

MINUTES
Camosun Community Association
Zoom Video Conference
Thursday April 14, 2022 7 P.M.

Call to Order: 7:00 PM. Present : Lisa Timmons, Leigh Urquhart, Vernon Lord, Angus Whitmore, Jamie Dopp, Meralin Young, Vicki Sanders. Absent Evan Fryer and Andrea Gleichauf.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Jamie, seconded by Vicki
Approval of Minutes: Motion by Lisa, seconded by Angus

Reports:

President: Lisa

- Notice of a mini-workshop on housing April 23 1:00-3:30 pm, sponsored by GVAT ([Greater Victoria Acting Together](#)) and organized by First Unitarian, Holy Cross, St. Patrick's, and Broad View United churches (all GVAT members). Saanich Councillor Zac de Vries will provide an overview of community housing needs and how the local government plans to address these needs. A Q & A period will follow

- **2022 55+ BC Games coming to Victoria this September 13**

Victoria was announced as host for the next 55+ BC Games; the first in 33 years to be held in the capital of the province. Organizers, participants speak to urgent need for sponsors, volunteers and accommodations. For all the information, go here [55+ Games](#)

- **From Saanich:** The long-promised citizen's assembly to consider the amalgamation of Victoria and Saanich has been fully funded and is expected to start meeting after the fall municipal election. The province and mayors of Victoria and Saanich noted they have each contributed \$250,000 to a process that will explore the possible outcomes, costs, benefits and disadvantages of amalgamation. Following the Oct. 15 municipal election, the next step will be hiring someone to run the assembly and then selecting its members.

Saanich planning wants two members from the community associations to give input on Community Amenity Contributions (CAC). The purpose of the Community Amenity Contribution and Inclusionary Housing Program is to

provide guidance and to establish a transparent, efficient, balanced and predictable process by which the District can receive amenities from development, in the form of Community Amenity Contributions. At a recent SCAN meeting. Carol Hamil from Mt. View Colquitz and Brody Porter from Mt. Tolmie volunteered. Opportunities for public engagement will be available as the Program is developed. Please [sign up](#) for the notification list to receive updates. On August 9, 2021 Council adopted an [Interim Community Amenity Contribution Policy \[PDF - 280 KB\]](#) that provides guidance for community amenity contribution negotiations while the more comprehensive program is being developed

- There is serious discussion among the Shelbourne Valley Community associations to organize an event at Browning Park. We all share common borders and issues relating to the loss of green space and walkability concerns in our neighborhoods.
- Received from local area residents a few more surveys regarding Abstract's Shelbourne developments. Overall the most concern mentioned was building height.

Treasurer: Vernon

- Two new members and two renewing. Present bank balance is \$2356.90.
- Discussion on sending to send a financial report to Saanich to qualify for the annual community association grant of up to \$1100. Last year we had a \$773 grant, however we might not have enough expenses to qualify and Vernon will follow up on the qualifications Saanich requires.
- Motion by Lisa and seconded by Vernon to donate \$500 to the Shelbourne Community Kitchen. Motion passed.

SCAN (Saanich Community Association Network): Jamie

- Report on SCAN Meeting of April 6, 2022—Jamie Dopp

Lisa Timmons and I attended the SCAN meeting of April 6.

- The meeting began with a presentation by Cameron Scott, Manager of Community Planning for Saanich. The presentation consisted of background information to support the proposed changes to planning. The larger context of the changes, he said, was the steady growth in the population of the city (.6% per year) and the housing needs this creates. The highest identified need is purpose-built rentals, since 78% of renters in Saanich are currently in secondary rental suites.

- He also stressed that the movement toward six storey buildings was about “community fit” more than anything else, though the movement is made possible by changes to the building code.
- As part of the process of making the city denser, the planning department is also charged with trying to increase the walkability of neighbourhoods. This point led to a discussion of the importance of green space for more dense neighbourhoods. The city seems intent on de-emphasizing the greenspace-per-resident ratio to concentrate on “walkability.”
- Finally, he stressed that as part of the changes to planning; the city is committed to strengthening the framework for monitoring and implementation. There was some discussion of what this strengthen monitoring might mean.
- After the presentation there was an extended discussion. Sharon Hvozdzanski , the Director of Planning, was also there.
- The biggest takeaway of this discussion for me was how heterogeneous SCAN is. There are some strong common concerns (like a desire for consistency and predictability in the planning process) but different neighbourhoods have have different needs and challenges. The Gorge-Tillicum people, for example, are really concerned with how hard it is to attract developments to their neighbourhood. The people along the Shelbourne Corridor, however, are more concerned with overdevelopment.

Community Association Liaison Committee (CALC)- Meralin

- Calc March 17, 2022
- UVic Planning: Cedar Hill corner (where people use to take their unleashed dogs) is having its boundaries resurveyed and a fence built. Apparently there are encroachments from neighbours. The field is also taking proposals from faculty for temporary research like building envelope testing and geo- thermal testing.
- Haro Woods is having signs erected with information on who to call if there is an issue. Haro Woods, Mystic Vale and the Queenswood properties are having invasive species removed by the Greater Victoria green team.
- The campus Greenway is finished to Midgard and open. Yet to come are plantings, indigenous banners and lighting.
- Tendering for the Nations centre for indigenous law will be later this year.

- The area for the new Engineering addition has had trees removed. The wood will be used for the indigenous law addition to the law building.
- Housing is on track. One residence building will be open by the end of the summer (400 students). Building 2 will open the spring of 2023.
- Community Assoc's updates
- Cadboro Bay: LAP finalized, but the redesign of Sinclair Hill has been delayed because Saanich wasn't happy with the housing mix
- Mt. Tolmie: The homeless shelter in the old Mt. Tolmie hospital may not be needed by the end of June, they were told at the last Saanich meeting with police. Two people died in parking lot of carbon monoxide poisoning. The CA is trying to build up membership, with an outdoor meet and greet in March.
- Quadra Cedar Hill: Meeting continue to be on Zoom with speakers. Music in the park going to 2 performances this summer. Concern re less public input at Saanich.
- Scan: meeting with 3 MLA's at Goward house. Last Scan meeting was at Commonwealth Place they met with the new CAO.
- Gordon Head: Are having 3 strategic planning sessions. They're having in person meetings. Development submissions to board take up a lot of time, a lot totally inappropriate. Are working to have applications vetted before they come to the board. AGM April 28 in person. Working on a new website. Doing Music in the park this year. Contacted Saanich to have local area plan moved up in the list. There's no Saanich desire to add to the list.
- Next Calc meeting may be in person. The fall meeting may be in the new residence.
- Speaker: Serhy Yekelchuk about the situation in Ukraine. He has written. Suggested if we want to donate to give to the Ukrainian Culture Centre, as they can get goods into the country, unlike the CDN Red Cross which is only outside the borders. He has written some books on Ukraine and suggests that people take a course in Ukrainian History from Community Education.

Shelbourne Community Kitchen: Vicki

- Stage 1 of construction has been finished and stage 2 started with a new kitchen for doing cooking lessons.
- Vegetable garden plot at St. Lukes is progressing well.

Land Use: Vicki, Jamie

- Re the highly controversial land disposal by SD61 at Lansdowne Middle School South – Lisa met with Soren Henrich and reps from Friends of Bowker Creek in a meeting with local MLA's and will soon be meeting with the assistant to the Minister of Education, to express their opposition to this purchase and sales agreement.
- Vicki stated that the Shelbourne St. development applications are quite at the moment. The Townley/Dean two home subdivision has been started.

New Business: Action items for next meeting

- Membership drive
- Allenby Park community notice boards – renovate and inquire for Saanich assistance.
- Communication- Move toward creating a Twitter account.
- SCAN – Pam Hartman planner
- Re continued flooding on the Mt Tolmie slope. - We need to arrange a speaker from Saanich to speak on this concern at our AGM.

Next Meeting: May 12

Adjournment