

NOCA Board Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2023

In attendance: Joy Adams Bauer, Brian Booth, Shelley Serebrin, Mayta Ryn

Regrets: Barbara Schreiber, Erin Chaba

President Joy Adams Bauer called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

The **Agenda** was approved on a motion by Mayta Ryn and seconded by Brian Booth, CARRIED.

The **Minutes** from November 15, 2022 as circulated were approved on a motion by Joy Adams Bauer and seconded by Mayta Ryn, CARRIED.

Treasurer's Report – \$1285.21 in the bank.

Nanaimo Neighbourhood Network Update – Mayta reported the Network is meeting on January 18 and will discuss the safety rally planned for the parking lot at Country Club Mall; neighbourhood association grants; and the Planning 101 workshop to be offered to neighbourhood associations. Mayta will update the Network on the work being done on the good neighbour agreement with the overnight shelter at St. Peter's Catholic Church.

Proposed development on Robson Street: Mayta reported on the very helpful email discussion she's been having with the city planner on the file. The development is for 31 micro units (350 sq. feet) with 12 parking spots. Mayta recommended that NOCA keep its eye on the number of parking spots in new developments, the number of bike spots and the security of the bikes. Mayta feels the bylaws in this are behind the times and recommends NOCA make a presentation at the upcoming public hearing for the development.

Meeting with President of OCQ Business Association – Joy reported on her December 21 meeting with President Matthew Rosenthal. The OCQBA is interested in working with us on issues of mutual concern. The Board agreed that was a good idea. Joy shared their list of suggested improvements for the neighbourhood and their discussion with Bill Corsan, City of Nanaimo. Joy will ensure ongoing communication between both associations.

Nanaimo Climate Pledge - Shelley reported the Pledge is going to social media to try and expand its reach. A presentation was recently given at the Unitarian Centre. The Climate Connectors are going well and there will be another training session at the end of January. Her tour of a home with solar panels fell through. Joy will contact NOCA members with solar panels who live in the 200 block of Milton and connect them with Shelley.

There will be a rally in Victoria on Saturday, February 25 from 12 noon to 3 pm about protecting old growth. People may also be interested in the City of Nanaimo's "Act on Climate Together (ACT)" program.

Spring and Fall clean up - The Board approves Erin's recommended dates of Saturday, April 15 and Saturday, October 28.

Feedback on NOCA Priorities – Joy shared the feedback received.

Meeting re overnight shelter at St. Peter's – Joy, Erin and Mayta attended the meeting at the shelter on January 11 along with a number of NOCA members. There were about 35 people in attendance. It was a good discussion with the operators of the shelter and a shelter staff member. The neighbourhood supports the shelter. Most people are not directly affected apart from those who live on the same corner as the church. There was a general discussion about increasing numbers of homeless people in the area and thefts and unpredictable people. Those interested in working on a Good Neighbour Agreement between the Nanaimo Family Life Association (the operator) and the neighbourhood will be invited to a second meeting to begin this work.

Neighbourhood Association Grant Program – the deadline for submissions is January 31. Erin will apply for the continuation of our boulevard beautification program.

Daytime warming centres – Joy reported on the centre being operated by the 7-10 Club Society at St. Paul's Anglican church on Chapel Street (Monday to Friday, 10 am to 7 pm) and the centre being operated by the Risebridge Society at 520 Prideaux Street (7 days per week in two shifts, 8:30am to 12:30pm and 3:30pm to 7:30pm). The Centres are funded by the City and will operate until March 31.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 21 at 7 pm at the Black Rabbit Kitchen

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 pm.