



Minutes NOCA Board Meeting February 17, 2014

Present

Barbara Schreiber
Andrea Blakeman
Lawrence Rieper
Joy Adams Bauer
Ian Knipe
Jenn Skogland

Regrets

Michele Hillier
Alexia Penny
Dean Forsyth

1. **Approval of agenda** – The agenda was approved. Joy Adams Bauer/Ian Knipe.
2. **Approval of minutes from January 20, 2014 meeting** – the minutes were approved. Joy Adams Bauer/Andrea Blakeman.

Director's Reports

Treasurer – Barb presented her report. We have a balance of \$1,301.95. The report was approved as circulated. Ian Knipe/Andrea Blakeman.

Ian reported on the Wesley Street housing project at 437 Wesley Street. It opened in October 2012 as low-barrier housing for homeless people. Ian attended a meeting on behalf of NOCA and noted at the meeting that NOCA is in support of the project and all types of housing. We are happy to see this addition to our neighbourhood. Ian noted that the Wesley Street housing project includes a meeting room that is available for community meetings.

Lawrence reported on his attendance at a Neighbourhood Network meeting on February 12, 2014:

- The City of Nanaimo has created a new department of Heritage and Culture.
- Neighbourhood planning is no longer part of the planning function at the City.
- The City will soon be undertaking the 10 year review of our Official Community Plan.

Andrea reported on her attendance at a recent "good neighbours" meeting and gave an update on the Harris House Health Clinic. The Clinic now has two full shifts that run 6 days a week. The Clinic has a clothing exchange and will accept donations of used clothing, toiletries and small items of furniture.

Discussion Items

1. Urban Farm Faire – the date was confirmed for Saturday May 17 from 12 noon to 3 pm.

We will invite the Knob Hill, South End and Harewood Community Associations.

Advertising – decided to re-think the idea of advertising in the newspaper. Instead we will do mail drops and advertise with the Old City Quarter merchants. Ian will produce flyers in bright yellow or sharp lime green.

- a. Table demonstrating emergency/earthquake kits – Andrea is follow up.
- b. Bee display – Andrea will follow up with Frederick’s Honey
- c. Promote our raised beds – Jenn. Jenn will also follow up with Kirstie MacDonald at the city about the fact that the soil in our raised beds on stilts is caving in. She will investigate the type of soil needed. Ian volunteered to help if we need a work bee to fix the beds. Barb volunteered to donate soil, if needed. Barb will also donate some vegetable plants.

Jenn will bring seeds to plant in the raised beds and organize some kids’ activities. Decided not to have seedlings. Barb will bring sidewalk chalk and bubbles left over from last year’s faire.

- d. Mason bees – Ian to follow up
- e. Poultry collective – Lawrence has confirmed their involvement
- f. Food – burrito pie? (Doug and Alexia. Alexia will check Doug’s availability). Joy will make gluten-free brownies
- g. Music – Joy to check with Alexia to see if she’s contacted Doug about piper Sean Plecas and David Gogo.
- h. Piñata – Michele
- i. Membership table – Joy can staff. Discussion regarding offering a \$5 pro-rated membership that would be in effect until the fall AGM.
- j. Ladybugs – raffle off
- k. Pamphlet drop in the middle of April

Discussion ensued on the purpose of the Urban Farm Faire. Is to raise money; recruit members; build neighbourhood/community; have a fun day in the park; raise awareness about growing your own food?

Should we have a NOCA information table or a membership table? To be discussed further at the next meeting.

2. City grants - Ian will follow up with Michele

3. 2014 work plan – tabled to our March meeting.

4. Machleary and Campbell; Pine and Campbell intersections – no update.

3. Next meeting – Monday, March 17 at 7 pm at Harris House.

Agenda item – discussion of the South Downtown Waterfront Initiative