

## **Newcastle Community Association Minutes of a regular meeting**

**May 5, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 7.05 pm

1. Review and adopt last meetings minutes

The minutes of April 6, 2021 were tabled until our next regular meeting.

2. New Business

3. Safety, Crime & Social Disorder – Results of a meeting with Mayor Krog and City staff

The meeting was attended by Karen, Nancy, Fred and Phil. Karen reported on the following items that were discussed at the recent meeting with the Mayor and City staff:

- wildfire risk assessment - The Fire Department has provided information on the fire risk assessments that were done in the areas surrounding the Millstone River embankment. They consider the overall risk to be low.
  - block watch signs – These have finally been erected!
  - absentee property owners – The Bylaws department is following up with absentee owners in the neighbourhood who have been neglecting their properties
  - camping and parking on Newcastle Ave – The City will install signs on the municipal parking area adjacent to Sands Funeral Home to prohibit overnight parking.
4. Results of City Neighbourhoods Survey - Karen reported on the outcomes of the City Neighbourhoods Survey, and Nancy reported on her involvement as a delegation to City Council. The Nanaimo Neighbourhood Network of Community Associations were displeased with City staff recommendations that came out of the survey results. The Governance and Priorities Committee (GPC), agreed to send the report back for further consultation.
  5. Pre-Safety Audit Zoom meeting & Survey – Karen reported on her discussions with Christy Wood, Community Policing Coordinator. 21 replies have been received for the Pre-Safety Audit Survey. Our neighbourhood safety walk with Christy and her team is scheduled for May 11.

6. City CAC Developments Proposal – Nancy reported on the Community Amenities Proposal. The City is asking for input. She suggest that the community be involved in the discussion. Developers can give cash or in-kind contributions to the community when doing developments. These contributions are waived for supportive housing. This could affect us negatively when 250 terminal is finally redeveloped into a permanent facility.
  
7. Development Liaison Update – Nancy reported that she had been trying to receive an update re. the plans for 250 Terminal but learned that the project appears to be stalled. We will write to the City asking for clarification around the planning status of this project.
  
8. Neighbourhood Updates
  - A) Crosswalks on Stewart Ave: After considerable progress this spring, this project has been put on hold until new parts are received for the overhead signage installations.
  - B) Cherry Blossom Lane: This area is under construction for the installation of new sewer and underground services.
  - C) Cypress and Stewart: Phil reported on a recent fire near the St. George ravine (shopping carts). RCMP have increased their patrols in the area.
  - D) Whitespot: Unfortunately, this long-established neighbourhood restaurant has closed. Karen has been in touch with the property owner who assured her that the property will be maintained while they negotiate for new tenants.
  
9. Block Watch Update – The recent travel ban appears to have reduced the influx of new transient visitors in our neighbourhood.
  - A) Marina's Taverna: There have been recent break and enter attempts at this property. Despite this, the new owners are determined to re-open the restaurant.
  - B) 312 Mt. Benson: The resident manager (Niki), is moving out of the building. Apparently, the environment is not safe for her family
  
10. Next meeting date - June 1, at 7pm

11. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8.20 pm

Submitted by: Robb Squire