

DRA Board Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2015

Location: 1501 Douglas Street (Rifflandia HQ)

Present: Wendy Bowkett, Doug Boyd, Ian Sutherland, Robert Florida, Cathy Brankston, Eric Ney, Nicholas Harrington, Erika Luebbe, Don Elliott, Ruth Annis, Kelly Chirhart, Karen Gallagher.

Regrets: Kaela Schramm (out of town)

Meeting was called to order at 5:55 pm. Wendy graciously offered to stand as chair for this first meeting, as the executive positions have not yet been decided. Wendy also brought DRA past records to pass on to the new board.

1. Approval of agenda: Approved by acclamation.

2. Approval of minutes: The minutes of the November 25, 2014 meeting were approved by acclamation.

3. Councillor's Report: Tabled. A new council liaison will be appointed at the Governance & Priorities meeting scheduled for January 22nd.

4. Confirmation of Executive & Board meeting schedule:

Nicholas and Kaela will each act as Co-Chair.

Doug Boyd will continue his role as Treasurer.

The secretary position was not filled. The consensus was to try again to fill the position at the next meeting, and if the position remains unfilled, to have each Board member assume the duty of taking minutes, on a rotating basis, such that the responsibility is shared equitably among all the Board members.

The board meeting date has been changed to the 3rd Tuesday of every month. The next board meeting will be held Feb 17th, 5:30 pm, at 1501 Douglas Street (Rifflandia HQ). A new meeting location is being sought, and will be announced later.

5. Confirmation of Committee Chairs & Committee Meeting Schedules:

Healthy Living Committee (HLC): Eric, the current chair, stated he wished to be a co-chair. Ruth Annis volunteered to be co-chair. The next HLC meeting will be held Wed Feb 11th 5:30pm at Veneto Tapa Lounge. The meeting schedule has been changed to the 2nd Wed of each month to enable a timely presentation the following week at the monthly board meetings.

Community Development Committee (CDC): Kaela, the current chair, has agreed to stay on as a co-chair. Don Elliot volunteered to be co-chair. The next CDC meeting will be held Thursday, February 5th, 5:30pm at The Guild.

Communications: Nicholas will stay on as editor of our newsletter. Erika will continue to keep our website, Twitter, and Facebook up-to date. For the past year, Wendy and Erika have shared that role. Robert Florida will continue as a team member, and contribute articles from time to time. The next

communication meeting will be held Tuesday, January 20th, 5:30 pm, at Veneto Tapa Lounge. Nicholas will email a confirmation later in the month.

Land Use Committee (LUC): Ian will continue on as LUC chair. Meetings with city officials, developers, public meetings, etc., are called on an ad hoc basis. Ian will continue to notify all LUC members of pending meetings via email.

The goals and responsibilities of the above committees will be defined at their subsequent meetings. Each committee's current guidelines are posted on our website. If you are interested in participating, please email chair@victoriadra.ca. Any board or DRA member is able to join any committee. As each committee will be setting dates and locations of meetings, it will be important to check the website for any changes. Also to make the chair aware that you wish to become involved. Each committee will set communication methods.

(Minutes up to this point by Cathy Brankston, after this point by Don Elliot)

6. Land Use Committee Update (Ian Sutherland):

- Ian will be meeting with Concert Properties regarding the development potential of the Crystal Court property. The property is located in the James Bay neighbourhood, though most of the surrounding residential populace are in Downtown and Fairfield.
- 595 Pandora redevelopment – proposal has gone to heritage at the City of Victoria as part of the development review process.
- 820 Government Street redevelopment – Electronic drawings will be forthcoming as soon as they are made available.

7. Business Arising from Minutes: Nothing to note.

8. New Business:

- Administrative items are being taken care of as they relate to Wendy leaving the DRA board. These include: cheque signing, dropbox access, email, passwords, etc.
- LUC: Improvements in transparency – To address transparency issue, items will be posted online. Ian will send out email to all LUC members to see who still is interested in being involved.
- Questions for Victoria City Manager, Jason Johnson, who will be the guest speaker at the January 13 VCAN meeting – Question 1: How to more effectively engage decision makers on staff and council to provide meaningful input assistance? Question 2: Process for association to address small, tangible issues? (only asked if Q1 is taken)
- Posters to increase awareness of the DRA – Kaela to create a template with the basic information. Should promote DRA, Roving Refinery, etc.