

North Vancouver Community Associations Network (NVCAN)

Minutes of Special Meeting

Date: Wednesday October 19, 2022

Location: Zoom

Time: 7:00 – 8:55 pm

Present:

John Miller (Chair)	Lower Capilano
Eric Andersen	Blueridge
Cyndi Gerlach	Carisbrooke
Katherine Fagerlund	Deep Cove
Corrie Kost	Edgemont Upper Capilano
Erik Skowronek	Edgemont Upper Capilano
Lyle Craver	Lynn Valley
Stuart Porter	Maplewood
Irene Davidson	Norgate Park
Herman Mah	Pemberton Heights
Karen Barnett	Seymour
Val Moller	Woodcroft
Babs Perowne	Woodcroft

Guests:

Christine Miller	Seymour
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- 1. Welcome.** John welcomed members to the meeting.
- 2. Approval of Agenda.** Meeting agenda was approved.
- 3. Approval of Minutes.** The minutes of the September 21, 2022 meeting were approved.
- 4. Review of DNV Municipal Election results and predictions.** Members discussed the election results commenting on the overall low turnout rate (22%), reviewed the various All Candidates Meetings (ACM), failure of the DNV website while giving live updates of the vote count, lack of civility towards candidates and lack of engagement of citizens. Katherine commented that the engagement needed to improve year round not just during elections. She suggested NVCAN have a brain-storming session on ways to increase community engagement—e.g., when it comes to engaging people on an on-going basis about what our mayor and councillors are doing, what role can/should CAs take in this process.

Katherine recommended NVCAN make a motion at our November meeting: THAT the District of North Vancouver upgrade their website to handle on-line reporting of election results before the next election.

- 5. Round Table.**
 - a. Lynn Valley.** Lyle reported that the Lynn Valley ACM was held at the Lynn Valley Recreation Centre to a standing room audience.
 - b. Woodcroft.** ACM Val reported that the Lions Gate ACM attendance was about 80 people. She also commented that much of the area was still under construction and many of the residents

in the Lions Gate community were new to the area. *Construction Val* reported construction is ongoing. Woodcroft is awaiting permits from DNV to proceed with the repairs.

- c. **EUCCA.** Eric S. reported that the major activity was the ACM. While they had a good turnout it was down from previous elections. Corrie reported that the building behind Peter Rabbit is still unfinished, with the completion date continually delayed. Owner reported that he had sold 8 of the 22 units and plans to rent the balance for the present time. EUCCA has scheduled its AGM for November 18.
- d. **Seymour.** Karen reported their major activity was the ACM (held jointly with Deep Cove, Blueridge, Parkgate, Mt Seymour United Church). Karen also reported Seymour was represented at Parkgate Days. Seymour has scheduled its AGM for November 23.
- e. **Blueridge.** Eric A reported: Blueridge Creek Cleanup – a cleanup of our local creek took place at the end of September. A number of families participated, and it was rewarding to see that many brought their children with them to clean up. The amount of garbage was substantially less in 2022 than in prior years. Fall Swap Meet – this was the first time that we hosted a large garage sale, and we had seven participants. The location near the Blueridge Sharing Garden will likely change to the local coffee shop, United Strangers Coffee, next year due to far better visibility. We hope to see this activity grow in the future. Newsletter - The BCA's third and last hard-copy newsletter of the year was published and distributed to inform our residents of the All Candidates Meeting and the workshop, both in early October, as well as other activities. All Candidates Meeting – the BCA was as usual part of the associations co-hosting the ACM at the Mount Seymour United Church on Tuesday, October 4, but the attendance was less than in the past – possibly due to remaining fear of COVID and/or less burning DNV election issues. Brainstorming – We had a most successful four-hour workshop held at Canlan on Saturday, October 1, at Canlan. There were about 30 participants and LOTS of great ideas were discussed, including many new activities and events that the BCA can host. It had been nine years since we held our first BCA workshop and based on the enthusiasm and interest, we will not wait that long before we host another one. Blueridge Cares – for the third consecutive year the BCA will offer this program where we will be helping families that need extra support during the Christmas season. We will try and raise funds from local residents and obtain support from North Vancouver businesses. An addition this year is the Reverse Advent Calendar, where instead of getting something new every day, something new is given daily.
- f. **Norgate.** Irene reported Norgate helped sponsor an All-Candidates meeting at the new Lion's Gate Community Centre, along with Woodcroft, Pemberton Heights and Lower Capilano community associations. Residents let me know they were pleased that an All-Candidates meeting was held in this area, and they thought joining with other community associations made it happen. Recently, the DNV advised some Norgate residents of proposed sidewalks for their streets with construction beginning this summer (2023). These sidewalks were proposed in the Pedestrian Master Plan (2009) to improve safety around schools. Many affected residents are opposed to the project. They consider the existing sidewalks are adequate, and a better use of DNV funds is to construct a sidewalk extension of Sowden Street for improved safety of students and residents. Discussion of this matter is ongoing.
- g. **Deep Cove.** Katherine reported: *Strathcona Road traffic calming* – Deep Cove CA (DCCA) is planning a presentation for an upcoming Council meeting regarding traffic calming for Strathcona Rd. So far, appeals to DNV Staff are falling on deaf ears, with the response being that they've done all they're going to do with the measures implemented for the portion of Strathcona from Deep Cove Road to Norah's Walk. The reason given is a Council policy that suggests traffic calming is applicable only for 'collector roads', which Strathcona isn't. Since the rest of Strathcona is a curvy road with blind corners and several pedestrian crossings to well-used attractions, and since speeding and reckless driving is regularly witnessed, the DCCA feels that the 'policy' needs to be overridden for this road, and probably needs amendment

generally. *Lower Gallant 'Beautification'*. DNV staff have recently published a report on the results of a survey to obtain input on design concepts for improvement of Lower Gallant. We've heard from the DNV that they plan to move forward with the project, finalizing design by the end of October, issuing tender documents at that time, with selection of the successful candidate before the end of the year. Staff do not intend to bring the project back to Council except by circulation of the final survey report and final design. *Boat anchorage in the Cove*. The anchorage points have been established, but personnel resources are needed for enforcement. *Forest fires*. The forest fires in Cypress Park need to be a warning to us. Predicted wind storms will add a further stress to the vulnerable trees.

- h. Pemberton Heights.** Herman reported that the Ashdown Park clean-up will take place on October 23 from 10am – 2 pm. The Corner Stone is the sponsor the Halloween event to be held at the Pemberton Heights Community Hall on October 29.
- i. Carisbrooke.** Cyndi reported that Princess Park is extremely dry and that the Fire Department will decide on whether it is issuing fireworks permits on October 24.

- 6. NVCAN Board Election – at November 16 meeting.** John announced NVCAN will hold an election to fill a vacancy on the Board at our November meeting. Nominations will be received at the meeting. Members living east of Lonsdale Ave are encouraged to consider running.

- j. Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 – Regular Meeting**