

# GNA Directors Meeting – May 14, 2024 at St. Jean Baptiste Church

**Attendees:** Phil Hoen, Susanne Rautio (chair), Robin Jones, and David Rittenhouse

**Regrets:** Darryl Stein, Nic Humphreys, Lori Petryk

**Meeting called to order at 7:06 pm.**

*Motion to approve agenda by David; seconded by Phil, approved.*

**1. Approval of previous meeting minutes:**

*Motion by David to adopt March 12, 2024 minutes; seconded by Robin, approved.*

**2. Treasurer's report:**

Robin reported there is \$2323 in the GNA bank account after deductions for flowers and the webpage annual fee.

**3. Isabella Ross Memorial**

Robin reported on the look of other plaques around the city and beyond. The question is where will it go and will the city approve it? **Phil to find out what the approval process is for initiating such a project and whether the city will accept a proposal for funding.**

**4. Lantern Festival now called Children's Festival**

Robin and Susanne to begin working on the festival and will strike a committee. **Motion by Susanne to offer to Wendy Buckland a 25% commission for all donations she is able to raise for the festival; seconded by Phil, approved.** Date of festival to remain Saturday, September 15 from 4 pm to 7 pm

**5. VCAN Biodiversity and parks map**

The VCAN biodiversity proposal has been approved. GNA will be asked to nominate 3 or 4 areas in the neighbourhood that are important for biodiversity/Garry oak that ideally will be protected either through outright purchase or at least remain undeveloped.

**6. Safety Concerns/Unhoused camping**

**Outstanding action item from previous minutes: Robin suggested that the GNA send out an e-mail asking for Neighbourhood Watch captains to contact us and that we would include their information on the website.** This issue has not been done primarily because directors are focused on more pressing matters arising from Gonzales beach. In an ideal world the neighbourhood watch list for Gonzales would be available from the police but apparently Watch Captains are not public information.

Elizabeth Cull is volunteering to coordinate input to the police board on concerns from the general public regarding safety in Gonzales and the greater Victoria region in general.

Susanne to arrange a zoom call with Elizabeth at which Alan Dibb and Shannon Geer will be present. Shannon is the neighbourhood watch captain for Gonzales Beach.

**7. Budget to submit to Matt**

This item has not been completed

8. **Solstice Event**

Susanne contacted Wendy Buckland to see if she would be interested in writing a proposal for coordinating volunteers and she agreed, but since that time she has taken on full time work so may not be available. This project is on hold until after the Children's festival is over.

9. **Townhall meeting May 29 at 7 pm**

The lunchroom is booked at Glenlyon for the townhall. **Susanne to complete a questionnaire patterned after the one created by the Downtown Residents Assn and distribute to residents to fill it in.** The results will be released at the meeting. Items on the agenda are the Official Community Plan consultation, changes to Richardson road and the derelict boat on the beach. **Susanne to print flyers and Phil will put them up 5 days or so before the event. David to chair the event.**

*Motion by Robin to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Phil, approved*

**Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm**

**Next board meeting date** - no meetings during the summer. Next meeting date to be determined