

Burnside Gorge Community Association  
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

**Monday, March 28, 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:**  
**Regrets:** Marianne Alto, Council Liaison; Gary Pemberton, Neighbourhood Liaison

**Welcome and introductions**

Elizabeth welcomed everyone to the meeting and made a land acknowledgement.

**Agenda**

The agenda of the March 28, 2022 Board Meeting was presented. Motion to accept with changes

MOTION TO ACCEPT: Elizabeth Cull

SECONDED: Kirsten Mah

**CARRIED**

**Minutes**

The minutes of the January 2022 Board Meeting were presented. Motion to accept

MOTION TO ACCEPT: Avery Stetski

SECONDED: Michelle Peterson

**CARRIED**

**Action Items**

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

**ACTION:** Rachel & Suzanne will draft a communication strategy for the board and Rachel will add this to the board agenda for April

**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:** Marianne will coordinate with BGCA and Darryl Wilson to select an appropriate time for a facilitated meeting with the business community

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

**City Update**

Elizabeth provided an update from Marianne

- The City has approved BGCA for a Community Garden Volunteer Coordinator Grant as well as a Get Growing direct award.
- Marianne is looking at dates to facilitate a community meeting with Darryl Wilson.

**Ops**

Suzanne shared operational highlights:

- The City also approved a Festival Investment Grant of \$2000 for Selkirk. The event will be held on Saturday May 28. Travis is working with Vic Beer Society to include a beer garden this year.
- Staffing shortages continue. The majority of recent vacancies are due to changing life circumstances of employees rather than any sort of job dissatisfaction.

Suzanne shared some financial highlights:

- Rentals have been busy which has resulted in higher revenues than budgeted for

- Several budgets show surpluses as they are underspent in wages due to unfilled positions
- Most programs are running with the exception of the youth centre
- FSS/YSS have increased revenue that wasn't budgeted but will most likely be deferred into next fiscal
- May utilize health and safety grant to provide a cooling system for the learning studio as they were built without it. There is a request in to SD61 to cover the cost.
- Greg suggested looking at short-term investment vehicles. He and Suzanne will meet to look at options.

**ACTION:** Greg and Suzanne are going to meet to look at short-term investment options.

Strategic  
Planning  
Updates

Neighborhood Development – Avery

- Communicating with developers about BGCA and programs

Community Engagement – Tabled to Strengthening Communities discussion

Organizational Strength – Kirsten

- No update

Financial Health - Elizabeth

- Thrift Store – Avery has applied for the building permit. The lease feedback from the lawyer has been forwarded along to Lisa to go over with the landlord. Sandra is going to do the interior design. Avery is talking to contractors. Suzanne and Rachel are working on a package to give to contractors/vendors that includes the business plan, site drawings and a one-pager about BGCA. The next step is a vote to move forward. Avery will send out a project update on the thrift along with a motion for the board to vote on electronically.

**ACTION:** Avery will send out a project update on the thrift along with a motion for the board to vote on electronically.

Strengthening  
Communities

Elizabeth gave an update on the Strengthening Communities initiative:

Graffiti

- There are volunteers now who are keen. If there is graffiti on private property Gary P encourages folks to check in to see if the business is aware and if they have plans to remove it. If that is unsuccessful it can be sent along to bylaw to follow up.
- There was a general discussion about volunteers for this and who holds the liability.

Engagement

- There is an event on Saturday, April 9. There will be a BBQ, performances from theatre skam, idea generation and volunteer recruitment.

Clean & safe

- This is still a work in progress. Elizabeth is hoping to see teams up and running May through to October 31.

LUC & CAC  
Updates

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

LUC:

- 2816 Irma (south of gorge) is coming up.
- Thursday, March 31, BC housing is holding a community engagement session on the Discovery Street property of the Discovery/Caledonia. There has been a lot of frustration from the community, the project is seen as breaking the moratorium.
- BC Housing is also running an engagement process for the redevelopment of Evergreen Terrace. BGCA's family shelter suites will be impacted so BGCA is participating in the process.

VCAN

- A letter from VCAN has gone out to the provincial government asking that aging apartment buildings are purchased in order to retain housing stock. 6 of 11 neighbourhoods signed off on the letter.
- VCAN is held on the fourth Wednesday of every month, from 715-915pm. Avery can't attend this week and Michelle agreed to be the backup rep for VCAN.

CAC:

- CAC meetings are going to a bi-monthly schedule
- There is concern from the board that the CAC process is devolving into more of Good Neighbour Agreement model. Elizabeth will check in with BC Housing about their CAC process in Victoria.

**ACTION:** Michelle will be the backup representative for VCAN meetings.

**ACTION:** Elizabeth will check in with BC Housing about their CAC process in Victoria

Mileage

Suzanne presented a scan of current mileage rates from other organizations and recommended an increase to .55 cents starting April 1 with another analysis to be conducted in July to assess further increases for the 2022/23 budgets. Motion to accept Suzanne's recommendation as presented:

MOTION TO ACCEPT: Michelle Peterson

SECONDED: Kirsten Mah

**CARRIED**

Action Items

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**ACTION:** Marianne will coordinate with BGCA and Darryl Wilson to select an appropriate time for a facilitated meeting with the business community

**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:** Avery will send out a project update on the thrift along with a motion for the board to vote on electronically.

**ACTION:** Michelle will be the backup representative for VCAN meetings.

**ACTION:** Elizabeth will check in with BC Housing about their CAC process in Victoria

The meeting adjourned at 725pm.

**Next Meetings:**

- **Board Meeting on Monday, April 25, 5:30pm**