo.

MOTION:

Bob moved that we respond to Gonzales email, saying that RNA board has discussed and does not wish to respond until the mediation process between Gonzales and Fairfield has ended. Carolyn seconded, discussion was held and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

None.

8:57 meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: April 13th, 7 PM by Zoom. Please advise Sandra if unable to attend.