

MINUTES
Camosun Community Association
Zoom Conference
Monday November 8, 2021 8 P.M.

Call to Order: 8:00 PM. Present - Meralin Young, Leigh Urquhart, Lisa Timmons, Angus Whitmore, Vernon Lord, Evan Fryer and guest Andrea Gleichauf

Approval of Agenda: Lisa and Angus second.

Approval of October 14 minutes: Lisa with Angus second.

Reports:

President: Lisa

- To date there are eight people registered for the AGM as well as seven memberships paid by E-Transfer.
- A motion by Lisa to donate \$400 to the salmon restoration program in Bowker Creek by the FOBC, Andrea seconded and the motion was passed.

A discussion proceeded about the proposed SD61 land sale at Lansdowne South campus to Victoria Hospice Society. Several board members attended an online information session (Q & A) with school trustees, school board staff, FOBC and Hospice staff. A link to the meeting video is here [Land Sale](#) Many questions and concerns were raised to both the school board and Hospice. Several questions were unanswered and the school board promised to provide answers and take any concerns back for consideration. As the information session did not provide the broad consultation or information that was expected, the CCA board will continue to advocate for the community wishes and the local environment on this matter. It was noted by more than one participant that this area of Saanich is already deficient in green space and that the land in question is key to the Bowker Creek Initiative future plan.

- Meralin, Leigh, Vicki and Andrea will form a committee to examine the proposed sale- decision making process and report back before the deadlines shown below. Discourse followed over some concerns with the dominant theme being around how Bowker Creek will be affected, loss of green space and is this best location for this Hospice facility.

Victoria School Board Engagement timeline for the land sale

- Raising Awareness – October 14 to November 3, 2021
- Online Information Session (Q & A – Open Dialogue) – November 3, 2021
November 24, 2021
- Collect written submissions from the public – Feedback period closes on
November 24, 2021
- *What We Heard* Summary Report to the Board – December 2021

- Board Meeting to consider land disposal – December 13, 2021

Treasurer: Vernon

- Current bank chequing balance is \$2700 after cheques to SCK and FOBC

Communications:

- Both our website and Facebook are showing well with up to date posts by Evan and Tom. Meralin strongly suggests we have more content on the Bowker Creek Plan and historical background of Bowker Creek and new initiatives such as introduction of salmon. Such content will inform members and provide resource material about our local green space and waterways.

AGM:

- Discussion over order of meeting, housekeeping, agenda, guest speaker (20 minutes- max 30. and reports. Lisa has a PowerPoint guide for the AGM.
- Angus suggested that we share the importance of our Zoom monthly meetings has been during COVID, making it easier for all interested to participate.

Shelbourne Community Kitchen: Vicki

- We received the following letter from the SCK with their news and progress in the last year.

COOK GROW SHARE CONNECT www.shelbournecommunitykitchen.ca

November 7, 2021

Dear Friends at Camosun Community Association,

Since the pandemic began, household food insecurity in Canada has increased from 1 in 14 to 1 in 7 households. According to the Victoria Foundation, more than 15,000 households in the Capital Region District are currently struggling to keep healthy food on the table. We have witnessed the escalating rate of food insecurity first-hand, as demand for our programs and services have nearly tripled in the last year and a half. Meanwhile, our organization has faced the dual challenges of COVID-19 and a necessary move and renovation to meet Island Health, CRD and Saanich building codes at our newly opened facility in the lower level of Lutheran Church of the Cross.

Our new, expanded facility will not only eliminate a number of the challenges we experienced in our former location, it will also create exciting new opportunities to increase our capacity to serve our members. Thanks to our newly renovated facility:

- *Food storage and distribution are now under the same roof, helping to significantly increase the*

efficiency of our operations.

- *The Pantry Program (our food support service) now has twice the amount of space, fridges and dry storage for distribution that will help serve our growing membership.*
- *Staff and practicum students no longer have to work in one small room, as additional offices and work spaces have been created.*
- *We are now a registered Food Distribution Organization with Island Health. Our hard working volunteers no longer have to wash dishes and cookware manually, as we now have an excellent dishpit area and sanitizer to facilitate the process.*
- *Occupancy of our central location has increased from 15 to 50 people.*
- *We now have space to create a kids corner, educational feature walls and other interactive areas that help to nurture community engagement.*
- *Our two new gardens have produced 7500 pounds of food in the first year.*

As one of our community partners, we are reaching out for your support of our work and the vital programs we offer in our shared community by requesting your Association consider writing a letter to Saanich Council supporting The Kitchen as a stated amenity of the Nicola Wealth development at Mackenzie Ave and Shelbourne Street. Being a beneficiary of this amenity, will allow us to proceed with phase 2 of our renovation, the much needed commercial kitchen. At the present time, we do not have a kitchen for our in house cooking food skills programs.

We had hoped to be one of the amenities for the Westbild development, but unfortunately the amenity package originally proposed by Westbild was changed when presented to Saanich council. Increased green space was recommended and approved instead of funding to family and children charities.

COOK GROW SHARE CONNECT www.shelbournecommunitykitchen.ca

We understand that this is a challenging time for all of us, and that the COVID-19 pandemic has brought us together, to support each other in new and inspiring ways.

Without support from caring partners like your association, the healthy food support and online food skills programs that we provide for over 850+ low income families and individuals would not be possible.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing support.

In community spirit,

Clarice Dillman, Board Chair

Adjournment: Next meeting is the AGM November 18, 2021

