

**Hillside - Quadra Neighbourhood Action Group Meeting
1 February 2016 at 7 p.m.**

Draft Minutes

1. **Welcome and Introductions. 5 community members and 1 guest present.**
2. **Approval of Agenda (Chair)**
3. **Approval of January 2016 Meeting Minutes (Chair)**
4. **Cascadia annual report - per Good Neighbour Agreement (Pamela Sanderson)**

When Cascadia Liquor opened in Quadra Village, a Good Neighbour Agreement was signed. One of the provisions is for an annual report.

Pamela Sanderson reports there has been no increase in incidents at the store, the business is healthy and they received approval to extend operating hours to 11pm (although this has not yet been actioned). Anecdotally in the past two years there has been an increase in business from people experiencing homelessness.

There were comments from community members regarding the plantings around the building. Some improvements were made when the business was opened; some plantings are the responsibility of the landlord and would require an agreement with them. Ms Sanderson will look into this issue.

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

To the questions—Why do you come to HQ-NAG meetings? Do you have any concerns to share? What are your interests and ideas?

- To learn more about the neighbourhood and meet people who are involved.
- To hear what's really going on as opposed to rumour.
- Would like to get more people involved
- Out of interest in certain projects that affect me directly
- To be able to shape the neighbourhood

6. City of Victoria Budget (Janis L.)

The city has released preliminary information on the 2016 provisional budget and asked for feedback via a survey (there are 900 pages of documentation to wade through to be able to answer it, although the City of Victoria has prepared a high-level overview).

Capital investment by neighbourhood has been broken down and is contained in a report from our city staff liaison Gary Pemberton (this is a new role). Some of the work has already started (sewer replacement on Blackwood).

Proposed 2016 initiatives in the Hillside Quadra Neighbourhood

Capital Projects

- Cross walk installation and upgrade at Finlayson St. and Yew St.
- Traffic Signal Fibre Optic Upgrade on the Blanshard St. corridor
- Complete Streets surface rehabilitation at Finlayson St from Yew St. to Quadra St.
- Street Light Pole and Arm replacement at Bay St. & Quadra St.
- Sewer Replacement at Wark Street from Hillside Avenue to Market Street, Fifth Street at Topaz Ave. to Vista Heights and Fifth Street from Vista Heights to Hillside Ave.
- Sewer replacement and storm drain lining on Blackwood St. from Summit St. to Montrose St., on Topaz from Graham St. east, Jackson St. from Summit Ave. to Topaz Ave.
- Sewer rehabilitation on laneway parallel to Quadra between Kings St. and Bay St., Fifth St. from Vista Heights to Summit Ave.
- Storm Drain Main Replacement on Basil St. at Cook St.

Facilities

- Interior wall repairs at Quadra Village Community Centre

7. Transportation (Rowena L.)

- a) January 22nd meeting with Director of Engineering on community transportation priorities. Some points from the meeting include commitments to:
 - revisit the boundaries of the 30 km school zone recently implemented at L'École Quadra School should it be warranted.
 - Examine cut-through traffic in the neighbourhood for the best way to approach mitigation efforts. Rowena has forwarded her report on cut-through traffic (part of the transportation survey from 2013) to city staff
 - Look at the Highway Access Bylaw amendment in regards to several developments proposed for Hillside-Quadra.

HQ-NAG will have another meeting with the Director of Engineering later in February once staff have had time to examine the cut-through traffic issue.

- b) Biketoria – Rowena attended a meeting with the CALUC chairs and Biketoria/City of Victoria staff.

ACTION: Rowena. Invite Biketoria to come to the March HQ-NAG meeting.

8. Burnside Gorge Local Area Plan (update)

Jenny attended one of the Open Houses for the above and noted the following:

- Residents have identified the need for better pedestrian access across Blanshard at Topaz (an issue that comes up often in discussion in Hillside-Quadra)
- Improved Bike lanes on Finlayson from Quadra to Gorge would require the purchase of additional land, as existing traffic lanes are needed to meet existing traffic demand.
- BC Transit presented two options being considered for the Douglas Corridor which may have impacts on Hillside-Quadra (particularly the one to widen Douglas)

Rowena and Janis will attend the Douglas Corridor charrette February 19th as guests of the City of Victoria.

9. Capital Regional Hospital District (CRHD) Issues

- c) Sale of 950 Hillside – update
- a) 955 Hillside, the Summit at Quadra Village
Community Design workshop February 27th from 1-3pm at SJ Willis School.

10. Land Use Proposals (Jenny F.)

- a) Status of active proposals
 - 1066/1070 Finlayson was approved at the public hearing January 28th
 - 2540 Quadra (Grayson Apartments) staff advice is to approve. A public hearing date needs to be set.
 - 2835-2855 Quadra (Quadra Village Apartments –aka the Residences at Quadra Village or Quadra Villa). There will be another Community Meeting February 10th since the original mail-out (sent by the City) did not reach all the intended citizens (within 100 metres).
 - 863/865 Villance was approved at public hearing January 14th
 - 3189 Quadra is in process. NAC is not writing a letter regarding this.
- b) New proposals
 - 3031 Jackson—the proponent would like to set a date for a Community Meeting but has not yet provided all the required information.

11. City Hall Update (Councillor Ben Isitt)

- 950 Kings. The Minister of Education has signed the approval of the sale of 950 Kings to the Capital Regional Hospital District (CRHD). Until this approval, it was not possible for the CRHD to sign a lease with the Quadra Village Community Centre (DBAC) in regards to the property. There have been discussions regarding leasing the gym and some of the land at the front of the school to the centre. There are 3 distinct zones—one of which is being considered for allotment gardens, permaculture or food production. Possible partnerships could be with CUPE, a landscape architect and students from the Horticultural Centre of the Pacific. There may be washroom upgrades. Skateboarding is a possibility.
- Katie Hamilton (Citizen Engagement) will reach out to the CALUCs in regard to information sharing and rationalizing of the committees' roles.
- Staff liaison role—send a letter to Gary Pemberton and Katie Hamilton with a request to have our liaison attend the HQ-NAG meetings (currently he attends DBAC meetings) and Ben will follow-up
ACTION: Rowena to send letter
- Crosswalk at Haultain and Cook has been approved for downlights. There is a desire to see this as a controlled crosswalk. Ben suggests contacting Oaklands and Fernwood since this is at the intersection of three neighbourhoods.
- Lost stream project represents an opportunity for the neighbourhoods to work together since the stream flows through Fernwood, North Park, Hillside-Quadra to finish in Burnside-Gorge. Possibilities exist for funding through the Great Neighbourhoods Fund (proposed in the 2016 budget) and also through the public art component of #Biketoria.

12. Report from Downtown Blanshard Advisory Committee (DBAC) (Cheryl A.)

Proposed name change from Neighbourhood Action Group to Neighbourhood Action Committee was approved by the DBAC board.

13. Greenspace/Parks

- a) Summit Park infrastructure upgrade – update (carried over to March meeting)
- b) Summit Avenue sidewalks (accessibility issues)—update (carried over to March meeting)
- c) **Summit Park invasive species removal work party – February 13th**

14. Neighbourhood Updates (community news, business news)

- a) Neighbourhood Small Grants – update Rowena L carried over to the March meeting.
- b) Banners –update from Jennifer F. The banners arrive this week and will be installed in April with a small ceremony to include the Mayor. Jennifer will ensure the snowflake banners come down as soon as possible. 48% of the banners include First Nations words.

15. Meeting recap: What worked? What was challenging? What could we do differently? (carried over until March meeting)

16. Review of Action Items (carried over until March meeting)

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

18. Close of meeting: Next NAG meeting: March 4, 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.