

DRA Board Meeting Draft Minutes

29th May 2013

Location: Victoria Silver Threads, Minutes by R. Florida

Present: Ian Sutherland, Wendy Bowkett, Robert Florida, board members, Eric Ney, DRA member

Regrets: Cathy Brankston

AWOL: Hugh Kruzel, Lisa Helps

Meeting called to order at: 7:04 pm

1. Approval of Agenda: By consensus

2. Approval of Minutes of 24th Apr meeting: By consensus

3. Business arising from Minutes

- Police board meeting with Community Association reps—Wendy B reported:
 1. Most Victoria Residents Associations were represented at the meeting as was Downtown Victoria Business Association and members of the Police Board.
 2. Block Watch Programme was encouraged.
 3. As were ongoing efforts to broaden police presence in the community.
 4. Police representatives are eager to come to DRA sponsored community events.
- Hudson Market Opening: Robert reported that merchants at the Hudson Wednesday Market think the opening of the permanent market will be quite delayed due to construction and permit difficulties. August at the earliest was their guess. Too bad as this is a tremendous addition to the area and the vendors will miss the chance to have another outlet for their summer produce.

4. Councilor's Report: Lisa Helps: No report

5. Community Development Committee

- Roving Refinery at Bon Macaron Patisserie: It was a lot of fun for those who attended. A very nice shop and lovely men running it.
- Future RR host businesses: Robert will ask Ruth Annis and Andy Wachtel to approach the owner of the Tap House on Yates for a possible June or July RR. Wendy B will handle the detailed negotiations. Subsequent to the meeting R did contact Ruth and Andy. No report back yet (June 14).

- Call for regular meetings with committee members: We tentatively agreed to try to arrange a meeting to form a Community Safety (?) Committee in June. Eric Ney will attend.

6. Land Use Committee: Ian

- **CALUC Meeting with City:** Wed 5th June at City Hall. DRA was represented. It was a highly controlled meeting where the City officials were eager to explain their rules, procedures, and red tape and not too eager to hear from the members of the public.
- **1124 Vancouver St** (former Bottle Depot): Dan Robbins of Sakura Developments: CALUC meeting on 11th June at 5:30 pm at Silver Threads. The meeting has taken place and the LUC supported the development.
- **1075 Pandora Ave:** JCP Properties: Dan Cox addressed Council 23rd May to request a two-week postponement on decision. Would like to present at first June meeting. DRA LUC and neighbours have several concerns about this proposal which will be passed on at the right time in the process.
- **603 Pandora Ave:** Plaza Hotel: Eric Barker Architects: This proposal went before Advisory Design Panel Wed May 1st at noon. The fourth version of the project was shown to the meeting, and we agreed that it incorporated some improvements. Previously the LUC had supported this project and will continue to do so.
- **Portable Signs:** Update—nothing new to report in absence of the City Counselor.

7. New Business:

- Annual base funding grant application: Done. Wendy has applied for \$2370, based on the 2011 Census.
- External events: We have some modest funding to cover enrollment fees for DRA members to attend workshops and the like on issues of concern to our association.

Postponed Business:

- Motorbikes with illegal pipes – online survey. Wendy will investigate how we might undertake a survey. This is a serious noise problem for many downtown residents.
- Asset mapping for new residents. A brief discussion. This seems to be a very complex and time-consuming exercise, which may well be beyond our capacities.
- ‘Meet Our Neighbours’ Mondays: Also a brief discussion. No one leapt forward to organize this.

Meeting adjourned at: 8:10

Date for next Meeting: Wed 26th June at Silver Threads at 7 pm