Hillside-Quadra Neighbourhood Action Group Meeting MINUTES March 7, 2016 at 7:00 PM

1) Welcome to All Present/Introductions

All attendees were welcomed to the meeting. Jenny Fraser chaired the meeting. Twenty-one people were in attendance.

2) Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with three additions: 9) Yew St Crosswalk, 11) Community Plan and 13a) Summit Park Construction Update.

3) Approval of Minutes

The February 1, 2016 minutes were approved.

4) Biketoria Presentation – Tim Hewett

Tim Hewett gave a slide presentation on Biketoria and next steps. He provided an overview of the guiding principles and a summary of the engagement to date. He then showed the proposed bike routes and bike lane treatments for Hillside-Quadra.

A general discussion and questions followed. Issued that were raised included whether to use Kings or Bay for the lower east-west route, access to the Galloping Goose from Hillside-Quadra, crossing of Blanshard at Kings, crossing of Finlayson at Fifth, budget equity for traffic calming in neigbourhoods and the impacts of removing parking. The Biketoria consultants will be making recommendations on the sequencing for building the bike routes.

More information can be found at www.victoria.ca/cycling. Questions, comments and concerns can be sent to engage@victoria.ca.

5) City Hall Update - Ben Isitt

Ben introduced Gary Pemberton the new Neighbourhood Coordinator/Staff Liaison for the Hillside-Quadra Neighbourhood. Gary talked about the new neighbourhood team at the City of Victoria which will liaise with neighbourhood associations. They are considering developing a hot sheet to track neighbourhood issues and keep people upto-date with what is going on in neighbourhoods. Gary also discusses the Great Neighbourhood Grants. \$120,000 has been allocated. The criteria and guidelines are currently being worked out and should be finalized by April. The earliest that grant intake could occur is May.

Ben will be taking a motion to City Council regarding 955 Hillside and the City being more proactive about the community use and amenities. The tents at the court house will probably be displaced which will move tents back into other parks.

6) Community Check-In

This is an opportunity for anyone to bring forward issues and concerns for discussion at this meeting. The issues raised were:

a) The open area on Fifth St behind the art school on Quadra could be better used and provide green space for the community. Suggested uses included a

- community garden and fruit trees. This idea generated quite a bit of interest and discussion and will be discussed further.
- b) The issue of traffic from the Root Cellar was discussed. Traffic going to and from the store may cut through the neighbourhood and turning left onto Hillside will be problematic.

7) Great Neighbourhood Grants

A list of projects for these grants was discussed. Possible projects include: the stream project (which would take in a number of neighbourhoods), changing the use of the open space on Fifth St behind the art school, planting fruit trees at Jackson Park, removing the concrete barrier on Kings at Fifth St and replacing it with something nicer.

8) City Report on Sheltering In Parks

No report because this report is not yet available.

9) Transportation

Rowena gave a report on the Douglas Corridor meeting. The group walked the corridor and discussed treatments for Douglas St. The day following the meeting the announcement was made that Douglas St. is going to be widened for a bus lane. This raises issue of retention of green space and trees, tree replacement, pedestrian crossing and the complete streets.

10) Capital Regional Hospital District Issues

To complete the online survey on the Summit at Quadra Village go to:

https://surveys.crd.bc.ca/The-Summit-Engagement-II.survey

11) Land Use Proposals

The development permit application for 3189 Quadra will go to public hearing on March 10, 2016. Plans to build apartment buildings in the parking lot at 2835-2855 Quadra continue.

12) Report from Downtown Blanshard Advisory Committee (DBAC)

The motion to change the name of the Neighbourhood Action Group to the Neighbourhood Action Committee was passed by the DBAC Board.

13) Neighbourhood Updates

Quadra Village day is May 7, 2016. Summit Park cleanup is March 19, 2016. Summit Park construction – there is glass in the fill that was used beside the new stairs. Laura will contact CRD to see what can be done about this.

14) Reminders

Next NAC meeting April 4, 2016 at 7 PM, 901 Kings Road Joining the NAG Yahoo group/ Becoming a member of the DBAC

15) Close of meeting at 9:00 PM