

# **DRA Board Meeting Minutes**

**March 19, 2024**

**Location: ZOOM**

**Time: 5:30 p.m.**

**Present:** Sandra Severs (President), Doug Boyd, Dawn Moorhead, Jeremy Zhao, Michael Demakiling, Dianne Flood, Colby Young, Sherry Lee

**City Council Liaison:** Dave Thompson

**DRA Neighbourhood Engagement Coordinator:** James Davis

**DRA Members:** Manosij Majumdar, Furkan Küçükdurmaz, Sebastian Calderone

**5:30 p.m. Call to Order, Welcome, Land Acknowledgement and Approval of Agenda**

**5:35 p.m. Councillor Update:** Dave Thompson

Councillor Dave Thompson provided the following updates:

- Council motion passed to support activities and services around Caledonia Place to minimize impact on the neighbourhood, incl. increasing empowerment of neighbourhood patrol.
- Initial RFQ for operator of an additional storage facility was unsuccessful. Feedback on the RFQ document was that it was overly complex in its requirements.
- Conversations underway about the role of municipal government in the funding of homelessness initiatives which are rightly a provincial responsibility.
- Council motion passed to providing additional funding to Our Place including support of their storage facility.
- Council brought forward a motion to delay Province's Bill 67 re. short-term rentals. The motion failed; restriction on short-term rentals will be effective on May 1, 2024.
- Forged Axe Throwing liquor license – Liquor license was granted despite noise concerns from residents. The concern is less about the liquor license and more about the lack of soundproofing between the establishment and the residences.
- **ACTION:** Councillor will F/U on Cooling Stations planning and location.

**5:55 p.m. Executive Report:** Sandra (report attached)

**ACTION:** Sandra will circulate OCP engagement report to board for review and feedback before finalization.

**6:05 p.m. Standing Committee Reports – Q and A**

- **Urban Livability Committee (ULC) and Urban Ecology and Agriculture Committee (UEC):** Michael/Colby (report attached)
- **Communications and Membership Committee (CMC):** Doug (report attached)
- **Governance Committee:** Dianne (report attached)
- **Land Use Committee (LUC):** Ian/Jordan (report attached)
- **Community Engagement Committee (CEC):** James (report attached)

**6:25 p.m. External Meeting Reports – Q and A**

- **Victoria Community Association Network (VCAN):** Sandra/Ian (report attached)
- **900 Pandora Good Neighbour Group:** Sandra (report attached)
- **Greater Victoria Harbour Authority Community Liaison Committee:** Doug (no report)

**6:30 p.m. Other Business**

- Dianne will not run for re-election due to end of term. Members expressed appreciation for Dianne's contributions in the past years.
- Rising Economy Conference update (Jeremy)
  - Businesses support interventions that provide support for affordable housing, which enables more business, investment, and stabilizing workforce in the local economy.
  - **ACTION:** to attach Jeremy's notes as minutes.
- Discussion on VDRA strategic orientation and activities, including:
  - Potential follow-up survey regarding downtown resident perceptions and attitude changes toward new OCP.
  - CALUC role and scope review and possible repositioning.
  - Positions regarding housing affordability and climate adaptability.
- Census mapping project (James)
  - **ACTION:** James will bring back updates when available
- Governance Report
  - **ACTION:** board members to review and provide input to Draft Financial Policy.
- **Motion**  
**Moved by Doug Boyd. Seconded by Dianne Flood.**  
That draft financial statement be presented for approval at the AGM.  
**Carried.**

March 28th - Email Board motion

**Moved :** That we renew James Davis's limited term contract for the term April 1/24 to September 30/24. The terms of the contract being: Salary \$34/hour for 22.50 hours/week plus MERCS.

**Seconded:** Doug Boyd.

**CARRIED.**

**7:30 p.m. Meeting concludes**

**Next Meeting: Annual General Meeting, Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 7pm at theDock.**