

Burnside Gorge Community Association
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, April 25, 2022 at 5:30pm

Present:

Chair: Elizabeth Cull
Board members: Kirsten Mah, Greg Arnold, Michelle Peterson, Avery Stetski, Corinne Saad
Staff: Suzanne Cole, Executive Director; Rachel O'Neill, Manager, Communications & Development
Guests: City of Victoria: Marianne Alto, Council Liaison; Gary Pemberton, Neighbourhood Liaison; Pam Lloyd, Transportation; Megan Wylie, Emergency Management
Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness: Janine Theobold
Regrets:

Welcome and introductions

Elizabeth welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Pam Lloyd and Megan Wylie presented on Neighbour Hubs within the City of Victoria. Pam & Megan left the meeting.

Michelle offered a land acknowledgement

Agenda

The agenda of the April 25, 2022 Board Meeting was presented. Motion to accept with changes

MOTION TO ACCEPT: Kirsten Mah

SECONDED: Avery Stetski

CARRIED

Minutes

The minutes of the March 2022 Board Meeting were presented. Motion to accept with changes.

MOTION TO ACCEPT: Corinne Saad

SECONDED: Michelle Peterson

CARRIED

Action Items

Action items were reviewed. The following items are being carried forward:

ACTION: The Community Engagement team will ask some follow-up questions at future community meetings to get a better sense of what information people would like to see on BGCA's Facebook page

ACTION: Staff will update the membership list in the new year

ACTION: Greg and Suzanne are going to meet to look at possible short-term investments

City Update

Gary provided a staff update

- My Great Neighbourhood Grants are open and Gary has had conversations with a few people in Burnside Gorge. Grants are being processed the last Thursday of every month.
- Rachele Westman is now officially the VTAG coordinator for Burnside Gorge
- Gary has been working with the Legion, brainstorming ways to help prevent graffiti on their brick wall along Gorge Road, looking at whether art panels could be installed.
- Build back Victoria – the City has designated mobile vending stalls in parks, neighbourhood centres, and on busy walking and cycling routes. Stalls operate from 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.
- Festival season is back, the 2022 Vibe Guide will be available online in May.
- To recognize Year of the Garden the City is offering a series of workshops, Growing in the City.

- May 1 is Neighbour Day
- The City is gathering feedback on Neighbour Hubs

Marianne provided a council update

- Rapid deployment of affordable housing has been approved at council. This will fast track the permitting process and lower fees.
- Business Mixer is confirmed for May 31, from 530-630pm. This will be co-facilitated with Darryl. BGCA senior staff and board will attend and BGCA will supply snacks.
- 3000 Blanshard St project is still planning to go ahead, all the paint is in place, but it hasn't been scheduled yet.
- Point Ellice House has the capacity to partner for some sort of placemaking project, interesting in possibly pursuing something with BGCA. Staff shared that there is an existing relationship with Point Ellice House and BGCA has partnered on events in the past.

ACTION: Marianne will share affordability grid for the rapid deployment of affordable housing and language referencing local area plans.

Strategic
Planning Priority
Area Updates

Community Engagement – Michelle, Kirsten with Janine Theobald

- Janine gave a presentation and overview of the work that the engagement team has done to date. There will be another community workshop happening on April 30 at the Community Centre.

Neighbourhood Development – Elizabeth (Clean & Safe, Graffiti)

- Our Place will be running three Clean & Safe teams – one at Howard Johnson, one at Muncey Place, and one at Capital City Centre. Pacifica will be running a team out of Waterview.
- The Graffiti Fighters team is excited. They're getting t-shirts & business cards and they're starting to sign up new volunteers

Organizational Strength – Suzanne

- Continuing with recruitment and retention efforts.

Financial Health – Greg, Suzanne (Thrift Store)

- Avery has been busy with renovations on the store. There are lots of businesses supporting the project and so far it's coming in under budget.

LUC & CAC
Updates

Avery provided updates on Land Use and the Community Advisory Committees.

LUC:

- 2618 Irma is coming to community meeting soon with an 8-unit townhouse complex.

VCAN

- Issues are being raised at VCAN around missing middle housing, the rapid deployment of affordable housing, and dog parks.
- Five communities will be meeting with Minister Eby to advocate for the province purchasing rental properties in order to retain existing rental stock.

CAC:

- Meetings are bi-monthly and incorporating Muncey Place now. There is a review underway of CACs.

- City Report Elizabeth highlighted BGCA's annual Community Centre Report to the City of Victoria and encouraged board members to read it.
- MGN Grants There was a general discussion about the process of Sponsoring residents' My Great Neighbourhood Grants, particularly around risk. There was consensus that BGCA would not provide insurance for any sponsored projects.
- Ops Suzanne gave brief operational highlights:
- Travis is leaving for a position with the City of Victoria.
 - Selkirk Waterfront Festival is Saturday, May 28. A new addition to this year's event is a beer garden. The Victoria Beer Society is partnering and three breweries will be donating beer.
 - Westcoast Appliance donated two stoves to the Centre. The old stoves were donated to Beacon Community Services.
 - A letter has been sent to the province requesting financial support to properly fence the back of the BGCC property.
 - The Community Centre is being re-keyed.
 - CFX Santas Anonymous is donating to support food security programming. Funds will provide 50 bags of fresh produce each week through the spring, snack bags in summer, the summer bbq program, and food gift cards for families with kids with dietary restrictions
- Action Items **ACTION:** The Community Engagement team will ask some follow-up questions at future community meetings to get a better sense of what information people would like to see on BGCA's Facebook page
ACTION: Staff will update the membership list in the new year
ACTION: Greg and Suzanne are going to meet to look at possible short-term investments
ACTION: Marianne will share affordability grid for the rapid deployment of affordable housing and language referencing local area plans.

The meeting adjourned at 8pm.

Next Meetings:

- **Board Meeting on Monday, May 30, 5:30pm**