

# **DRA Board Meeting Minutes**

## **March 11, 2020**

**Location: City Hall, Antechamber**

**Time: 7:15 p.m.**

**Present:** Paul Gandall (chair), Doug Boyd, Dale Dearing, Dianne Flood, Nicholas Harrington, Mathew Yee, Sandra Severs

**City Council Liaison:** Councillor Charlayne Thornton-Joe

**City Staff:** Mike Hill

**Regrets:** Ian Sutherland, Ruth Annis

### **Call to Order/Approval of Agenda**

This being the first meeting of the new Board after the AGM, no agenda has been prepared or presented.

### **Resignation of Out-going 2019 Executive:**

As required by the DRA by-laws, the out-going 2019 Executive resigned. For the purposes of the election of the new 2020 Executive, Paul continued as chair.

### **Election of New 2020 Executive:**

The following new 2020 Executive was elected:

**President:** Paul Gandall

**Vice-President:** Nicholas Harrington

**Treasurer:** Mathew Yee

**Secretary:** Sandra Severs

### **Appointment of Committee Chairs and External Liaisons:**

The following Committee Chairs were appointed:

**Land Use:** Ian Sutherland

**Urban Ecology and Agriculture:** Nicholas Harrington

**Motion: That the name of the committee be changed to Urban Ecology and Agriculture**

**Moved:** Paul Gandall      **Seconded:** Nicholas Harrington      **CARRIED**

**Urban Livability:** Sandra Severs

**Governance:** Dianne Flood

**Communications/Membership:** Doug Boyd

**Community Engagement:** Dale Dearing

The following Liaisons to External Entities were appointed:

**VCAN:** Paul Gandall, Ian Sutherland

**900 Pandora and DSP:** Sandra Severs

**LNAC:** Paul Gandall, Ian Sutherland

**Date of Board Meetings:**

The Board agreed that the monthly Board meetings would be held on the second Tuesday of each month, at 5:30 p.m. at the Community space in the Victoria Convention Centre

**Councillor's Report: Charlayne Thornton-Joe**

**CALUC process** -There have been some reports that the Mayor is considering changing the nature of the CALUC process but to-date nothing has been formally brought forward. The Board discussed what the implications of change might be and were in agreement that they would not be in favour of any change which diminished community involvement in the process of public consultation. They were open to changes if the proposed changes streamlined the process and made it more effective. The pace of development in the neighbourhood makes it difficult for a volunteer committee like the Land Use Committee to stay on top of the issues.

**Action: Dianne and Matt will attend the upcoming VCAN meeting.**

**By-Election-** There is a by-election coming up to fill a vacant council spot. The Board discussed creating a list of questions to pose to possible candidates on issues of specific interest to downtown residents and publishing the answers on our website as a service to the membership.

**Action: Doug will tweak the questions prepared for the DRA's mayoral candidates at the last civic election and circulate to the Board for input. The questions will be circulated to the candidates for response. Responses will be posted on our website.**

**COVID-19-** Information has been posted on the City's website. Questions about cruise ships docking in Victoria is not a municipal decision but a Harbour Authority one.

**Telephone Booth** -Plans are underway to set this up in Chinatown.

**Action: The DRA is highly interested in supporting this initiative and is willing to sign, as a proponent, a grant application to the City if needed for further funding.**

**Other Business:**

**Action: Dale will resend his request for feedback to Board members.**

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

**Next meeting: TBA subject to COVID status**