



NOCA Board Meeting, April 17, 2017 - MINUTES

Present

Janet Wright
Ian Knipe
Matt Baillie
Michele Hillier

Joy Adams Bauer
Helena Green
Barbara Schreiber

Regrets

Katarina Litva

Bruno Bodnar

Guest

Jen Skogland, Pawson Park Committee

1. **Call to Order** – the meeting was called to order by Matt Baillie at 7 p.m.
2. **Approval of agenda** – The agenda was approved as amended. Moved by, Janet Wright, Seconded by Helena Green, CARRIED.
3. **Approval of minutes from April 17, 2017 meeting** – the minutes were approved as corrected. Moved by, Matt Baillie, Seconded by, Ian Knipe, CARRIED.
4. **Update of Pawson Park Committee** –Jen Skogland, Lee Haleys and Colleen Parsley make up the committee. Jen reported the renovations at the park have brought the community together. It's great to see a local daycare bring kids to play and to see the use of the raised garden beds. The park is zoned as a "neighbourhood" park but the City has determined that it is being used more as a "city" park. The City now has a more formal agreement for the use of the park and a "key/user agreement" which means they need an entity to sign an agreement for the use of the park key (for the gate and the building). The Board agreed to be that entity. We discussed the idea of a pavilion but agreed that we don't really need one. It's a plus to have the large patch of grass which many kids play on. Jen reported there will likely be some raised beds added to the park this year. Janet agreed to work with Jen on getting photos of the raised beds and content about the park for our website.

5. Directors' reports

Finances – Barb reported a balance of \$1,356.09.

What's Building – Matt reported no variances

Report from the Malaspina Gardens work group – Ian and Janet reported our letter was sent to Chartwell on April 1st. Joy has posted the update on the issues raised at the public meeting on our website. The work group met with Mark Holland at the end of March and he agreed to collaborate with Chris Sholberg to present at a community engagement session showing the kinds of developments that could go on the property, in keeping with the neighbourhood. The session is set for Monday, May 15 at 7 pm at St. Peter's Catholic Church on Machleary Street.

NOCA website work group – Joy reported that Joy, Brian Booth and Janet Wright have agreed to serve. They have their first meeting later this week.

Wentworth Street Roundabout – Ian reported the city has acknowledged they planted the wrong tree. It should have been an English Oak (on our recommendation). The city says it will be replaced within a month. **Ian will also suggest to the city that the curb of the roundabout be painted to increase visibility.**

Pawson Park – Helena reported that she continues to try and make progress on the trees on the Machleary Street side, grading and irrigation issues at the park. Since our last Board meeting she has met with Margaret Mills and has also spoken with Patrick MacIntosh again. Helena has not heard back from Margaret since their meeting. **Helena will email Jen and ask if she can join the Pawson Park Committee.**

5. Discussion Items

Decision re Spring/Summer NOCA Event Tour – The Board agreed to leave the organizing of this event until next year as no one from the Board has volunteered to spearhead it.

Lovely Little Movies – Michele reported that she, Alexia Penny and Mark Tuit are exploring the idea of showing movies at St. Andrew's United Church in the fall. They are speaking with Rev. Deborah Marshall and will apply for a city grant.

Bookfest 2017 – The Board agreed to loan the NOCA tent to the Bookfest organizing committee for this one day event on May 6.

Harris House Open House – Michele reported there is a real crisis in Nanaimo around homelessness and opioid use and abuse. We need to be aware and concerned about our community.

Reconciliation with Canada’s indigenous peoples – the Board had a brief discussion about the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Could NOCA be an organization that speaks with the City about the importance of the role the city can play in implementing the recommendations? More discussion needed.

Adjournment – the meeting adjourned at 9 p.m. **Next meeting – Thursday, May 18, 2017 at the home of Barbara Schreiber (212 Milton Street).**