

## **NOCA Board Meeting Minutes**

### **January 15, 2024**

**In attendance:** Joy Adams Bauer, Shelley Serebrin, Mayta Ryn, Brian Booth, Barbara Schreiber.

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

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

The **Minutes** from November 20, 2023 as circulated were approved on a motion by Mayta Ryn and seconded by Barbara Schreiber CARRIED.

**Treasurer's Report** – \$2,357.63 in the bank.

**Climate action update** – The tour of the house on Milton Street with solar panels was very successful. Shelley is planning a 2<sup>nd</sup> tour soon. She received a \$1,400 grant from the City of Nanaimo for a community environmentally sustainable project. NOCA and the Rock City neighbourhood association are sharing the funds. Shelley is planning a presentation about alternative energy homes and will use a thermal heat camera to show 40 participants (20 for each association) where their homes lose heat. Shelly's project at her recent VIU course was the development of a community engagement project to deal with climate action. Shelley will send a draft eblast to Joy and Brian to wordsmith, inviting people to join her climate action team. Joy will send it out to our contacts.

**Nanaimo Network of Neighbours** – Zoom meeting on January 16 which Joy and Mayta plan to attend. Mayta thanks Nancy Mitchell who is doing a terrific job as the NNN secretary. Mayta read out the names of the people appointed to the city's Community Safety Committee. She continues to push for a neighbourhood association rep to join the committee. However, the terms of the committee note that people representing specific groups cannot belong. More discussion at the NNN meeting.

**Good Neighbour meetings at St. Peter's overnight shelter** – Mayta reported that 2 staff from Connective, Brian, herself and the couple who live across Fitzwilliam from the St. Peter's attended the January meeting. John Horn was unable to attend. Mayta is not sure if the CSO's are checking the shelter in the AM when guests leave (as promised at our first good neighbour meeting in November). Hot spots continue to be the bus stop outside the church and the parkette at Franklyn and Milton streets. The block watches on the 200 blocks of Kennedy and Machleary are keeping an eye on things around the church. Mayta and Brian are willing to participate in a phone tree to report activity to bylaw officers, police etc.

Mayta volunteered to create a business card with the information on "who to call" which we could drop in mail boxes in the hot spot areas and also have copies to hand out in the neighbourhood. Joy will follow up with John Horn about the security issue.

**Protecting trees** – Joy shared some information from Kelly Murphy about how to ensure trees on your property are not cut down. Patrick Murphy, Urban Forester for the City of Nanaimo suggests that if we want certain trees protected, we declare them on our property titles as protected. Patrick said an update

to the city's tree bylaw is overdue and would require input from the community and a lengthy process of negotiation among interest groups. NOCA may want to get involved.

**For the good of the community** - Joy reported that the Living Praise Chapel on Prideaux Street is holding a free community dinner on Saturday. All are welcome. Joy will send out an invite to a few members she thinks might be interested in attending.

Mayta gave a shout out to the couple who live kitty corner to St. Peter's on Fitzwilliam Street, for their positive attitude to the shelter and how they are handling the issues it causes.

**Next Meeting: Monday, February 12 at 7 pm at Barb's.**

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 pm.