

Burnside Gorge Community Association
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, January 27, 2020 at 5:30pm

Present:

Chair: Elizabeth Cull

Board members: John Sanderson, Greg Arnold, Michelle Peterson, Sara Maya Bhandar

Staff: Suzanne Cole, Executive Director; Rachel O’Neill, Manager, Communications & Development, Renske Van Der Linden, Office Manager; Leann Finlay, Integrated Family Services Team Leader

Guests: City of Victoria: Gary Pemberton, Neighbourhood Liaison
PEERS: Danielle Cooley, Violence Prevention & Indigenous Support; Sophia Ciavarella, Violence Prevention & Trans Support

Regrets: Avery Stetski, Jamie Van Delft

Welcome and introductions Elizabeth welcomed everyone to the meeting.

BGCA Management

- Renske Van Der Linden shared a brief overview of her role as Office Manager.
- Leann Finlay shared a brief overview of her role as Integrated Family Services Team Leader.

PEERS Presentation

Sophia & Dani gave an overview of the work that PEERS does.

- Primarily providing support to those doing sex work in Victoria but will help rurally, up island, etc
- Started in 1985 in response to addressing needs for service
- 500-600 unique individuals served annually
- 30 staff, 30 volunteers
- Services include: drop-in, hot meals, workshops, health care support & outreach, housing support, night outreach (RV mobile with hot meals, nurses, safer sex supplies), support groups for specific populations (indigenous, men, trans, etc), violence prevention
- Working with Victoria Police Department on bad date reporting – reports can be taken in mobile unit, in-house at PEERS or also online now with a new bad date database. There is also support for those who want access to justice. Many cases don’t make it to crown and there aren’t prosecutions so PEERS is starting a justice reform campaign.

Agenda The agenda of the Jan 27, 2020 Board Meeting was presented. Motion to accept with changes

MOTION TO ACCEPT: John Sanderson SECONDED: Greg Arnold

CARRIED

Minutes The minutes of the Nov 25, 2019 Board Meeting was presented. Motion to accept

MOTION TO ACCEPT: Michelle Peterson SECONDED: Greg Arnold

CARRIED

Action Items ACTION: Rachel will follow up with Jack Meredith about the initiative to improve access to the Gorge and share any updates with the Board.

ACTION: Avery will reach out to Cheryl Damstetter about joining the Community Advisory Committee.

WEB
City Updates

Gary

- Fall intake of the My Great Neighbourhood Grants has finished. Letters are being signed by the city clerk and will go out shortly. There are several from Burnside Gorge.
- The Neighbourhood Team has an official new space at 709/711 Douglas. The space will also be bookable for neighbourhood/community use and there is a hope to run youth programs out of it as well.
- Local champions launches this weekend and there has been a lot of planning to get to this phase. 30 people have signed up and there will be some small project funding for participants once they've finished. The City is working with Victoria Foundation to create a stream specifically for Local Champion projects.
- Participatory budgeting is happening this Thursday from 4:30-6pm. ICA is hosting and the focus is newcomers. Funding is dependent on the number of projects and amounts.
- Emergency Preparedness workshop is being held at the Burnside Gorge Community Centre on the 13th of Feb.
- Dates for the upcoming Neighbourhood Summit should be announced soon.

Ops

Suzanne shared operational highlights:

- BGCA received full funding from Gaming with no restrictions.
- Housing Outreach saw a record number of new families in Nov/Dec (47). This does not include any existing families on caseload.
- Quotes are still being collected for revamping the website.

Newsletter

- Suzanne invited to Board to think about neighbourhood content for the newsletter or ongoing submissions from the Board.

Suzanne provided an overview of financials:

- YSS/YO budgets will shift as some of the grant revenue will be disbursed to other agencies where BGCA has taken the lead on collaborative funding applications.

For Discussion:

AGM

- Bios need to be updated for the AGM. Rachel will send the current bios out to the Board for edits.
- Confirmed guests include: Lisa Helps, Cst Sean Hand, and Rob Fleming.

ACTION: Rachel will send bios out to the Board.

For information:

Strategic Plan

- The committee went through results from the strategic planning process. Suzanne will take the draft back to Management Team for feedback and then discuss with Elizabeth for presentation at the March Board meeting.

Review Action
Items

ACTION: Rachel will send bios out to the Board.

Track hours

Reminder to everyone to fill out your volunteer time in Track it Forward

7:00pm

Adjournment

~Next meeting March 23, 2020~