North Vancouver Community Associations Network (NVCAN)

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Date: Wednesday November 17, 2021

Location: Zoom

Time: 7:00 - 9:05 pm

Present:

John Miller (Chair) Lower Capilano

Eric Andersen Blueridge

Katherine Fagerlund Deep Cove/Strathcona
Val Wilkins Deep Cove/Strathcona
Corrie Kost Edgemont Upper Capilano
Erik Skowronek Edgemont Upper Capilano

Gillian Konst Lynn Valley
Irene Davidson Norgate Park
Barbara McKinley Norwood/Queens
Herman Mah Pemberton Heights

Karen Barnett Seymour
Peter Teevan Seymour
Val Moller Woodcroft
Babs Perowne Woodcroft

Regrets:

Chris Sallis Deep Cove/Strathcona

- 1. Welcome. John welcomed members to the Zoom meeting.
- **2. Approval of Agenda.** Agenda was approved.
- **3.** Approval of Minutes. Minutes of the September 15, 2021 meeting were approved.
- 4. New Business.
 - a. Topics for DNV Council Shirt Sleeves Meeting

After discussion the following topics were selected for the proposed shirt-sleeve meeting with DNV Council:

- Assaults on local democracy resulting in low public participation. Poor communication
 contributes to lack of understanding. Example issues: DNV Hall still closed to public even
 though other District facilities remain open (eg Rec Centres, Libraries). Difficult to find
 documents on DNV website (more effective to use Google Search). Confusion over status
 of Local Area Plans vs. OCP. DNV by-laws not enforced. Council procedure by-law passed
 without public input.
- Affordable Housing Continuum. Publish list of housing stock available by category. Prediction that percentage of single family homes to multi-family homes will decrease. Currently North Van has 20% single family whereas Canadian average is 53%.
- **b. Metro Vancouver 2050**. Concerns over expanding scope of Metro Vancouver control over local government. Metro Vancouver originally established to provide utilities. Now expanding to require local municipalities to build housing at the behest of senior government (province). Concerns were expressed include: Older housing stock is allowed to decay. Short term rentals

- drain supply of rental units. Easier for landlords to use short term rental option than to meet Landlord/Tenant Act requirements.
- **c. Translink 2050.** Concerns regarding transit service to meet growing DNV density. No transit unless density warrants service but without service people use cars and need parking spaces.
- d. Annual Holiday Lunch Wed, Dec 15 or Fri, Dec 17? After a vote, it was decided to hold our Annual Holiday Lunch on Wednesday, December 15. Meal will be at Northlands Bar and Grill, 3400 Anne Macdonald Way. Significant others welcome. Babs will send email invitation to all members and make reservations.

5. Community Roundtable

- a. **EUCCA.** Eric S. reported: <u>AGM</u> EUCCA held its AGM on October 22 2021. This was held as an 'in person' meeting rather than a virtual meeting. Attendance was quite good considering the only date available to us was a Friday evening. We had about 40 people attend. In keeping with protocols we required and checked for vaccination status. Since the facility had a capacity of about 240 people we were also able to ensure social distancing. Attendance included three members of council Jim Hansen (acting Mayor) Betty Forbes and Megan Curran. We also had 3 guest speakers. <u>Filming</u> On September 8th parts of a Hallmark movie entitled "The Christmas Promise" was filmed in Edgemont Village. The first airing of the movie took place on November 7th. This will likely play numerous times prior to Christmas. Additionally there have been two other projects filmed in Edgemont Village since then. The last being this morning.
 - Demolition by Capilano Suspension Bridge A number of duplexes and townhouses across Capilano Road from the Suspension Bridge were recently demolished. Local residents have raised concern going back a few years about this property and proposed use as a parking lot by the Suspension Bridge. This use continues to be opposed by neighbouring residents. Due to our recent rain event the area flooded and water ran into the properties backing on the demolished homes. This has resulted in some of the owners being 'flooded' out of their basements some of which contain suites. Response from the Suspension Bridge representatives note the water is subsiding and they will look to the contractor working the property to address the matter. The residents were very annoyed at the response and replied that the water 'subsiding' was the result of it continuing to run into their property and the Suspension Bridge should address this ASAP. Conjecture is that whatever storm sewer connections had been in place over the years that the buildings were there were lost during the demolition leading to the water now running into neighbouring properties. Christmas Lights in Edgemont Village The Village is again decorated for Christmas. Sponsored by the Village Merchants trees have been lit and the red curved light poles are decorated as 'candy canes'. This year the number of lit trees has been limited to 8 rather than all of them as was done in previous years. This is likely a budgetary issue with merchants feeling the effects of the pandemic.
- b. Lynn Valley. Gill reported LVCA held its AGM on Zoom on November 4. LVCA is going ahead with Christmas trees this years. Local businesses have signed up for about 70 tress. Lynn Valley will launch the "Make a Difference" project in January 2022 for the homeless (seeking items such as socks, hats, blankets). They will partner with Lookout Shelter who suggests coffee cards to help bring people back into society. The shelter hopes to collect 250 coffee cards to provide for each homeless person. The public right-of-way between William Ave and Powell from 29th St to Princess Park was taken over by an adjacent neighbour, who has subsequently died. The community is working with the new owner to reclaim the right of way for public use. LVCA is working with the District on the issue. Lynn Valley acquired new banners with a grant from the DNV. A tender was issued and awarded to a local artist (Duane Murrin) for the design. The Legion redevelopment application has stalled as it does not meet the OCP requirements.

c. **Norwood/Queens.** Barbara reported: <u>Bear proof garbage containers and recycling containers for Carisbrooke Park.</u> NQCA recently asked the District of NV to install bear proof garbage cans and recycling containers in Carisbrooke Park. On Oct 20, 2021, we received word from the District of NV that DNV Parks is ordering bear proof garbage receptacles for installation in Carisbrooke Park to replace current barrel style containers. The Parks staff will install them soon after delivery. The NQCA sought and received support from the North Shore Black Bear Society for which we thank them very much. We do not have word yet about the recycling containers we requested. *Traffic Calming for Norwood and Windsor*

We learned that the DNV decided not to follow through on the promised traffic calming measures for Windsor Road and Norwood Avenue. These measures were in response to a petition and ongoing consultation with residents of Norwood Queens spearheaded by Jamie Hargreaves. We received the following letter from Ingrid Weisenbach, Transportation Section Manager (Acting) which said

"Thank you for meeting with us last Tuesday, Aug. 17th. Staff would like to express our sincere apology for the mix-up about the Norwood/Windsor traffic calming project.

This proposal recently came to my attention and, as discussed, will not be possible to proceed as requested. Norwood Avenue and Windsor Street are both classified as collector roads, and as such, they do not qualify for traffic calming measures. This is due to the current Council direction that mandates a moratorium on the installation of traffic calming on collector roads.

We do, however, have a program that addresses road safety issues on collector and arterial roads and we have taken the step to move the Windsor/Norwood intersection to the list of locations to be assessed for these road safety improvements. This process is designed to ensure that the locations in need of road safety improvements are considered on a priority basis as both urgency and budget allows.

I'd like to assure you that we remain committed to installing appropriate safety measures approaching Norwood and Windsor. The plan is currently being assessed and we expect to have an evaluation of all the District locations by the end of September. Let's touch base in October so we can discuss the results of the evaluation and next steps."

After the September 22, 2021 meeting of the NQCA we responded with a letter to support traffic calming measures in our community. This is an ongoing issue for us.

On the issue of speedbumps on collector roads, Gill said that Viewlynn Dr has speedbumps and John said Garden Ave also has speedbumps.

d. **Woodcroft.** Val M. reported: <u>Lions Gate Community Centre</u>: The latest is that if all goes according to plan, they expect occupancy on Dec. 3rd. Some supply chain challenges are impacting the schedule. They still aim for early 2022 for opening to the public. You've all seen the latest proposed development in our area for the east side of lower Capilano Road. A 12 storey hotel and a 24 storey tower. So much density! When the Lions Gate Village was first proposed they promised us that Curling Road would be extended east to Garden Ave when this area was developed. But this is not in these plans.

<u>Woodcroft</u> We have now received the permit from DNV to remove the soil in the central plaza in order to repair the membrane over the parkades. However with it now being in the rain season, this will have to be postponed until spring.

- e. **Pemberton Heights.** Herman said Pemberton Heights has speedbumps on collector roads. He also reported the Corner Stone again has live music on Thursday nights; however, Christmas Tea has been cancelled for another year.
- f. **Blueridge.** Eric A. reported that BCA had a well-attended board meeting earlier in the week and will be working on a couple of interesting initiatives, which will be discussed later.

The current big local initiative is called 'Blueridge Cares' which ensured last year that six-seven local families had a nice Christmas in spite of difficult financial circumstances. Financial donations and gift cards had been received from local residents and North Shore merchants. We are doing it again this year with currently six families applying for our assistance, but the support in the community has been a bit slower and smaller than in 2020. It was decided that most of the board should get involved in this initiative, and we hope to obtain good support from individuals and companies also this year.

Our Project Community continues with two companies coming to Blueridge & Seymour Heights before the end of the year offering attractive deals to interested residents. This time it will be tree-trimming services as well as cleaning of furnaces and gas fireplaces etc.

For the first time we had a Halloween contest for the best decorated house in Blueridge. About ten houses were nominated and a winner was found after an online vote. Pictures were posted on Facebook. We are hoping for even more interest next year.

The parking issues with the many visitors to Blueridge continues, and lately it has again been reported that a few mountain bikers have been telling hikers that they should abstain from using 'biking trails'. This is entirely incorrect, since there are currently no trails dedicated to any specific user groups, such as mountain bikers. This will be brought up with the NSMBA in the near future, although we suspect that these few rogue mountain-bikers and bullies are not members of this association. It has to be stressed that the trails are for everyone to enjoy – they are not reserved or dedicated for any specific user-group.

- g. **Norgate Park.** Irene reported that Norgate held a Directors' meeting by Zoom on October 21st. Art McGillivray was declared President and Irene Davidson, Vice-President. David Knee, who has served as President for many years will remain on the board. We plan to have another Directors' meeting next week and hold the AGM in the New Year. The entrances to Alderwood Park are now signposted. Thank you to DNV Parks and Trails.
- h. **Seymour.** Peter reported the Seymour AGM coming up November 24th and will be on zoom (contact us for link). Two speakers scheduled: DNVFRS provide briefing on new Maplewood Fire, Rescue and Training Centre facilitated by Assistant Captain Walt Werner, and the second speaker yet to be confirmed is Jay Porter, Regional Manager, Project Delivery, MOTI to provide an update on the interchange project. Seymour Estates appears to be starting construction work. Seymour CA remains concerned about the DNV staff plan to reduce public parking along Lytton as this is a community hub for sports and recreation amenities.
- i. **Deep Cove/Strathcona.** Katherine commented that "Slow Your Roll" signs have been put up on Ridge Trail as it has a mixed use of bikers and hikers. Katherine reported that the storm water replacement was completed just in time for the first atmospheric river and that the drain performed well. The next project (improvements for Gallant) is due for consultation. A question

still remains as to remedial action regarding the construction road for the storm water drain project. The community is divided over keeping the construction road or replacing the trees. New businesses are opening on Gallant. Val W. commented that restaurants east of Seymour are now using recyclable containers.

- j. **Lower Capilano.** John reported on the proposed development replacing the two motels on the east side of Capilano Road north of Curling Rd. The density is at 3.0, with limited parking, and heights greater than the original proposal.
- 6. Next Meeting: January meeting October 19, 2022 possible DNV Budget Meeting
- 7. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm