



**DRAFT**

## **GTCA Board Meeting Minutes – September 11, 2024**

**Thursday 7:00 - 9:00 pm, 2915 Colquitz Ave**

Present: Paul, Reb, Chris K., Chris B., Vera, Scott, Jennifer, Brandon, Nathan, Marie-Nicole

Regrets: Phil, Mauricio, Arden, Julia, Meghan, Xi

Special Guest: Laurie (from Gorge Refugee Sponsorship Group)

### **Gorge Refugee Sponsorship Group Presentation**

- Gorge Tillicum Community Support Group – started in 2018 to support Kenya refugees
- Helping a family
  - Moe, son of the family, been here since 2011
- Lost momentum since 2018 due to pandemic
- Is looking to see if the GTCA is willing to provide support once again as momentum is ramping up
- Is looking to raise money to help with the family
- Was suggested that we could include information in our newsletter about the initiative

### **1. Meetings**

- Agenda review – Paul, approves. Reb seconds.
- Approval of June minutes – Paul approves, Jennifer seconds.

### **2. Communications**

- Newsletter – September Digital
  - Pictures from Picnic and after party
  - Article by Chris B about the Albina project
  - Article from Brandon about a wrap on Canada Day
- Newsletter – November Print

### **3. Finance Report -**

- Summary to end of August, up \$3,400, which is \$5,800 better than last year. This is the difference on the Canada Day Picnic.
- Canada Day Picnic was up \$3700 up on Food Vendors, spent less on Entertainers, and on Traffic Control

### **4. Working Groups**

- Canada Day

- Huge success. 15K people. Lots of young families. Perfect weather.
- Art, Culture & Celebration
  - Music in the Park – cancelled due to threat of thundershowers
  - Mural Update – Arden got call from building manager of building on Burnside. Sounds like they may be open about having the mural on the open wall at the front. Waiting on further updates. Vera to work with Arden about getting the process rolling.
  - Pumpkin Parade – Need commitment from volunteers – Vera and Brandon will ask for volunteers, as well as possible call out to social media for volunteers.
    - Possible partnership with Tillicum Mall to have the pumpkins involved in the Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> pumpkin smash
  - Meghan is looking into a Solstice Skate – Will report back at the next board meeting
  - Chris B – was wondering about getting map of Gorge Tillicum on some telus/hydro boxes. Board likes the idea, especially if we can get a grant. Vera will try to touch base with Oaklands and North Park (Victoria) who did something like that.
- Lands Use Working Group
  - New Saanich Development Process – if development meets new OCP, it does not have to go to public hearing.
  - Ironclad passed (Albina/Obed) without public hearing
  - 992 Gorge (beside Amica) may have to go to public hearing
  - Earl Grey/Gorge will have to go to public hearing as it is slightly outside of the parameters of OCP
  - Maddock/Albina/Orillia St Construction – concern about the trees being removed
- Climate and Natural Areas Working Group
  - Urban Trees
    - Trees need maintenance needed by Craigflower School. Saanich Parks/Public Works needs to be prompted about the care (Vera will).
- Other Business
  - First Nations
    - Brandon to provide more information to board about secondary statement
      - Was suggested that we have an additional “learn more” page on our website about what we have done to promote meaningful action towards relationships with First Nations.
  - Volunteer Acknowledgement Event (Fall 2024)
    - This is the 25<sup>th</sup> year.

- Perhaps do a catered event with bar (either Scottish Cultural Centre, or Esquimalt)
- Vera and Jennifer to start planning
- Vera to participate in CBC interview on 30km speed limits
  - How would Saanich enforce
  - How does construction affect traffic flow on side streets

#### Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn. Nathan, seconded by Paul