

FONVCA

Minutes of July 19th 2001

Present:

Cathy Adams (Chair)	Lions Gate Neighbourhood. A.
Margaret Fraser (notes)	Lynn Valley C.A.
Al Price	Pemberton Heights C.A.
Dave Sadler	Seymour C.A.
Eric Andersen	Blueridge C.A.
Brian Platts	Edgemont C.A.
Peter Thompson	Edgemont C.A.
Allan Orr	Seymour C.A. and TPAC
Hugh Murray	Lower Cap. Comm. Res. Assn.
John Miller	Lower Cap. Comm. Res. Assn.
Maureen Bragg	Save Lynn Canyon Park
David Knee	Norgate Park C.A.
Dan Ellis	Lynn Valley C.A.

1. Order and content of Agenda:

Note: Richard Zerr was not going to present to the TPAC meeting at this time, as there was nothing further to report from previous sessions.

Add: 6.2 Grouse Grind update
3.2 LARCO site
3.3 June 26th meeting re Norgate Comm.

Centre

Introductions were made round the table as Peter Thompson was a new attendee.

2. Minutes of June 21st 2001:

Minutes were approved as circulated – moved by Brian Platts, seconded by John Hunter. Note: Robin Hicks had indicated that he would be at this meeting, in which case he would give his overview of the Budget & Finance Committee report to Council.

3. Old Business:

3.1 Sign by-law:

Cathy Adams – on behalf of Val Moller - gave an update on the situation with the Canyon Court Motel sign, which was erected in spite of being non-compliant. (see previous minutes). Councillor Mackay-Dunn was approached on this as was Councillor Denault (who did not get back to the caller). The sign was gone within two weeks.

Pattison-Hyundai have been told they cannot have a flashing sign.

Discussion ensued about the difference between a new business and a replacement business on a site and whether or not the new or replacement business has the right to continued usage of the signs. Brian offered to investigate the ruling on this for clarification. There is no update on the status of the sign by-law at this time.

3.2 LARCO – Roger Moors has resigned from the ADP. United Properties has closed its office here. Rumour is that they are having financial difficulties.

3.3 June 26th meeting: John Miller reported on the meeting re: Norgate park field users. Option B was adopted – the building will be at the northeast corner and not affect the field. There will be storage space as was in the preliminary design. The next meeting will be in September with hopefully approval by the end of September. This is what the original proposal from the Lower Capilano C.A. was, and with the exception of the Pattison-Hyundai site, there was no real alternative!

Note: discussion on the Marine Drive plan. TPAC feels that council needs a push from the community associations on this project. The issue of bike lanes is important.

4. Correspondence:

4.1 Margaret Fraser spoke briefly to her report on the June 22 Council workshop on the budget process review. Some discussion and concerns about the tight time-line from now till December 2001 for complete revision of presentation of budget etc.

4.2 No specific business arising from e-mail to FONVCA

5. New business:

5.1 Eric Andersen spoke to the concerns raised about changing boundaries of neighbourhoods for OCP purposes. After discussion it was moved by Eric Andersen and seconded by Brian Platts that:

“ FONVCA recommend to Council that any suggested changes to OCP boundaries should be communicated by District staff to

- 1) all the surrounding community associations and
- 2) that if any local area plan is already in process, that the local area plan team be so informed and
- 3) that any such change be clearly pointed out at public meetings”

Discussion ensued – there should be a public hearing to “split off” and have a by-law covering the issues; staff/council can approve amendments to move boundaries; and so on.

The motion was carried unanimously. The Chair will send the appropriate letter.

5.2 Water – public or private?

As Corrie was not in attendance, Peter spoke to this issue. A report has gone to the GVRD to stop ozonation. This will be reviewed again by February (2002) for choice of treatment: 1) all at Seymour 2) shared with Capilano and Seymour 3) combination system.

Invitations should have gone to Inter-River area for representatives to make up an advisory and monitoring committee such as in the Capilano area. Peter will follow up on this.

Discussion on “jake brakes” used on certain types of logging trucks. Most municipalities ban these. Peter also suggested that everyone have a look at the work being done at the Cleveland Dam.

5.3 VAT report: general discussion – feeling of disappointment at lack of substantial information in this report and some inaccuracies. There were some pointed comments within, but not enough about the budget.

5.4 Olympics: The potential Whistler bid raises a number of issues:

- transportation will be a huge issue
- financing of infra-structure improvements
- effect on communities – local associations will need to be vigilant about what might be put into their neighbourhoods
- what benefits are there – short term and long term?

Many options about transporting the athletes, coaches etc. e.g. closing the Sea to Sky at certain times to allow bus loads to go to and from; use of more local mountains (Seymour, Grouse, Fromme etc.)

5.5 Smart Growth – Allan Orr gave an overview of the two-day conference in June. He was very impressed with the information and Richard Zerr, Irwin Torry and Jim Masterton were also in attendance. The “mother organization” is to be located at www.smartgrowth.usa. Articles of interest etc. can be found on that website, especially about containing the sprawl. Local site (for those who do not have it) is www.smartgrowth.ca.

Allan facilitated two workshops, which included information about sprawl, containment, environment (fish streams etc), and new tools for thinking about your community. Should we be bringing community associations together to look at how we are doing?

Suggestion – FONVCA identify some issues to be examined e.g. transport, where new development should occur, housing varieties, services to neighbourhoods, how we control the water that falls on North Vancouver, where it goes, “consciousness of infrastructure”. Allan contributed 5 SmartGrowth “primer” booklets to FONVCA.

There was general discussion from Allan’s input, including how this might help review our District OCP – “care and feeding of local area plans” (Peter)
Decision: strike a sub-committee to discuss feasibility of a conference, involve some staff with particular expertise; propose new thinking for the District; use people from outside the District who have already made changes in their communities; use examples of things which have gone well in the District; bring in a broader range of people from the community (not just the usual interested parties) and so on.

The committee will be: Allan Orr, Maureen Bragg, Al Price and Peter Thompson.

They will report back in August or September.

Margaret was asked to contact Richard Zerr to get update on where the District OCP is and when the next review is scheduled.

6. Any Other Business:

6.1 Pesticides: Al Price stated that in his gardening business he does not use pesticides. Vancouver City will be banning leaf blowers – it is not just an issue of noise, the toxins and other residuals that are scattered by this method are unacceptable. It is inevitable that other municipalities will ban them. Fewer golf courses use pesticides now. Water drainage is affected especially in the Fraser Valley.

Statistic: a leaf blower running for one hour equals 17 cars running for one day!

6.2 Grouse Grind: At the very popular “Knee Knackerers” race the previous Saturday, there were 180 runners entered. Through Cathy and her husband’s approach to Mayor Don Bell, the GVRD re-opened the Grind was to allow this race to take its true course through the Baden Powell trail. The North Shore Search and Rescue team had raised concerns that with the Grind closed, people were now taking other trails which were unmarked or poorly marked, and increasing the likelihood of call-out etc.

There being no other business, it was decided to **leave the August meeting as planned for the moment, and if enough people are available it will be on August 16th 2001. Margaret Fraser to chair.**

The meeting adjourned at 9.30p.m.