

Burnside Gorge Community Association
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, May 25, 2020 at 5:30pm - VIA Zoom

Present:	Chair: Avery Stetski Board members: John Sanderson, Greg Arnold, Michelle Peterson, Elizabeth Cull Staff: Suzanne Cole, Executive Director; Rachel O'Neill, Manager, Communications & Development Guests: City of Victoria: Sarah Potts, Council Liaison Gary Pemberton, Neighbourhood Liaison Prospective board member: Kyle Empringham, Sarah Wagstaff Regrets: Sara Maya Bhandar
Welcome and introductions	Avery welcomed everyone to the meeting and potential Board members were introduced.
Agenda	The agenda of the May 25, 2020 Board Meeting was presented. Motion to accept with changes MOTION TO ACCEPT: Elizabeth Cull SECONDED: Greg Arnold CARRIED
Minutes	The minutes of the Apr 27, 2020 Board Meeting was presented. Motion to accept MOTION TO ACCEPT: Greg Arnold SECONDED: Michelle Peterson CARRIED
Action Items	Action items were reviewed. The following items were carried forward: ACTION: Elizabeth volunteered to take on some newsletter articles. ACTION: Sarah will look into whether or not there is a cap on numbers in hotels and get back to the board. UPDATE: upwards of 400 have been housed so far
City Updates	Sarah <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Victoria 3.0 has been passed by Council, with an Innovation District identified for Burnside Gorge. The first step in 2020 is to hold a charrette to start some visioning work towards a master plan for implementation.• Staff are reporting back on strategic granting. There will be a town hall coming up June 6 to ask the city about recovery and get ideas on how to connect people with grants.• Sarah will send along an overview of the new public hearing process during the pandemic so everyone is clear on how the city is accommodating public comment.• Working with bylaw around increased maintenance needs in the neighbourhood, particularly around Balfour, to deal with garbage, garbage cans, vacant lots, etc.• Sarah has toured the Comfort Inn if anyone has any questions.• The city is exploring the possibility of some sort of festival space at the bottom of Store Street that could be included as part of Victoria 3.0.• There was a discussion about a problem property at 525 Sumas St and whether or not there is more that could be done at a bylaw level to address issues with the property. Gary: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• My Great Neighbourhood grants have been adjusted in response to COVID-19. In 2020 they will

WEB

focus on recovery and resilience – mutual aid, neighbourhood mobilization, supporting vulnerable neighbours, designing community space, emergency preparedness kiosks, health & safety, community conversations, kindness hampers. There are lots of different opportunities to use this money. There will be a rolling intake until the end of the year. There are limitations on activities that do not conform with current restrictions from public health such as gatherings.

ACTION: Sarah to send out the new public hearing process to the board.

Ops

Suzanne shared operational highlights:

- The Centre is busy and everyone is working hard to deliver services and make sure people are staying connected while maintaining safe distances
- Food distribution is serving well over 200 people each week, including precooked meals and hampers of produce, bread, and groceries
- Families are able to access early childhood story time by distance as well
- Planning is underway for summer. BGCA will be running both licenced and unlicensed camps and the response from parents has been strong so far.
- A new bus has been purchase. Delivery has been delayed, expected to arrive by July 1st.
- Selkirk Waterfront Festival has been cancelled. The team is looking at the Gorge Waterway Event in September and how it might be able to go ahead in a different format.
- The Centre will be a community distribution site for veggie starts from the City's Get Growing program.
- There was a brief discussion about the transition of campers and whether or not that has had any impact on families in housing outreach. The only impact has been a brief increase in requests for food which were redirected to the appropriate service providers.

For Discussion:

New CAC proposal from BC Housing

- Murray Langdon with BC Housing would like to establish a separate and specific CAC for the Comfort Inn. Avery is at capacity and Elizabeth has offered to chair the new Comfort Inn CAC. Avery would like other board members to also consider attending and supporting the CACs as a BGCA presence. Avery is looking at ways to manage the two committees in a streamlined way if merging them isn't feasible.

Debrief of Community Town Hall & Safety Forum

- Elizabeth shared her thoughts on the recent virtual meetings and there was general discussion around next steps for the board and how to maintain community engagement and momentum going forward. There was general agreement that there is a need for balance in the community and a need for positive amenities as well as immediate short term plans for community safety.

Next steps

- Elizabeth & Avery will work with the existing and proposed Community Advisory Committees
- Michelle and Elizabeth will draft a report back on the Town Hall to go back to the participants of the meeting

Re-establish Safety Committee

- Safety Committee dissolved after some shifts on the board, the board decided to absorb the safety committee to reform it if there was a need.

ACTION: Elizabeth & Avery will work with the existing and proposed Community Advisory Committees

ACTION: Michelle and Elizabeth will draft a report back on the Town Hall to go back to the participants of the meeting

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Updates

LUC

- The development for 43,45, 55 Irma & Gorge is coming to council soon. LUC is not supporting it due to the density of the project and its lack of alignment with the neighbourhood plan which calls for 4 storey with a caveat for 5 storeys with a community amenity – this proposal is 6 storeys, with only half the required parking, and well over density. LUC is looking for lower density with increased amenity.
- 2800 Bridge - looking for a small height relaxation
- 3120 Washington – townhouse complex
- John Howard Society is looking at a property on Princess for a mixed use building which would include a halfway house, restaurant, some of the JHS business operations.

VCAN

- Haven't met due to COVID – there are some concerns being expressed about how the city is handling public hearings / development processes during the pandemic.

Review Action
Items

ACTION: Sarah Potts will look into whether or not there is a cap on numbers in hotels and get back to the board.

ACTION: Elizabeth will put together some Board articles for the newsletter.

ACTION: Sarah Potts will send out the new public hearing process.

ACTION: Elizabeth & Avery will work with the existing and proposed Community Advisory Committees

ACTION: Michelle and Elizabeth will draft a report back on the Town Hall to go back to the participants of the meeting

Track hours

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

Kyle, Sarah W, Gary, and Sarah P left the meeting.

Board
Appointments

There was a motion to appoint Kyle Empringham to the board.

MOTION TO ACCEPT: Greg Arnold SECONDED: Michelle Peterson

CARRIED

There was a motion to appoint Sarah Wagstaff to the board.

MOTION TO ACCEPT: Elizabeth Cull SECONDED: Greg Arnold

CARRIED

IN CAMERA

The board moved to in camera 7pm

~Next meeting June 22, 2020~