

South Jubilee Neighbourhood Association Meeting

November 2, 2021 7PM Zoom Meeting

1. City Council Update

- Charlayne Thorton Joe opened our meeting by stating that she has had many conversations with City staff who deal with real estate. She has asked them for an update.
- She stated that staff did not want to meet before Council and SD 61 meet to discuss future of Bank Street School. She stressed that the school will not be demolished without notification.
- Councillor Thorton Joe went on to say that there were long days having budget discussions, “.. pitting projects against projects.” Sample items: Old Cemetery Society working with Ross Bay Cemetery; Police budget; Morning wake-ups in City parks as an issue for staff; and graffiti on buildings.
- Charlayne urged residents to email Mayor and Council with important issues before the City Budget meeting.

2. Update from Kimberley, City Staff

- She stated that the budget is consuming all staff.
- Neighbourhood Grant applications now closed.
- SJNA did not apply for a \$20,000 grant to share with North Jubilee Neighbourhood Association (NJNA) as we did not have the capacity to hire a coordinator for a joint project. Kimberley pointed out that using a consultant/ co- ordinator contract could be an option for the future.

3. Bank Street School

- Matt Dell gave an overview of the City commissioned report of Bank Street School. The full report, obtained through an FOI (Freedom of Information) request is available on [our website](#).
- Charlayne Thorton Joe said that 3 or 4 councillors are keeping an eye on the school.
- Marc Craig, a Member of the Bank Street School Committee said that Victoria has many precedents in saving old schools, with Oaklands as an example. He then asked what does SD61 plan, or what do they want.
- Murray Gudmundson reminded the meeting that in September 2020 , SD61 told us that they wanted portable classrooms on the site. He went on to stress need for public accountability from SD61.
- Charlayne Thorton Joe suggested writing SD61 asking for a meeting before end of November. Murray and Matt to write a draft letter on this and circulate to the Board.

4. Potential CALUC Merger with North Jubilee

- The City has 1 local plan for both neighbourhoods.
- North Jubilee is not supportive of a merger.
- Gail, from the CALUC committee stated that she has little knowledge of North Jubilee and stressed that she needs more members for CALUC before she could commit to a merger, even if merger was only with the 2 CALUC committees.
- Charlayne Thorton Joe said that the City has not set any date for possible merger.
- Kimberley stressed that Council will not force a merger.
- Matt and Gail agreed to a Zoom meeting with NJNA.

5. Redfern Park Design

- The committee applied for a \$5,000 grant for design of the gardens.
- There's a survey on our website of proposal. To date, respondents are favourable to plan.
- A request for a Community Garden Start Up grant for \$10,000 goes to Council in January 2022. Erin said the total budget for the gardens is estimated at \$56,000.
- Kathleen spoke of the success of Get Growing kits distributed to SJNA residents.

6. Free Little Library

- The woodworking students at Oak Bay High have suggested 2 design options.
- All agreed that the design needed more of an overhang on roof to protect books from rain. Concerns were expressed about need for adequate space for children's books.
- Another concern was raised about the large puddle in front of the Little Library. Matt to email Kimberley concerning this.

7. Neighbourhood Survey update

- Issues to be addressed- unifying with North Jubilee; traffic issues; EV infrastructure; future development in our neighbourhood; and asking residents for their priorities.

8. Redfern Park Parkfest

- Matt thanked everyone involved. It was a big success and the kids loved it. Charlayne Thorton Joe also attended and praised the event.

9. CALUC

- Kathleen provided an update.
- Aryze Developments now wants a switch to purpose built rentals instead of their original plan of student housing at 1693 Fort St.

- Concerning Aryze's development at 1908 Foul Bay Rd, Kathleen stressed importance of developers going through proper channels.
- Charlayne Thorton Joe said she would like to attend a meeting with Aryze concerning developments in our neighbourhood.

Next SJNA meeting- Tuesday, February 1st at 7pm