

## **South Jubilee Neighbourhood Association Meeting 07 September 2016**

Residents attending: Roy, Julie, Ruan, Denise, Diana, Sheri, Don, Cathy, Char, Liz, Kevin, Dave, Michael, Barb, Ray, Kathryn, Brock, Garry  
City of Victoria rep: Kimberley Stratford

Meeting began with introductions and participants were invited to share thoughts about the aspects we appreciate about our neighbourhood. These included: the excellent location with access to all amenities; Redfern Park; Kasapi Park; the Art College; friendly neighbours; diversity of population; the architecture of the houses; neighbourhood recycle project.

Proposed agenda was outlined and modified.

- **Previous Minutes and Business Arising**
  - Kiosks – we can go ahead and use the top part of all the kiosks for our neighborhood information
  - Get well card for Menno was given to him and Sheri reported that he hopes to come home when he's well enough. Two offers were extended to assist with pouring a concrete pad if needed for wheelchair accessibility.
  
- **Redfern Park**
  - Concern raised about the camping going on in the park. It's a small park with a dog area and small playground. Apparently the bylaws state that camping is allowed in the park, however there is also a bylaw stating there should be no camping near a pathway, and in this case one does actually go through the park.
  - The bylaw officer suggested this park should be on the list for no camping. In order to do that we would need to send a letter to City Hall stating that the SJNA requests that Redfern be designated as a no camping park.
  - Concerns were expressed about the safety of children. Apparently years ago this park was in disrepair and many efforts have been made to make it a more beautiful place for families to meet and enjoy each other's company.
  - It is suggested that if we send this letter perhaps we could also include ideas regarding alternative arrangements in support of homeless people.

**DECISION:** Majority agrees to submit a written request to City Hall designating Redfern Park as a no camping park. Ideas related to housing for homeless will be included in the letter.

- **Neighbourhood Street Concern**
  - Two residents shared concerns about rental properties on their street. One of the landlords has been responsive to the situation while the other has unfortunately not. They've talked with the Police Liaison who's been very helpful. There have been great renters over the last 10 years but currently there are problems.
  - This is a heads up to call the police if you see any suspicious behavior.

- Kimberley suggests that a Block Watch is organized. Liz will forward relevant information to those expressing interest in setting up a Block Watch.
- **Neighbourhood Survey**  
Copies of the survey were shared and the results from the 33 responses are self-explanatory. No questions were raised. The survey is still on the website if anyone would like to participate in it.
- **Grant Application**  
The SJNA board of directors met this summer to consult about the possibility of applying for a grant from the City. Given our neighbourhood population is too small to warrant a physical building, the grant idea is to have a portable community space consisting of a cargo trailer with pop-up tents, a barbeque, etc. that can be stored on the Victoria Art College Campus.
- **Pole/Fence Painting**
  - **One of the Fell Street residents applied for the grant as well.** Cathy shared that their street had a summer get-together this summer to talk about this idea. The board consulted and let Cathy know that there are funds that could be available to support her suggestion of painting poles or fences.
  - **Correction:** Cathy Jupp Campbell did NOT apply for grant when she found out SJNA was applying for the same grant.
  - Kimberley clarified that its BC Hydro who owns the poles and they need to give permission, not the City.
  - Having a conversation with School District 61 Facilities Department would assist with finding out what can be done on school property.
  - Another resident suggested that construction companies often have left over materials that they'll donate for neighbourhood projects like this one.
  - Cathy agreed to get all the necessary information and share it with others in the neighbourhood. It's suggested that she create a budget and share it with the Board treasurer.
- **Neighbourhood Equity Meeting**
  - Neighbourhoods that don't have community Centres should have access to extra funding to equalize things considering the bigger neighbourhoods have large amounts of money allocated to them.
  - The deadline for submission of ideas for the running of the SJNA is this month. For example funds could be used so that we can rent a space for our meetings.
- **City Hall**
  - Kimberly offered a report on behalf of the City Councilor who wasn't able to attend the meeting. All the topics she covered are available on the City website.
  - In addition Kimberly wants to redevelop the neighborhood portion/snapshot of the City website. It helps us get a clearer understanding of who lives in our neighbourhood and what the needs are. She'd like to collect stories about what characterizes the culture of the SJN.

- Questions raised with Kimberley:
  - it's hard to get out of Redfern on to Oak Bay Ave. Might it be possible to have a crosswalk? Kimberley shared that the City Engineering Department is investigating to collect data. At this point there's not enough usage to warrant a crosswalk. **Kimberly mentioned that it's not against the law to cross a busy street.**  
**Correction:** It is only legal to cross a street at a crosswalk or at an intersection where the pedestrian is travelling in a straight line from one corner to another corner directly across the street.
  - Is there any discussion at City Hall about the pedestrian in the context of the village? If we consider this as a village the priority should be for pedestrians not for cars. Speed limits should be set accordingly and crosswalks that slow down traffic. Kimberly responded sharing information in support of this question. She shared that crosswalks don't actually slow cars down. Different colour pavement does interrupt drivers' thought patterns and that's why the green is being introduced in the bike lanes. Traffic calming: banners, flowers, roundabouts, etc. have been introduced in Quadra Village and they seem to be effective. She asks what we want to see happen and recommends we give this information to the City because we want to hear from you.

- **BC Supportive Housing**

- **Growing Food Initiative**

- **SJNA Constitution**

- New societies act going into force. We need to review in order to ensure our current constitution agrees with the Act. We should begin the process this year.
- Anyone interested in being of service in this regard please email the SJNA and we'll send you information to read about so this work can begin.

- **Open Floor Consultation**

a) Oak Bay Bike Shop owner shared his concerns about the Biketoria Meeting held here a couple of months ago. He feels the City created a circumstance that resulted in business owners feeling entitled to the road which is public property. Business owners feel that way because of all the residential parking. If they want to make any headway with their plans for alternative transportation, i.e. for bikes, they won't make any if the residential parking stays the same. He wants the neighborhood to support changing some residential parking to business parking during business hours.

Resident comment: Perhaps the message got lost due to a poor job of rolling out the Biketoria plan. Have the thoughts of the residents been considered? Why Oak Bay and not Brighton and/or Leighton? Consultants came in and presented their proposal without ever having visited our neighbourhood.

b) Village Hall – If we can't have a community centre, how about a village hall? It could be built on the two City lots on the land behind the Art College. Seat 100 and two toilets, small stage, mini storage and a caretaker living in the basement. Fell St residents might not like this and they have to be considered. SJNA might spend too much time wrapped up running the hall. We'd have some place to call our own with better ability to set up the room as we liked. Because we'd have an employee living on site there might be a way to get funding. Good for weddings and receptions. Good place for clubs to meet, Fall Fair, and so on. Another suggestion is to see if funds could be available to renovate the basement of the Art College.

c) Is there any possibility of having the fence in the Redfern Park completed so that it's safer for children and dogs? Apparently there seems to be some complication with the various bylaws.

Kimberley suggests that the SJNA write a letter to the City describing the situation and asking for the fence to be completed. There appears to be agreement with this suggestion.

d) The garbage can that's in the park is situated in such a place that it's unsanitary. Can we request along with the fence that there's a concrete pad around the garbage can?

Kimberley suggests that we find another location that's already in a concrete area and relocate the garbage can to that area.

**DECISION:** The SJNA will write to the City about these two issues related to the Redfern Park. Ray agrees to take some photographs and come up with a couple of other suggested areas for relocating the garbage can.

e) Suggestion to have a neighbourhood meeting more often – once every two months for example. Jan, March, May, Sept, Nov. This idea was not supported.

- **Accessible Meeting Venue**

In the interests of making the meeting venue accessible to all residents information has been gathered regarding rental of the school next door. Apart from the school it's possible we could use the Church on Oak Bay Ave that is wheelchair accessible, as is the basement of the Art College.

**DECISION:** To ensure the meetings are held in a venue that is accessible to everyone.

- **Next Meeting Date:**

**DECISION:** The next meeting will be held on November 1<sup>st</sup>. The board will investigate the possibility of using the large room in the basement of the Victoria Art College.