

**Hillside - Quadra Neighbourhood Action Committee Meeting
8 January 2018**

Minutes (draft)

1. Welcome and Introductions

In attendance: 13 community members plus City of Victoria staff and 2 representatives from Cascadia Liquor.

2. Approval of Agenda (Chair)

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (Chair)

4. Cascadia Liquor – Good Neighbour Agreement Annual Review – Ann Brydle, Manager, and Jeremy Pott, Regional Operations Manager.

- No major events at the Quadra Village location. Very busy holiday season.
- Jeremy Pott is relatively new to Cascadia (10 months), comes from a background in hospitality.
- Cascadia continues to expand, with their newest location in Nanoose Bay.

Development Variance Permit Application:

- DVP sought to support relocating the Quadra Village store to a new location within the same plaza.
- Planning to relocate to a larger space that was originally a BCLC location and most recently Aaron's. The new space is currently vacant.
- Current storefront location is very busy – larger space will allow for a wider range of services that are available at other Cascadia locations, including master classes and information/education sessions.
- Cascadia has partnered with Café Fantastico to provide similar information services in Quadra Village.
- An open house for the new space is planned for early February – no firm date yet.
- Cascadia is requesting letter of support from the NAC to support the application process.
- A variance is required to allow for liquor sales in a space greater than 200m² - rezoning is not required.
- The new space will provide a safer and more efficiency loading/unloading space. A formal loading bay, rather than unloading on the sidewalk, will be safer for employees and community members.
- The short term parking stalls in front of Cascadia will be relocated in front of the new location.
- The new location will offer new services, but the product offerings will not change (no single can sales).
- Plan to distribute flyers to nearby residential buildings regarding the plans and the open house.
- One resident at the meeting noted the positive impact Cascadia and their employees have on the plaza and community members visiting the plaza.
- No renovations planned other than cosmetic upgrades to interior and exterior.

Community member questions:

1. What about the incident log required as part of the original agreement with the community?
 - a. No increase to in-store incidents, but staff have observed that some activities have increased in the plaza (aggressive panhandling, other problematic activities)
 - b. It doesn't appear that the plaza security has changed.
 - c. The new location will increase exterior lighting to deter activities such as dumping, drug activities, etc.
2. How does Cascadia support the community?
 - a. Ben Isitt noted that charitable activities are not considered as part of development approval process.
 - b. Ice sales and bottle donations go directly to the community. For example, \$1000 to the Quadra Village Community Centre in 2017.
 - c. Staff is encouraged to volunteer for Quadra Village Day.

3. If Cascadia moves, will this open the door to second liquor store in the old location?
 - a. Only one liquor retailer is permitted in the plaza. This development will not allow for new liquor sales in the current location once Cascadia has moved.
4. Can a community notice board be included as part of the new location?
 - a. Cascadia will review options and report back.
5. **City Hall Update (Councillor Isitt & City of Victoria staff liaison Gary Pemberton)**
 - “No Dumping” sign has been installed on the VISA building.
 - January 20 – Topaz Park Session at L’Ecole Quadra
 - **My Great Neighbourhood Grants** have been approved for:
 - Topaz bike music fest (activity category)
 - Mural on the CDI building (place making category)
 - Wark Street Commons revitalization (place making category)
 - Topaz park survey is open until January 28th online. Survey and information available on the City of Victoria website: <http://www.victoria.ca/EN/main/residents/parks/improvements/topaz-park.html>
 - 2018 Budget:
 - 180k traffic management plan with a focus on Hillside-Quadra, James Bay, and Oaklands.
 - 200k for Topaz Park improvements
 - 200k Summit Park playground
 - 50k for traffic bollards replacement – Kings @ Fifth
 - Pilot @ Haultain and Kings has been bumped to next year
 - QVCC funds have been renewed.
 - Questions about the delays on the crosswalk at Cook and Haultain
 - Gary responded shortly after the meeting to confirm that work will be completed in the coming weeks.
 - Community member asked Gary to send thanks to public work staff for quick work on a water main repair on a Saturday night. Positive comments about the quick action on Wark Street repairs as well, based on a request submitted online: <http://www.victoria.ca/EN/meta/contact/service-request-form.html>
 - Community question about traffic planning for the Summit for vehicles entering and existing from Hillside
 - Ben Isitt requested an email reminder to look into this further and report back.
 - “Speed reader” electronic notice boards will be available for each neighbourhood in the coming year.
6. **NAC Priorities 2018 (All)**
 - Strong interest in cycle paths in the community – Graham could be developed into a “all ages and abilities (AAA)” cycle path, building on the new crossing lights at Hillside.
 - Ben Isitt – this can be done without separated lanes by reducing traffic to <2000 vehicles/day and <25 km/h through traffic calming measures.
 - General discussion regarding the discourse on cycling in Victoria media and City Hall.
 - LED streetlights have created some new dark spots at night
 - Ben suggests contacting public works directly.
 - Bus stops and shelters could use attention. Some lack seating, some are in disrepair, and some are poorly located (#4 eastbound @ Graham).
 - Interest expressed to get support and information for boulevard gardens.
 - Ben suggests reaching out to “street greens” website and seeking information.
 - Possible migrate neighbourhood grants
 - Request for volunteer to apply for a grant for a neighbourhood garage sale
 - Traffic signal timing Hillside @ Blanchard is too short for many community members to cross safely
 - Request to invite traffic engineers to upcoming NAC meeting.
 - Leaves left on boulevards for collection are killing grass
 - Garbage and furniture dumping in the neighbourhood continues to be a problem in some locations, including private property (plazas and apartment buildings).
 - Tolmie is becoming a thoroughfare to avoid Quadra @ Finlayson
 - General concern over loss of green space in the community