

**Hillside - Quadra Neighbourhood Action Committee Meeting
5 December 2016**

Draft Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions.

The evening started with an informal Holiday Social. In attendance were City of Victoria Parks and Recreation as well as City of Victoria Neighbourhood Co-Ordinator Gary Pemberton and Council Liaison Ben Isitt. **15 community members in attendance.**

2. Approval of Agenda

3. Approval of November 2016 Meeting Minutes

4. Parks Master Plan & Topaz Park Improvement Plan – information, discussion (Leigh Campbell, planner, Parks, Recreation & Facilities and Julie Potter, Citizen Engagement)

- City of Victoria staff presented information about the **Parks Master Plan** including the draft vision, values and funding. A discussion followed. Some key points raised by community members included the lack of connections between parks in other municipalities and those in Victoria (eg: Cedar Hill Golf Course and Summit Park); the issue of dogs in parks; the lack of a parks zone to protect parkland (is there a way of implementing this through an OCP amendment?); the issue of greenspace (school land for instance) being considered as an adjunct to the existing parks system when this greenspace is not protected from development.
Action: Janis to email staff with concerns and observations

- Information was provided about the **Topaz Park Improvement Plan** process. It will be a year-long process with two rounds of consultation with a wide range of stakeholders. A draft plan will be developed after the first round of consultation, a second round of consultation will be invited in the fall of 2017 and the final draft presented to council in late 2017. Community members present generated many ideas of user groups to contact and events (including Quadra Village Day) where City of Victoria staff could seek feedback.

5. Community Check-In - an opportunity for everyone to share ideas and concerns

6. City Hall Update (Councillor Ben Isitt & City of Victoria staff liaison Gary Pemberton)

Councillor Isitt's update:

- Council has requested more information from staff about the Crystal Pool renovation/replacement. Is there asbestos? Is it possible to lease out space to generate income?
- The CALUC review has been completed
- The 2017 budgeting process is underway

There were questions from community members.

- Why is there a 10% increase in the 2017 budget for the Storm Water Utility? The bylaw has already been passed and now there is going to be consultation? **Action: Laura to send email**
- If there is no funding for traffic calming in the Hillside-Quadra neighbourhood, what can we do? Ben suggests asking for a traffic pilot—an interim treatment of the 2500 block Graham and then to invite staff from Transportation to a meeting. Make it a neighbourhood-driven process.
Action: Invite CoV staff from Engineering and Transportation to a NAC meeting.

Gary Pemberton, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator update:

- Luke Ramsey is the new City of Victoria Artist in Residence; he did the mural Create Community Colour on Cormorant Street previously
- **Try it for Free**—free programs at the Crystal Pool January 2-15
- The City has launched the **Connect Victoria app** which has a service request function

Action: The Hillside-Quadra page on the City of Victoria website needs to be updated. Send updates to Gary.

7. Land Use Proposals – update (Jenny F.)

City of Victoria planning staff are holding a joint meeting with all CALUCs, January 16th to address the garden suites policy update, the secondary suites bylaw and the parking review.

Action: Jenny to email planning staff indicating our renewed request for staff to meet with the neighbourhood.

8. Neighbourhood Updates - community news, business news (All)

A community member reported on their successful Neighbourhood Small Grant—with the funds from their grant they built 2 large picnic tables and a children’s sized table that are now available to be borrowed by residents of their street.

9. Review of Action Items (Chair)

10. Reminder: Become a member of the Downtown Blanshard Advisory Committee

11. Next NAG meeting: 9 January 2016 at 7:00 p.m., 901 Kings Rd.

To join our email list and receive neighbourhood updates contact nag@quadravillagecc.com.

To contact the Hillside Quadra Neighbourhood Action Group contact nag@quadravillagecc.com.