

DRA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 20, 2015

Location: Greater Victoria Public Library, 735 Broughton Street

Present: Don E, Charlayne TJ, Erika L, Robert F, Nicholas H, Wendy B, Ian S, Kaela S, Cathy B, Karen G, Doug B.

Regrets: Ruth A.

Recording Secretary: Karen G.

Approval of agenda: Approved by consensus

Meeting called to order: the meeting was called to order by Nicholas at 5:35

- 1. Approval of minutes of September 15, 2015:** approved by consensus.

- 2. Councillor's report:** the Northern Quarter was approved; Charlayne voted against the extension of hours. A Yuk Yuks comedy club was approved in the Q Apts in James Bay. They are wanting to stay open until 1am 7 days per week; ideally the late night closing would only be Friday and Saturday night. Community meetings will be held. City staff will look at the approval process. The skate board by-law was seen as too punitive and has been sent back to city staff. There will be a review of the by-law dept. Regarding customer service and interpretation of by-laws and enforcement. A new by-law officer will be hired as well as for public works. Nothing to report regarding the Govt St Charrette...

- 3. Community Development Committee:** Kaela and Don
 - They met last week regarding Victoria Matters; the proposed is “The Economics of Downtown”, with the chosen speakers presenting independently (hopefully two speakers), in the style of a TEDx event. While a date for this event has yet to be confirmed, it will most likely take place at the end of November.
 - The next Roving Refinery will be held at The Mint on Tuesday, Oct 27th
 - Wicked Victoria (Govt St closure), will be held Oct 25th: the DRA has a booth with games for kids to win candy.

- The next meeting is Nov 3rd at The Drake.

4. Urban Livability Committee: Eric

- The meeting did not occur; there may be a change of location.

5. Land Use Committee: Ian

- 727 Johnson St: Michael Alston – CALUC meeting Tues 8 Sept at the Victoria Executive Centre. Applicant is seeking to convert office to retail and residential, add two extra stories and strip off the facade. Heritage designation has been approved.
- Hudson District: Townline – CALUC meeting Tues 8 Sept. Applicant is seeking a zoning amendment to allow the operations of a Brewery/Distillery/Brew Pubs within the district. The hours were questioned and potential odours and noise were discussed.
- 759 Yates St: Public Hearing on Thursday 10 Sept 7pm regarding Development Variance Permit to reduce the number of parking spaces required for the development. Approved.
- 755 Caledonia: Townline – Public Hearing on Thursday 10 Sept 7pm regarding Development Permit with Variances to increase permitted amount of residential use on the first storey. Approved.
- 816 Government St – At the Public Hearing on Thursday 10 September, Council approved all of the following:
 - i. Zoning Regulation Bylaw, Amendment Bylaw;
 - ii. Heritage Designation;
 - iii. Heritage Alteration Permit; and,
 - iv. Heritage Revitalization Agreement
- Johnson Street Bridge – Two-day Design Charette/Workshop re public realm and landscaping attended by Ian and JC Scott on day one and by Ian and Robert Florida on day two.
- Northern Junk: Reliance Holdings – Applicant is working on alternatives. New designs with substantial changes have been brought forward to address feedback

provided during the recent CALUC meeting which took place on July 28, 2015. Ian has recommended that there be another CALUC meeting to update the community.

- 613 Herald: Conrad Nygren Real Estate/Hillel Architecture – New plans provided. Several meetings have been held. New letter was submitted by LUC (Robert Florida). New design will be submitted tomorrow.
- 1724 Douglas St: Northern Quarter – addition of Patron Participation & extension of hours on Friday & Saturday nights: Approved by council.

6. Downtown Service Providers Meeting: Don

- The meeting was held Sept 22nd.
- No feasible location has been identified for storage space for shopping carts.
- There were two all candidates meetings held Oct 1st and 6th.
- Homelessness survey to be held in Feb 2016: it will be a ‘Point In Time’ counting the absolutely homeless, who will asked to complete a 15 minute survey.

7. VCAN: Doug

Priorities:

1. Active Transportation - including a bike share program
2. Urban Ecology - including community gardens, urban forest master plan execution (and much delayed tree replacement)
3. Emergency planning and preparedness

The next VCAN meeting will be held November 10th.

8. Business Arising from Minutes:

9. New Business:

- a) Points from Meeting with City on October 13, 2015:
 - Meetings will all neighbourhoods about LAPs

- Discussed better communications with staff (City working on assigning a staff person to be neighbourhood liaison so that all business with City is coordinated by one person)
 - Neighbourhood border alignment
- b) Updates received from the City:
- Option 1: information is forwarded to the board
 - Option 2: Information is posted on twitter and on the website
 - Option 3: both
- c) Fairfield Gonzales AGM on October 26th from 7-9pm We are invited to attend.
- d) Prosperity Partnership Exploration meeting to be held Nov 7th from 9am-12noon
- e) The AGM will held mid - late January 2106. Kaela will book a location soon.

10. Meeting Adjourned at 6:58

11. Date for next meeting: November 17, 2015 at 5:30 at the Greater Victoria Public Library, 735 Broughton Street