

NOCA Board Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2026

In attendance: Joy Adams Bauer, Barbara Schreiber, Shelley Serebrin, Basia Henoch, Mayta Ryn, Jamie Molloy

Regrets: Alan Drexhage, Brian Booth, Twila Konynenbelt

Guest: Sandra Mazzei

President Joy Adams Bauer called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm and welcomed Sandra who is attending as a member of the NOCA Machleary/Kennedy/Fitzwilliam working group

The **Agenda**, as amended, was approved on a motion by Barb and seconded by Mayta

The **minutes of the January 16, 2026** meeting as circulated, were approved on a motion by Barb and seconded by Jamie.

Treasurer's Report – We have \$4,592.19 in the bank.

NOCA Machleary/Kennedy/Fitzwilliam working group – Sandra reported that Terre Flower had a phone conversation with planner Caleb Horn late last year. The group sent a letter detailing all of their concerns to the city. Madeleine Koch is inputting their concerns and will be in touch. Madeleine suggested the group also input their concerns into the transportation section of the city website. NOCA will address their concerns in our priorities for the city.

Mayta recommended the group go door to door in the neighbourhood to speak with neighbours and get their support.

Priorities for 2026 – We received 7 suggestions from members, most addressing density and parking. Mayta will create our 1st two priorities and Shelley will write the third climate action priority and send it to Mayta.

Tree planting update – Joy sent an e-blast looking for volunteers to help with the 2nd batch of planting in early March. 7 adults and 2 children signed up. Joy gave their information to Shelley to coordinate with Patrick McIntosh.

Pollinator Project update – We have 19 addresses interested in participating! Joy is in touch with Linda Brooymans from NALT. We have to ensure the addresses create a good pathway for the bees.

Closure of The Hub – Joy and Mayta participated in an online meeting with the city and other non-profits to get an idea of what will happen when The Hub closes on March 31 due to no more funding and the wish of the current landlord to no longer be involved. The consequences for downtown will be grave with many more desperate people hanging around. The Hub did a great job of connecting folks with the resources they needed and that service will no longer be available. Almost 30 new locations were looked at (none in the south end) but nothing was suitable. Any funding would only

be available to renting space, not making it suitable. This will mean more work for the CSOs and the Clean Team downtown.

Affordable Housing Re-Zoning – Mayta reported that due to the fact the cost of housing in Nanaimo is out of reach for many residents, the City of Nanaimo is working on a new initiative to change that. The City is seeking feedback on an initiative to accelerate the delivery of social housing. The Pre-Zoning for Social Housing initiative proposes to accelerate the delivery of social housing by removing the requirement for a rezoning in certain areas. A survey is open now until March 15, 2026.

Who you gonna call? - Mayta has printed more of these cards and confirmed the phone numbers with CSO supervisor, Cst. Barry Hornby. If you need any for your neighbours, let her know.

For the good of our community

- NALT is doing a smelt collection in the Millstone River.
- Red Shelf Decor has moved from Commercial Street to the corner of Fitzwilliam and Wesley.
- Jamie is thinking about a sign (perhaps at the Machleary/Bowen intersection) that welcomes people to the old city neighbourhood. It could perhaps have lights and of course reflect the personality of the neighbourhood.

Meeting Adjourned at 9 pm.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 16, 2026 (Regrets from Basia)