

FCA Board Meeting Minutes - FINAL
December 9, 2009, 7pm, FCA Board Room, 1923 Fernwood

Attendees: Tony Sprackett, Joanne Murray, Bill McKechnie (Tony, Joanne, & Bill left to attend FNRG AGM), Stephanie Hill (chair of meeting), Clive Beal, Clayton Jevne, Carlos Flores, Richard Olafson, Rena Miller, Todd (property manager)

Regrets: Robbie Clarke, John Rooney

Guests: Julian Young, Carla Palmer, Tamara Schwartzentruber

1. Review of Agenda
2. Review of Minutes
3. Members or guests requesting to speak

- Julian Young: Presentation on Childrens' Museum

- Goal is permanent children's museum in Victoria; interactive educational experience for kids.
- Target audience is kids aged 2-10.
- Exhibits to have Vancouver Island Theme.
- Includes arts, literature, science, dance components for exhibits and programming.
- Partnership with schools, Big Brother/Big Sister, Youth Council.
- Speaker series on parenting skills; global citizenship objective.
- First step: Science World exhibits to be displayed in Victoria during Olympic period.
- Volunteers needed for programming committee, marketing committee, etc.

- Tamara Schwartzentruber, Dynamic Ecosystems

- Food forests on City of Victoria land (see proposal summary below).
- Link to Peak Oil issue.
- Concept: Care for Earth, care for people – use public commons for permaculture.
- Self-sustaining: Meeting food needs in a forest context.
- Zero waste, imitating natural patterns; needs to obtain a yield to generate short-term income to support long-term projects.

Working in concert with the City Parks Department, we are developing a discussion paper on **the suitability of permaculture design for future garden development on City of Victoria land** . Permaculture design seeks to mimic natural ecological processes to create a dynamic system that provides abundant resources for both human and non-human populations. Permaculture gardening -- sometimes described as "food forests" -- would see small to medium sized gardens created in which diverse fruiting trees and shrubs would be planted along with a ground cover of herbs and other perennial shrubs, all in a relatively small geographic location.

As a part of this paper's development, **we want to enter into conversation with neighbourhoods** to present information on permaculture and evaluate neighbourhood opportunities and support. Some topics for discussion include : Who in the community would most likely use and benefit from a food forest? What kind of resources would be of most use to the community? How can we ensure community resources are used and maintained?

4. Correspondence - None

5. Old Business - None

6. Executive Report

- Grand re-opening of FCA – proposed date is Feb 13 (TBC – could be later)
- Re-Opening Organizing Committee struck (Clive, Clayton, Graham, Stephanie, Richard)
- Stephanie to convene.

7. Treasurer's Report - None

8. Councillor's Report - None

9. Committee Reports

A) Building

- Update on Renos – Fire Door – can be changed if needed
- New Skylight upstairs
- All lights are being changed
- Chimney Gone
- \$1K to FNRG paid by contractor so they would allow necessary scaffolding to be erected

B) Culture

- Intrepid Theatre – interim space not ideal (Clayton)
- March show in planning stage
- Clive – PAC closed in Dec due to chimney issue
- PAC fundraising at Movie Monday, membership drive
- Richard: Update on AAP petition re Johnson Street Bridge.

D) Land Use

- Last meeting was at North Park – Royal Athletic Park room
- Bay Street Transportation Plan – Erik to get more details from City of Victoria and report back to board.

E) Safety - None

10. New Business

- Compost education center report.- deferred
- Support for Grant St. "Pocket Neighbourhood" concept - deferred

11. Adjournment – 8:40.