

P.O. Box 44152

VICTORIA, BC V9A 7K1

**MINUTES**

**Pearkes Recreation Centre, 7:00 p.m., Thursday, September 6, 2018**

**In Attendance:** Gabe, Vera (had to leave early), Chris K, Scott, Irena, Arden, Pam, Elise, Phillip, Katherine, Chris B.

**Regrets**: Evan, Ed, Russ, Rob

1. **Guest Presentation:** None.
2. **Approval of minutes** from June meeting. Pam motion/ Vera seconded.
3. **Agenda Adopted.** Vera motion/Arden seconded
4. **Reports:**

A. Finance: See report submitted by Chris Kask

B. Membership: 190 Members and 4 business members for 2018 so far.

C. Communication:

1. Newsletter: Vera looking for items for upcoming Newsletter addition. Deadline for submissions: 30 September
2. Website: Evan absent.

D. Board Transition Process: See ‘GTCA Vision, Objectives & Board Operating Principles Draft v.3’ document and ‘GTCA Constitution Draft v.3’ document. Discussed possible edits and minor changes. Please look at these documents further and send your edits and suggestions to Gabe. Will go back to transition team again.

1. **Initiatives & Collaborations:**

A. Governance:

1. SCAN: Gabe didn’t attend.
2. Council: Nothing on their upcoming agendas requiring our input.

B. Building Developments:

 i. Albina St (Greg Abbott) Going to Council Sept.17 for final deliberations

 ii. Gorge and Tillicum. No new news since last meeting.

 iii. Obed and Harriet. Newly purchased land. Apparently some plans for a multi-story development. Did have an open house but didn’t tell the GTCA -- the invitation was shared in a very limited manner and the event was apparently very poorly attended. Gabe has reached out to them.

C. Boulevards, Parks & Waterways:

1. Cuthbert Holmes Park: The berm along CHP that MOT is creating along the highway as part of the McKenzie Interchange project is of concern. The height and the steepness, as well as proximity to the Colquitz, has us concerned. We wonder if tree plantings on this berm will survive? General concern over the pending eviction of campers (Tent City) at Regina Park and its potential impact on CHP and other local parks. Where will they all go? Concerns over Saanich Parks map/pamphlet that shows folks where ‘Overnight Sheltering’ is permitted -- a list that includes many of our neighbourhood parks.
2. Gorge Park: ‘Cleanup’ Event coming this Saturday, Sept.15th. Gabe will be away but Vera will be around. Posters have gone up, postings on the Facebook page. There is still the RV that seems to be forever parked at the parking lot along with a few tent campers in the evening in the park. Also, GPCG has i’s upcoming ‘Fall Celebration’ Event this Sept. 23. in the park.
3. Gorge Waterway/PI/GWI: There continues to be concerns over live-aboard boaters coming farther up the Gorge. Apparently one in Portage Inlet now. Phil to attend next GWI meeting.
4. Boulevard Trees: Scott has arranged meeting at Saanich Parks with Jillian Tusan. To attend: Scott, Gabe, Pam. Will report.
5. Saanich Parks staff Workshop @ HCP last June, Gabe reported that he gave a short presentation and all went well.

D. Transportation: Nothing at this time.

E. Art, Culture & Celebration:

1. Lights on the Gorge - Chris B is looking for volunteers for this year’s event.
2. Music In The Park - All went well.
3. **Other Items:**

A. 321 Gorge Rd. Gabe has been in contact with a retired resident (Peter Bailey) who is interested in offering ideas regarding the use of 321 Gorge Rd. The GTCA has long had an interest and hopes/dreams of 321 being put to use for the community. Gary Darrah (Saanich) is also interested and there have been discussions of the possibility of the $25,000 ear-marked from the Albina development going toward a project of some kind at or beside 321. Also, some discussion about looking into grant options for work on this site.

B. Storage Locker Rental: (Crossed off list for now, Vera stepped out of meeting.)

C. Gorge Tillicum Refugee Sponsorship Group: Elise reported that the Garage Sale went well. Will consider taking/selling items of reasonable value online to continue adding to the funds. Upcoming events: ‘Community Info Night’, Sept 21st, 7pm at Pearkes and Fund Raiser Night, Oct.27th at Pearkes.

D. ‘No Smoking Signs’ at Gorge Park: Irena brought up the concern of smoking in the park, particularly at Curtis Point (swimmers area) and wondered whether there should be signs there. Gabe to ask Saanich Parks.

1. **Additions to the Agenda:**
2. January Meeting will be moved to Jan. 10th (Winter Break affects the 3rd.)
3. ‘People for a One Planet Region’ Town Hall Meeting, Tues Sept. 18th at UVIC
4. All Candidates Meeting. Chris B. brought this up. We know of several already planned. The group ultimately decided we wouldn’t have the energy to organize one and it seems there are already quite a few happening.

**Meeting adjourned** at 9:02pm Moved by Phil, seconded by Irena.

**Next Board Meeting**

**Time: 7:00 - 9:00 pm**

**Date: Thursday, 2 October, 2018**

**Place: Pearkes Recreation Centre**