

# **DRA Board Meeting Minutes**

**July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**Location: Songhees Room, Victoria City Hall**

**Attending Board Members:** Paul Gandall (Chair), Ian Sutherland, Wendy Bowkett, Nicholas Harrington, Robert Florida

**City Councillor Liaison:** Charlayne Thornton-Joe

**City Staff:** Mike Hill

**Regrets:** Ruth Annis, Breanna Merrigan, Dianne Flood

**Call to Order: 5:34**

**Round of Introductions (Not necessary)**

**Agenda Approved**

**Appointment of Minutes Recorder:** Robert Florida volunteered.

**Approval of Minutes of June 19th, 2018 Board Meeting:** Second Draft minutes approved with minor typographical emendations.

Refer to file: "Minutes of June 19th 2018 DRA Board Meeting.docx"

**Councilor's Report: Charlayne Thornton-Joe**

Concerns about disorder on Pandora Street continue. The new supervised consumption (actually injection) site has increased drug related incidents near Our Place. Crack pipes littering the area are problematic. On the positive side hours for Our Place and funding have increased. Furthermore, there are meetings about developments on Johnson Street and in Fernwood which may relieve pressure on Pandora.

Camping in parks is becoming more of a problem. More sidewalk cleaning is happening. Suggest a new sidewalk restroom near the Strath for 2019. The large number of development projects in Victoria generates a major part of Council workload.

Later opening hours for liquor outlets are being requested by several establishments and there is a danger of problems arising for downtown residents. Charlayne and the DRA would like to see this better regulated. Municipal alcohol policy needs review.

## **City Liaison Report: Mike Hill**

Refer to file: "Downtown July 2018 Update.pdf"

Refer to file: "2019 Transportation Feedback Summary.docx"

Mike went over the highlights of his written report. In addition, he reported on a Considerate Constructors Scheme which he recently encountered in England. This includes efforts to beautify sites whilst under construction. He will be following this up in the future.

### **6:20 - Standing Committee Reports**

#### **Land Use Committee (LUC): Ian**

1. 812 Wharf St – Milestone's – New insights. Seems to be a case of patio creep. Aerial photographs were passed on to the City for information.
2. Pacific Mazda site – Jawl Residential—The LUC has real concerns over the application for this project, which includes a new fire hall. The concerns are around excessive density and the desire of the developer to transfer unused density from the fire hall site and adjacent property they own. There will be CALUC on this project on 31 July at 7:00 pm at Pacific Mazda.
3. 952 Johnson/McCalls – CALUC meeting on 5 Jul – LUC and the public both received this project warmly.
4. Community Amenity Contribution (CAC) meeting with Community Associations. There is widespread agreement amongst the Associations that the Victoria CAC scheme is woefully inadequate and should be a top priority for the City to strengthen especially since we are in the midst of a development boom, which will not last forever, and probably not for much longer. We have a long standing watching brief on this are concerned that there seems to be very little being done.
5. Duck Block – UVic Properties/Chard. We do not like this project. As proposed it violates the letter and the spirit of Old Town development guidelines. Furthermore, the concerns of sitting tenants have been ignored. Letters from the LUC are in process.
6. Zoning Bylaw 2018 – Public Hearing
7. Old Town Design Guidelines - Progressing

8. Ship Point – Pulled from Staff work stream. LUC will send its letter opposing the proposal for the record, even though it has been withdrawn.
9. Policy pieces: Two new policies modifying existing ones were presented by the LUC to the Board for approval:

Existing policy 1. *The DRA LUC does not formally participate or comment on projects that are beyond our designated boundaries.*

Replacement policy 1. The DRA LUC does not formally participate or comment on projects that are beyond our designated boundaries unless invited to do so by the relevant community associations.

Moved and Seconded: Robert/Ian, passed.

Existing policy 2. *The DRA LUC does not support OCP amendments in Old Town without a compelling reason to do so.*

Replacement policy 2. The DRA LUC does not support OCP amendments within our designated boundaries without a compelling reason to do so.

Moved and Seconded: Robert/Ian, passed.

### **Community Development Committee (CDC): Wendy**

1. VicMatters: Livability Survey – Website and social media outreach on the results of the survey is being pursued.
2. Get Downtown – On hiatus for summer
3. VicMatters: Election Events. Early stages.
4. Eats and Beats – Wed 8 Aug: This may be postponed to 15 August, but the planning is well underway. With good cooperation from Lucky Bar and the City.

Motion: **To approve a budget of \$800 for this Eats and Beats.**

Moved and Seconded by Robert and Nicholas: passed.

5. Wicked Victoria: no report
6. VicMatters: TRC – Indigenous Solidarity Working Group: the committee will work on this.

### **Governance Committee (GC): Wendy**

- 1) Policy Binder, progressing
- 2) 1 Self-Governance policy outstanding. Suggest moving ahead with approval of other Self-Governance policies in the meantime

### **Urban Livability Committee (ULC): Nicholas**

- 1) No progress on the banner for the garden
- 2) Nicholas will respond to the Walk on Victoria group about our potential collaboration with them.

### **Ad Hoc Committee Reports**

#### **Membership Committee (MC): Dianne**

- 1) Deferred to next meeting

### **External Meeting Reports**

#### **Victoria Community Association Network (VCAN): Paul/Doug**

Refer to file: "VCAN notes June 20 2018.docx"  
Deferred to next meeting

#### **900 Block Pandora GNA: Paul**

Refer to file: "OPS900block community minutes 19June2018.docx"  
Deferred to next meeting.

#### **Late Night Action Committee: Paul/Ian**

Refer to file: "Late Night Committee June 27 2018 Notes.pdf"  
Deferred to next meeting

#### **Downtown Service Providers: No Current Representative**

### **Business Arising from Minutes All deferred to next meeting.**

- 1) **Internet Service Provider Billing**
- 2) **Acknowledgement of Territorial Status**
- 3) **Truth and Reconciliation Project**
- 4) **Website Update**
- 5) **MGNG 2018**
- 6) **YSCG Branding and Website**
- 7) **Ad Hoc Budget Committee**

**8) Unnecessary Noise from Vehicle**

**Meeting adjourned at: 6:50**

**Date of next Meeting:** September, 18<sup>th</sup> 2018. Note: no August meeting.

## In Your Neighbourhood

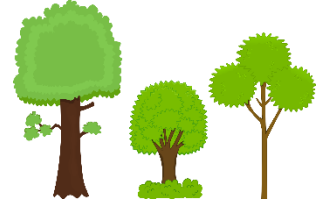
---

### Budget Consultation Transportation Comments

Information submitted on transportation issues during neighbourhood association budget information sessions has been submitted to the Engineering and Public Works. The information is will be considered as part of evaluation work being completed in the near future.

### Tree Removals

The City manages 33,000 City-owned trees, most of which are on 300 kilometers of boulevards and 137 parks and open space in our city. There is only one tree in the Downtown Harris Green neighbourhood that are requires removal this summer.

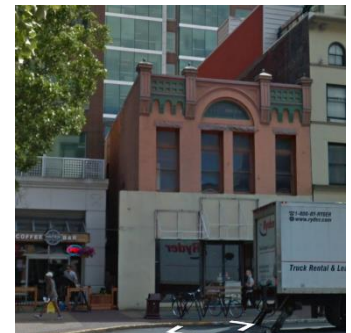


### Bastion Square

On June 28, Council approved the renewal of the [Bastion Square Market Licence](#) and authorized the Corporate Administrator to sign a three year agreement between the City and the Bastion Square Revitalization Association for the operation of the Bastion Square Public Market.

### Extended Hours for Our Place

Council approved \$25,000 in funding to partner with BC Housing and Island Health to increase services for Our Place to address gaps in the spring/summer opening hours. The new spring and summer operating hours will more closely align with those of other service providers. These extra hours of operation will help meet the needs of individuals seeking services and support.



### 727 Yates

At their July 12 Committee meeting, Council reviewed a [report](#) providing information and a recommendation to move forward to public hearing an application to allow for the conversion of an existing vacant heritage-designated commercial building to a mixed-use building with a two-and-a-half-storey addition for residential rental suites, and ground floor retail use.

### Parks and Open Spaces Plan

On July 12, Council will receive an [update](#) and [2017/2018 Annual Report](#) on the Parks and Open Spaces Master Plan, the Urban Forest Master Plan and the Growing in the City initiative. Residents will find these documents informative with regards to projects in their neighbourhoods and with regards to the City's budget planning process, which was recently discussed with neighbourhood associations.



### Central Park Housing

On June 14, Council approved recommendations for staff to report back on additional uses of Central Park in conjunction with the new pool facility. The numerous recommendations included provision of:



## July 2018 Update

# Downtown

- Affordable housing (on the site currently set aside for a surface parking lot) to include underground parking and a community space on the ground floor that would be able to accommodate at a minimum,
- A welcome centre for newcomers to Canada (should this be identified by stakeholders as a need, child care facility,
- A community kitchen, and
- Additional (uses) that may not be able to be accommodated in the Crystal Pool project for sport and non-sport programming for youth, seniors and other underserved groups.

### Late Night Advisory Committee

The LNAC met on June 27 and discussed the extension of Earls Restaurant hours of operation and renewal of the BarWatch program. The committee also discussed and approved resolutions relating to Food Primary Licensees, a municipal liquor policy and an initiative to extend late night bus service until after bar closing time.

### Great Neighbourhood Grants

On June 14, Council approved [staff recommendations](#) to support 21 applications, including two grants for projects in Downtown Harris Green:

- The Partnering for Pollinators by the Pollinator Partnership of Canada at the Yates Street Garden, sponsored by the DRA (\$1,000)
- DRA Outreach Project by the DRA (\$5,000)

### Council Meetings

Committee of the Whole meets [July 5](#), [12](#), 19 and 26 at 9am. Council meets on July [12](#) and 28 beginning at 6:30pm. Residents can attend both meetings or watch them [here](#).