

# DRA Board Meeting Minutes

21 Nov 2017

## Location: Esquimalt Nation Room, Victoria City Hall

In attendance: *Board members:* Megan Clark, Nicholas Harrington, Sally Reid, Douglas Boyd, Paul Gandall, Wendy Bowkett, Ian Sutherland *plus city liaisons:* Mike Hill, Councillor Liaison Charlayne Thornton-Joe

Regrets: Ruth Annis, Eric Ney, Robert Florida

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Meeting called to order at 5:44 pm (*preceded by presentation on capital budgeting*)

1. Approval of Agenda
  - Moved by Wendy; seconded by Doug; approved
2. Approval of Minutes of September 19, 2017 board meeting
  - Moved by Sally; seconded by Paul; approved
3. Approval of Minutes of October 17, 2017 board meeting
  - Moved by Nicholas; seconded by Doug; approved
4. Councillor's Report:
  - Homelessness:
    - More shelter spaces during winter
    - Pharmacy looking at whether to offer new storage space
    - My Place shelter was approved last week (in Fernwood—Boys & Girls club)
      - Hoping to open by end of November
  - Humbolt Street bike corridor
    - Proposal is not for a protected bike lane
    - Consideration being given to the five-way intersection on Douglas at Humbolt to make it safer
  - Budget:
    - Councillor Thornton-Joe brought forth motion that a contingency fund for dry/warm weather for extra clean-up of sidewalks (similar to the winter weather contingency fund)
  - Short-term vacation rental input:
    - Lots of correspondence from those for and against
  - Cannabis dispensary-change to 800m distance between them
    - Lots of correspondence from those for and against
5. Mike's city staff report
  - See report (**attached**)
6. New Business:
  - No December meeting (possible social event instead)
  - AGM this year: New bylaws allow for budget to be reviewed during a board meeting before the AGM

- Schedule AGM for last week of January (post Jan board meeting)
- 900 Block Pandora GNA meeting representative—is anyone interested in attending these meetings?
  - Megan will attend when her schedule allows; Paul to be back-up (Tuesday evenings)
- Late Night Advisory Committee:
  - Paul and Ian to attend; Megan to be back-up (2:30-4:00 on Wednesdays)
- Walk Shop
  - Might require longer days
  - Plan for late spring
- Police Board Community Assoc Meeting
  - Wendy and Megan will go

#### 7. Business arising from minutes

- DRA Concerns about Community Association input being disregarded:
  - Most individuals who participated in the process have not been contacted
- Block Connector Idea
  - Revisit in new year

#### 8. Land Use Committee updates

- Meeting to discuss policy issues last night
- Summary of development permit process was presented by city staff
  - If an application fully complies with zoning, there is no public consultation
  - Planned rezoning of downtown to increase consistency potentially means council will have less discretion when approving developments; may also reduce the chances of consultation (currently, more complex zoning scheme requires zoning changes prior to development, triggering consultation and allowing for council to have more discretion)
- Councillor Thornton-Joe willing to bring forward motion:
- Motion: The DRA brings forward a motion to council to postpone public hearing for the downtown zoning (Zoning Bylaw 2017) until 2018 so the issue can receive the full attention of the public (current proposed date is December 14th) so
  - Approved by consensus
  - Councillor suggests we write Council with our concerns; they can send to staff
- Second motion: The DRA Board authorizes Ian to take steps to follow up on the matter of Zoning Bylaw 2017
  - Approved by consensus
- Northern Junk: upcoming CALUC meeting

- Brand new design
- Monday, Dec. 11 at Ocean Pointe Hotel at 6pm
- Parking lot between Janion and Mermaid Wharf going to open house
  - Developer is voluntarily sharing design proposal on 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm at Swan's Buckersfields Room
- Chard/Duck Building
  - Proposal will trigger an OCP amendment

#### 9. Community Development Committee

- Truth and Reconciliation: committee will be thinking about alternative plan
- Vic Matters: pre-election event will be discussed at committee meeting
- Get Downtown: next one will be in new year

#### 10. Governance Committee: Wendy

- Megan to complete her part by January 1st
- Final approval in new year

7:16: Councillor Thornton-Joe departs

#### 11. VCAN

- Ian and Paul attending meetings
- 2 meetings ago:
  - Discussion about Crystal Pool
  - Major concerns from James Bay about home porting
  - Neighbourhood plans discussion
  - Housing in Burnside-Gorge
- Last meeting:
  - City staff presentation on terms of reference
  - Also on participatory budget process
  - New city engagement staff person introduced

**Meeting adjourned at: 7:26**

## In Your Neighbourhood

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### Crystal Pool Update

The [Crystal Pool website page](#) has been updated with new information on key outcomes new facility conceptual designs and features and a project. This fall, we are meeting with senior government to seek funding opportunities. The City will know more about potential funding in early 2018. If you would like to receive direct email updates on the Crystal Pool and Wellness Centre Replacement Project, please send your email to [crystalpool@victoria.ca](mailto:crystalpool@victoria.ca) requesting to be added to the email list.

### Fort Street Bike Lane

There will be reduced construction activities during the holiday shopping season between November 13 and December 31, 2017. The City will also be installing holiday lighting and décor on Fort Street in coming days. Staff and partners from the DVBA will continue to be out on the corridor at various times to check in with businesses and share information. If you have any questions or specific needs during this upcoming week, the City and its contractor will do its best to accommodate.

Please contact Sarah Webb, Active Transportation Program Manager at 250-361-0482 or email [engage@victoria.ca](mailto:engage@victoria.ca) if you have any questions or concerns.

### Late Night Victoria

The Late Night Advisory Committee met on October 25. Changes in the City's late night policy were presented by the Manager of Permits and Inspections. The committee also resolved to discuss the merit of a delineated entertainment area in the downtown, further investigate a promotional App for the late night economy and consider any changes to the late night vending program.

### Neighbourhood Grants

The Great Neighbourhood grant fall intake has closed and nineteen applications were received. One application for a parklet on lower Johnson Street was received in the Downtown neighbourhood. Applications are now being reviewed by staff and recommendations for funding will be prepared for Council meeting. The next intake will be in the spring, so start thinking about projects you would like to do next summer.



### Stormy Weather

In preparation for winter storms, City crews will be out clearing streets of leaves. Please help keep sidewalks, gutters and drains clear of leaves to prevent storm drains from clogging and flooding. If you have an obstructed storm drain in front of your property, please clear it of any leaves. If you see water pooling in your street during heavy rain and cannot unblock the drain, please call 250.361.0400 for assistance from City crews at any time.

### Off-Street Parking Regulations

Council welcomes comments from neighbourhood associations on the proposed changes to off-street parking regulations, which will be incorporated in to the Zoning Regulation Bylaw (see [October 5 staff report](#) to Council). The purpose of the changes is to modernize parking requirements by reducing car requirements and considering needs for bicycle and electric vehicles. You can learn more about the regulations at an Open House on Monday, November 20, 2017 from 4 to 7 pm at City Hall.

### Council Provincial Cannabis Consultation

Council provided [direction](#) to be submitted to the province on cannabis policy, based on a [staff report](#) received on November 9, 2017.

The seven key policy areas include:

1. Minimum age
2. Personal possession
3. Public Consumption
4. Drug-impaired driving
5. Personal cultivation
6. Distribution model
7. Retail model



### Workshops

Volunteer Victoria has a workshop on connecting leaders in the community on Thursday, November 23rd | 4:30 - 6 pm. Workshops typically cost from \$30-60. You can find more information and register [here](#).

### ParkVictoria App

Have you tried our free ParkVictoria app? It enables you to pay for on-street parking from the comfort of your vehicle. A definite plus on these rainy, windy days! You also receive alerts when your parking time is running out and can refund unused time. Give it a try at [www.victoria.ca/ParkVictoria](http://www.victoria.ca/ParkVictoria)

### Emergency Updates

Sign up for Vic-Alert, the City of Victoria's emergency notification service. Receive important information and updates on emergencies in Victoria that may impact you. Signing up for Vic-Alert is easy and can be done from your mobile phone, tablet or computer. Learn more at [www.VictoriaReady.ca](http://www.VictoriaReady.ca)



### City Budget

Council is now in the process of finalizing the [City's 2018 budget](#). The draft budget can be viewed on the City website. There will be an ETown Hall on November 30 when you can participate either at City Hall or on your computer at home.

### Short Term Rentals

Council will be reviewing a staff report on public [consultation](#) and [amendments](#) for short term (vacation) rental regulations that would allow up to two bedrooms to be used in occupied dwellings at their [November 23 meeting](#).

### Council Meetings

Committee of the Whole meets on November [2](#), [9](#), [16](#) and [23](#) at 9 am. Council meets November [9](#) and [23](#), beginning at 6:30 pm. Residents can attend meetings or view live and recorded videos [here](#). Council will also hold Special meetings on November [2](#) and [7](#) to review the 2018 budget submissions by City Departments.