

Victoria West Community Association Meeting Minutes

June 30th, 2009

Present: Board members Jo-Ann Youmans (Chair), Bernie Gaudet, Mike Medland, Audrey Whittall, Jane Baigent, Charlene Simon, Diane Carr, Grant Keddie, Michael Hawkins, Nan Judd (Recorder)

Regrets: Jody Watson, Louise Wood, Patti Parkhouse

Extraordinary General Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm.

Purpose to pass the Special Resolution “That the association adopt the Constitution and Bylaws dated June 30, 2009 to replace the Constitution and Bylaws dated May 31, 1995.”

Moved by Nan Judd, Seconded: Michael Hawkins. Carried.

Diane Carr moves to thank Nan Judd for moving the By-laws along. Jo-Ann Youmans seconded.

Extraordinary General Meeting closed at 7:10pm.

Presentation: City of Victoria staff regarding upgrades/changes to Esquimalt Road

- Transportation plan approved for Vic West approved in 2008, included walking, cycling and automobile space.
- A grant was secured to do the Esquimalt Rd section of the plan which includes central islands, new trees, left hand turning lanes, boulevards adjacent to sidewalks, crosswalks, improved public lighting amenities, separation of pedestrians from the traffic.
- CRD with the rail trail project. The CRD has not completed the designs, the project costs have increased significantly and so the rail trail plans are delayed. It's expected that an additional pedestrian crossing will be included near the railway crossing.
- 104 trees will be planted. More were planned, but the underground utilities prevent additional trees from being planted. Some trees were planted in concrete planters to appease the engineering department. Small to medium multi-species trees will be planted. Conical canopy, planting beginning this fall – good timing to plant. Vast majority (60-70%) will be planted east of Catherine due to utility locations and associated conflicts. Smaller shrub planters will fill in the areas where trees may not be planted. The trees are not all native – native trees are difficult to get in size. The trees that have been

selected are well behaved available trees. Trees are relatively draught resistant. For the first 5 years the trees are irrigated and are left thereafter.

- Project must be complete by next March 2010 in order meet funding requirements
- Parks is challenged with inventory creep. In order to maintain this new inventory, parks will be seeking additional funds to sustain the inventory. Suggestion to include residents to maintain some of the inventory. There may be an issue with collective bargaining/contracts.
- The design of Dominion Street to the bridge resembles the stretch of Esquimalt Rd section through Esquimalt, with additional green space along the boulevard. Suggestion was made to discuss with residents whether the traffic to all streets should be restricted to local traffic only, reducing the number of left hand turn requirements. Suggestion to include more plant medians toward Dominion Street.
- Boulevard west of Spinnakers was raised as a concern requiring further maintenance.
- The section closer to the Johnson Street Bridge will be designed when the Johnson Street Bridge is more finalized in terms of a design.
- There are no plans to re-line the sewers beyond some spot repairs
- The cost of the project is part of the overall tax base, and will not affect the taxes of residents along Esquimalt Rd, i.e. it is not likely subject to the Boulevard tax. Confirmation will be provided to Jane. Parks is doing a review of the Boulevard Maintenance program
- Suggestion to change the speed limit from Catherine Street to the west to 40kms. The environment of the road will impact the speed far more than the speed limit
- Traffic will be managed during construction, anticipated to start first of October, awarded by the City
 - The intent to keep traffic moving.
 - Construction will begin on the north side of the road, then down the other side once the construction is complete on the north side. Two lanes of traffic will be maintained throughout.
 - Finishing work will be in the spring
 - Design drawing to be complete over the next month, and the tendering over the summer

1. Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve the Minutes for May 26th, 2009.

Moved by Nan Judd, seconded by Mike. Medland. Carried.

2. Approval of Agenda

- Motion to approve the agenda as circulated.

Moved by Mike Medland, seconded by Nan Judd. Carried

3. Business from the floor/New Business

Motion that the welcome to Vic West signs entering the community be removed.

Moved by Tim Evans, seconded by Diane Carr.

Discussion:

- During the visioning exercise residents identified that they liked the signs
- Part of the value of the signs is to distinguish Vic West from Esquimalt
- Concern about the aesthetic value of the signs
- The sign change at Railyards is expected when that section of the development is built out; assumed that the sign near the Johnson Street Bridge will be removed when that project moves forward
- Issue has historically been getting people to orchestrate the applications for funding, including financial or in kind community effort
- The Gateway doesn't need to be a sign

Motion: Defeated

This issue should be brought forward when the future developments cause the signs to be removed.

4. Old Business

- **Committee Terms of Reference**

Motion to approve the Terms of Reference for the following Committees

- Fundraising
- Harbour
- Governance

- Transportation

Moved by Mike Medland, seconded by Audrey Whittall. Carried

Remaining Terms of References to be revised for suggested passing at September's Board meeting.

- **Visions Map & First Nations – deferred**

5. *Y Update*

- Change in Programming
 - i. Improved service for family and youth, including a drop in
 - ii. Family yoga for children three and up starting in the fall
 - iii. Toy library remains available for that timeframe
 - iv. Pilates Monday class to be moved to Thursday
 - v. Friday evenings, 6-7pm program for younger youth
 - vi. Just the Guys program will be added with the Just the Gals program
 - vii. Red Cross course on safety will be provided to children
 - viii. Babysitters course
 - ix. Other minor changes to the scheduling
 - x. Summer day camps are up and going
 - xi. Enrolment decline, daycamp operations is 50-60% over last year, daycare programs are at 75%
 - xii. Senior programming is non-existent, though program ideas are welcomed. Programs will be tweaked going into January
 - xiii. Needs assessment of what the community would like is not on the table. Prior discussions suggested that an assessment would be done. A suggestion was made to conduct an assessment in order to better support the community.

6. *President's Report – Jo-Ann Youmans*

- Needle exchange discussion pointed to lack of site
- Community Association Network chair stepped down. A meeting will likely happen in September to determine desire to continue meeting
- New members: two new members **Moved by Mike Medland, Seconded by Diane Carr. Carried**
- Chris Mankacis has put his name forward for the position of secretary. **Moved by Charlene Simon, seconded Mike Medland. Carried**
- City Planning Process re upgrading the OCP & Community Plans
 - requested that the plan that is in place be respected pending the update

- it was suggested that the principals in Fairfield's letter be supported, and the importance of drawing attention to the age of the current plans
- support a bottom up approach – staff included the Code of Public Participation, which was considered hopeful
- Taylor report was not available for public consumption because of purported information about staff
- Planning and Development would get input from Design Panel and Heritage committees, but not Advisory Planning Committee
- concern the community input is particularly relevant as a result of age of community plans

Motion to include some of the principals in the letter Moved by Diane Carr, seconded by Grant Keddie. Carried

7. Treasurer's Report – Mike Medland

- Report circulated and Mike briefly spoke to it
- Patti had asked to include a budget of \$800 for the corn roast with an expectation of \$400+ revenue .

Moved by Mike Medland, seconded by Jane Baigent. Carried

- Motion to adopt Treasurer's Report. **Moved by Jo-Ann Youmans, seconded by Nan Judd. Carried**

8. Report from City Hall – Councillor John Luton

- Johnson Street Bridge funding response from federal agency expected by August.
- Re: Lack of trees along Tyee, the City utilities under roadway, developer utilities under the sidewalk – therefore reduced plantings.
- Railyards Galloping Goose improvements expected to start in August.
- De-coupling of Bridges park from other development in order to pay for park out of sales of residential developments.
- Harbour and Marina issues are moving forward as previously reported, Letter sent by the City to the federal authority indicating the proposed development is not consistent with the original plan developed in the 80's. Decision to oppose the Marina is a policy decision and not a political decision.
- Request by a community member to approach developer at Railyards to provide access to Goose along the vacant portion of the site.

9. Parks & Environment Report – Not Available

10. Transportation – Jane Baigent

- *Nothing to report*

11. Harbour Report – Audrey Whittall

- Petition was delivered to the City

12. Land Use Report – Bernie Gaudet

- Powderly Street application was reviewed and the comments were favourable with the exception of a growing street parking concern; the letter going into the City will include a request to consider implementing a parking permit requirement.
- Discussion of the community survey occurred, lead by Mike and Michael
- Website design for Land Use Committee section – targeted by September
- Neighbourhood Planning Process – Diane and Bernie have met a couple of times
- Tyee Coop (June 1st Workshop on affordable housing) occurred and generated good discussion about the definition of affordable housing and suggestions regarding appropriate strategy to build out the Co-op.
- Also met with SOS Architects on the property at the corner of Raynor and Mary Streets
- Site adjacent to the Tyee Co-op has been purchased as affordable housing, development plans have not been submitted.
- In July, items that will be tabled include review of the Terms of Reference for the Committee, preliminary review of a potential temporary re-zoning application out of Dockside, preliminary review of a potential development application at Bayview, presentation regarding the

13. Communications – Jo-Ann Youmans for Louise Wood

- Let Louise know if there is anything to include on the website

14. Food Security/Community Gardens Report – Jo-Ann Youmans for Patti Parkhouse

- Patti is requesting someone from the Board to be a co-coordinator for the Corn Roast on September 13th., Jane indicated it isn't a big task. No one stepped forward.
- Diane has offered to send a note to membership asking for volunteers on that day

15. Announcements

- No announcements

Adjournment 9:27pm