

South Jubilee Neighbourhood Association

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The South Jubilee Neighbourhood Association is a registered non-profit society established by residents to act as a forum for the interests of all those who live, work or own property in the neighbourhood.

WHERE TO NOW FOR OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD ASS'N?

In 1989, after successfully responding to a neighbourhood crises - a proposed multi story incursion into residential Bank St., our Association was incorporated with the usual slate of offices. As time went on, leadership was provided by a series of Presidents but by 1999, no one was willing to take on that role any longer. The Board of Directors would continue in equal capacity with no officers except a Treasurer. So that a voice could be associated with the Board, Liz Hoar offered to act as our Communication Coordinator and the Association carried on, attempting to respond to neighbourhood's needs and desires.

Now it is 2007, Liz has decided to step down from that role and the Directors, most of whom have acted as such from the time of original incorporation, are willing, but may we say - tired. There is a feeling that new blood is needed, an updated reason for existing and maybe even a new structure and information network.

At a recent meeting of a few neighbours, including some Directors, it was abundantly clear that some agency would have to exist to respond to future crises and issues that affect the qualities our neighbourhood values. To allow for that potential it was felt that the Association should, at a minimum, maintain its status as a registered Society with the requirements for an AGM and annual financial statement reporting on the assets entrusted to the Society, its management, of course, would require a representative Board. Whether it meets regularly or only annually. How the Society would communicate with the Neighbourhood under the latter option is a question. It is doubtful if an expanded web site would provide appropriate connection for the majority or our neighbours.

SO, WHERE TO NOW? That is the question. Would it matter to us if we didn't receive newsletters? Is hearing what is going on important to us? Are there issues that we want to be able to talk about and get help with? What do we value?

The future is in our hands. A great teacher has said "the movement belongs to the movers". Let us gather together at the coming meeting of minds and find the way to open new doors. It is our collective story - could it also include you?
Roger Smeeth

Neighbourhood Meeting

Oct. 15, 7:30pm

Art School

On Bank St.

Let's Brainstorm our Future!

WHO ARE OUR STANGERS?

In developing a community, John McKnight, a respected exponent of that process, has suggested that a valuable action is to "invite in the strangers" who may bring gifts to the community. Do we have strangers here, and how would we know they were there? I have lived here for almost 30 years. For me there are hundreds of you that are "strangers". of course that is my problem - I haven't been curious enough. McKnight has also suggested that the unplanned meetings with others are the glue in a community.

There is a particular group of “stranger” that look to the possibility of changing things here. I mean by that the development industry. Apparently, by 2009, all the empty Victoria land, hopefully not including Kaspai Park, will be built out - no more available. If things play out the usual way, the industry’s next strategy would move to tear-down and rebuild with higher density. And that is my concern for the future of South Jubilee. How well do we understand, and for that matter care about that potential challenge? How much do we appreciate the stability our Association has been able to guide over the years?

If you like being here, I urge you all to be aware of the pressures to change the fabric of our neighbourhood. Not all change brings valued gifts.

PRAISE & APPRECIATION

for Liz Hoar and her efforts over the years for being the co-coordinator for our Neighbourhood Association. Thanks Liz.

The Future of the South Jubilee Neighbourhood Association

In so far as a neighbourhood has an identity, it is the result of the community that arises from the efforts and interactions of the folks who live there. This can be chatting with immediate neighbours across the fence, sharing those zucchinis on a late summer afternoon, or feeling comfortable enough to dash across the street to borrow an egg. It can be all this, but also much more. The City of Victoria is committed to supporting neighbourhood communities. Since the registration of the South Jubilee Neighbourhood Association as a society, we have had a city councillor liaison, we have been given grants to help with the StreetFest, the mural at Sundance, our plastic recycling project and more. The city has responded to our traffic calming requests by creating the knuckles on Leighton and maintaining the little gardens therein. We are part of a network of neighbourhood associations with similar goals and structure to care for our area and improve its quality of life. We are given the opportunity to provide

ideas and input into development and planning of both our immediate neighbourhood and also for the city as a whole.

So far this has been accomplished over the last 19 years by a group of people from throughout the neighbourhood who have been involved in the present and future community that is always evolving around us. We have put out a newsletter five times a year, delivered it to your doors, organized the annual StreetFest (until this year), and held an annual general meeting. Now these active people are seeking new recruits -- new energy and ideas. We now need to reinvent the association. How should it work? What kinds projects or activities should we be involved in?

A meeting will be held on Oct.15 at 7:30 at the College of Art on Bank Street. Come and be part of your community! Help shape the future of our neighbourhood and city.

WEB BLOG our webmaster for our neighbourhood website would be interested in creating a blog and would like any input from those who might know how to do this ... this could perhaps be another way to strengthen communications in our neighbourhood and revitalize the website.

Bank Street Art School - public lectures

Grab a brochure at the art school for more details on these presentations

The Business of Art with Leslie Knight

October 13, 10am - 1pm ... \$15

The Ritual of Aboriginal Women’s Art on the West Coast with Charlene George

October 22, 6:30 - 9:30 ... by donation

Anatomy Animation: The Future of Africa

with Lori Waters, November 26, 6:30 -9:30pm ... by donation