



NOCA Board Meeting, July 16, 2018 - MINUTES

Present

Eve Reinarz

Ian Knipe

Todd Trimble

Joy Adams Bauer

Joy Anderson

Jen Skogland (guest)

Regrets: Janet Wright

Absent: Barbara Schreiber

1. **Call to Order** – the meeting was called to order by Joy Adams Bauer at 7 p.m.
2. **Additions/approval of agenda** – The agenda was approved as circulated. Moved by, Ian Knipe, Seconded by, Joy Adams Bauer, CARRIED.
3. **Approval of minutes from June 18, 2018 meeting** – the minutes were approved as circulated. Moved by, Joy Adams Bauer, Seconded by, Joy Anderson, CARRIED.
4. **Directors' updates (roundtable, for information only)**

Ian Knipe – Ian reminded us about the idea of lobbying the City for a crosswalk at Machleary and Fitzwilliam Streets as a possible future project for NOCA.

Todd Trimble – Todd attended the June Nanaimo Neighbourhood Network meeting. No concerns were raised regarding the City's automated waste collection system. "Our Nanaimo" gave a brief presentation. They are a grassroots, non-partisan group of citizens focused on effecting positive change at the municipal level in the areas of governance and city planning. They have a number of tools for the electorate on their website (www.ournanaimo.com) and they will be posting bios on candidates for the October 17 municipal election.

Joy Anderson – Joy has contacted Jamie Rose (transportation department) at the City of Nanaimo (via email and telephone) to raise the issue of safety for pedestrians because of the absence of crosswalk markings at the roundabout at Wentworth and Kennedy Streets. She has not received a reply, but will keep trying.

Joy Adams Bauer – Joy reported that Lisa Hemingway has added the NOCA logo to the banner on our website. Barbara Schreiber has agreed to remain as treasurer until our AGM in October. No responses yet to the call for interest (via an e-blast and post on our website) in serving as treasurer. Joy reported she is meeting with city council candidates Erin Hemmens and Tyler Brown (at their request) on July 18. She asked for any concerns/questions the Board wished

to share. Issues to be shared include increased break-ins due to our increasing transient population; development of 388 Machleary Street; the importance of maintaining the diversity, livability and walkability of the old city; ensuring downtown Nanaimo is a priority of City Council. Questions to be asked include the candidate's views on the current opioid crisis and the role of the city; city's role in combating climate change; hobbies and passions. Joy will score any candidates she meets with using the "Candidate Checklist" provided by OurNanaimo.

5. Discussion Items

Pawson Park Update – Jen Skogland (garden coordinator) gave an update on activities since last fall. A fun and successful Easter egg hunt, which is an annual event, was held in the spring. Every Friday night (from spring until fall) from 5:30 to 7:30 pm a family picnic is held in the park, organized by Daryl Harvey of "old city kids". Families bring their blankets, picnics and soccer balls and enjoy time connecting with their neighbours in the great outdoors. The garden plots are rented effective May 1st. Four of the six plots are rented this year. Jen reminded folks about the two higher beds with produce available to anyone in the neighbourhood. Come and enjoy! Thanks to the City for trimming back the overgrown trees by the garden beds. The city is also keen to build more beds.

Jen has the key to the kitchen/storage area and the washrooms which now have a deadbolt on them 24/7. Jen explained this was a decision of City staff due to ongoing vandalism. The Board expressed concern that the bathrooms are locked. Ian volunteered to write a letter to the City expressing our concerns that the washrooms be open during daylight hours.

388 Machleary Working Group – Ian reported the working group now has 13 members. At their last meeting in June it was decided to put things on hold until the City contacts us regarding the Molnar Group's application to amend the Official Community Plan. The latest information from the City is they have received an addition to the development proposal from the Molnar Group. Once staff has reviewed the development referral they will be in touch with NOCA. We will then hold another community meeting, potentially in Pawson Park. The working group has also decided to focus their energies on one or two big issues – the main one being density.

Discussion ensued around amenities on the site. Jen referenced the city's suggestion (of a couple of years ago) of a pavilion in the park. At that time city staff had recommended NOCA raise 50% of the cost. We were not interested. Perhaps the developer could contribute to the cost? A potential location is to the left of the path if the picnic table and information board are moved. Jen also suggested fruit and nut trees on the border of the 388 Machleary site. Perhaps the developer could also make some improvements to the kitchen/storage building? Jen will update the 2012 Pawson Park Terms of Reference for circulation to the Board.

Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Next meetings – Monday, August 20 at 7 pm at the Coach and Horses Pub

Monday, September 17 at 7pm at Harris House - focus on AGM planning