

FALSE CREEK SOUTH NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION
falsecreeksouth.org

Delegates' Meeting: September 7, 2011

Minutes of Meeting:

Present:

Wendy Herdin	Alder Bay Co-op
Keith Freer (Treasurer)	666 Leg-In-Boot Square
John Saville	Newport Quay
Kathleen MacKinnon (President)	Regatta
Wes Knapp (Secretary)	Regatta
Patsy McMillan	City Gate & FCRA
Merv Therriault	FCRA
Arthur Brock	FCRA
Gillian Willis	Harbour Terrace
Jeannie Parnell	Twin Rainbows Co-op
Anne Pearson	Island Cove
Margaret Mitchell	Henley Court
Sean MacLaren	False Creek Housing Co-op
Dave Osborne (Vice-President)	Marine Mews
Jo-Ann Hilton	Creek Village
Norah Hartman	Discovery Quay
Eva Swartz	Discovery Quay

Regrets:

Richard Evans	False Creek Housing Co-op
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Absent:

Laurie Clarke	Spruce Harbour Marina Co-op
Kristina Grant	Henley Court
Carol Simpson	658 Leg-In-Boot Square
Jennifer Greenwood	Pacific Cove
Marian Hogue	Pacific Cove
Gordon Watson	Creekview Co-op
Beryl Wilson	Spruce Village

Pre-Meeting Event: Neighbourhood Garden, Spyglass at Commodore, next to the NEU

Delegates gathered prior to the meeting at our neighbourhood community garden to meet the gardeners and view the results of their summer gardening. All 45 garden plots are bursting with growth, most with vegetables, some with flowers. Tomatoes of all types are particularly prolific. Turnips, carrots, basil, oregano, and mint are evident throughout. Even some enormous sunflowers. The entire garden is a sea of healthy growth.

Many thanks to all the gardeners who persevered through the uneven temperatures this past summer and to Yolanda Bienz and John Saville for arranging the meeting. As a sponsor of the community garden, the FCSNA looks forward to continuing its sponsorship of this most worthwhile project.

The formal meeting began at 7:45 p.m at the Regatta Meeting Room, 1869 Spyglass.

1. Agenda Approval

Motion to approve the agenda as circulated M/S APPROVED.

2, Approval of Minutes: June 1st, 2011

Delegates reviewed the minutes of June 1st, 2011.

Motion: That the June 1st 2011 FCSNA minutes be approved. M/S APPROVED

3. Correspondence/Administration

a) Letter from False Creek Community Centre

Brian Swartz, Recreation Programmer at False Creek Community Centre wrote to express the Centre's appreciation for FCSNA's donation in support of False Creek's annual Canada Day Celebration. He indicated that our donation made it possible for all the activities to be offered free of charge and for children to receive prizes.

b) Letter from Translink

Michael Shiffer, Vice President, Planning and Policy wrote to express appreciation for our work in following up on specific improvements to assist customers with the recent changes to the #50 bus route. (Our requests were twofold: simplify the route naming and numbering and installing bus shelters and benches near Cambie and 7th)

We also indicated that we wanted to be involved in Translink's review of the changes to the #50 bus route as we were disappointed with the changes. Assurance was given in this letter that FCSNA will be part of such review and monitoring

C) Derelict lot in Starboard Square

Reed Hortie, a resident near Starboard Square, has written to enlist FCSNA's help in cleaning up a derelict part of the Square. More information will be sought on this matter and contact will be made with the owner of the area in question.

d) OpenFile

A proposal has been received from OpenFile, a community-based news website that has been in operation in Vancouver for close to a year. It allows any reader to pitch a story which is then reviewed by a reporter who writes it up, inviting comments, photos, video and dialogue. Often the stories are picked up by mainstream media, thus gaining additional coverage for issues we might put forward.

It was suggested that we continue with our own webpage to undertake this work, until a time when there is a greater need for a venue such as OpenFile.

e) Certificate of Appreciation from the City

The Mayor's office sent a Certificate of Appreciation to False Creek South Neighbourhood Association in recognition of our work teams during the *Keep Vancouver Spectacular* campaign in May 2011.

4. Treasurer's Report

Keith Freer, Treasurer reported as follows:

Current bank balance: \$7,243.00

Term Deposits: 2 x \$5000.00

5. Reports

a) False Creek South Neighbourhood Planning Committee

This committee is an outgrowth of the FCSNA and the Leaseholders of False Creek South Arbitration Committee. Its mandate is to develop a strategy to ensure the continuing viability of South False Creek as a livable community for existing and future residents.

The committee is seeking greater certainty from the City of Vancouver about what will happen after the expiry of the 60-year leases in False Creek, leases that were initiated in the mid 1970s. Representing FCSNA on this committee are Wendy Herdin, Gillian Willis, Richard Evans and Dave Osborne. Together with Jerry Roy, David Martin and Graham McGarva, they are the False Creek Neighbourhood Planning Committee.

The first meeting with the City occurred on August 4, 2011 with Mike Flanagan in the chair. It was a very positive meeting, paving the way for what we hope will be clear directions for a planning process regarding the evolution of our neighbourhood.

b) False Creek Residents' Association

This item was on the agenda in an attempt to help clarify the relationship between FCSNA and FCRA. The relationship has become unclear over the past year due largely to the Creek-wide role assumed by the False Creek Residents' Association.

Kathleen MacKinnon, FCSNA president, indicated that greater clarity is needed now, in view of FCRA's imminent AGM, the election of its Board of Directors, and the annual membership fee (\$500) which is now due.

Kathleen asked each delegate at the meeting to express his/her opinion on maintaining membership in FCRA. Their opinions and comments are listed below:

-FCRA has had success in getting City Hall's attention and has many contacts within the bureaucracy.

-A pan-creek organization, such as FCRA, could swallow us up as their issues in north east False Creek are so prominent now. FCSNA has a unique personality, taking a collaborative approach with City Hall,

-False Creek South's delegated structure is unlike that of FCRA, whereby our delegates represent their stratas, boards, and co-ops, and are accountable to them. This is perhaps the only neighbourhood association in Vancouver with such a structure.

-False Creek South is facing a major issue with the end of leases looming. This issue doesn't exist in other parts of the Creek and is best dealt with by the FCSNA. The end-of-lease committee does not want another organization interfering with the handling of this matter.

-FCRA, understandably, is dealing largely with issues on the north side of False Creek, given the major developments unfolding there.

-FCSNA has a reputation for working well with city hall. Established as an organization some 30 years ago, it is well organized and has met with much success.

-The name “pan creek” was not acceptable to the founders so the name “False Creek Residents Association” was registered under the Society Act. However, from the beginning the focus has been on issues in northeast False Creek and City Gate, causing bewilderment about the name. The name implies that all residents of the Creek are part of the actions and the issues.

-It is wise to act together on common issues but it is not necessary to have a Creek-wide organization to do this. We can always come together in a coalition around specific pan creek issues such as water pollution in the Creek; pedestrian safety on the seawall; types of vessels on the water—motorized/non-motorized/party boats; view corridors; transportation—streetcar, aquabus. In fact, the original concept for a pan Creek organization was to meet annually to share information and where advantageous to develop strategies around common issues.

-There is more clout/ power with a Creek-wide organization.

-Grass roots projects dominate the agendas of each neighbourhood.

-FCRA showed support for the retention of #50 bus route and assisted in the campaign to improve the NEU; False Creek South supported FCRA on Creekside Park, casino location, viaducts meeting.

- A concern that an umbrella organization could lose touch with the grass roots.

- FCSNA has always acted on its own and would not want to have to go through a larger body to make representation to City Hall.

-Local residents are able to make the most compelling arguments about issues in their neighbourhood.

-FCRA needs to focus its considerable energy on the immense issues facing north east False Cree and not dilute its efforts by taking on battles in other areas of the Creek

-FCRA’s constitution is inadequate for a pan Creek organization, such as FCRA. Its constitution requires several additions to make it a viable document for an organization hoping to represent all residents of the Creek.

Motions following the above discussion:

1. **That the FCSNA submit payment of \$500 for membership renewal in the False Creek Residents' Association .**

M/S

APPROVED

2. **That FCSNA review its membership in FCRA in one year.**

M/S

APPROVED

FCSNA was asked to conduct an evaluation of the pan-creek structure during the upcoming year.

3. **Election of representatives**

That Arthur Brock and Dave Osborne represent FCSNA on the FCRA Board of Directors.

M/S

APPROVED

New Business

A. Jade Memorial Fountain

Dave Osborne reported that landscaping around the Jade Fountain is about to resume, further to an agreement with the Parks Board. A planting work-bee is slated for September 10th at 9:30 . Members are invited to assist.

Motion:

That the FCSNA contribute up to \$1500 towards landscaping around the Jade Memorial Fountain as part of the agreement with the Parks Board.

M/S

APPROVED

B. Composting at Granville Island and Fountain Terrace

Gillian Willis proposed that we obtain additional information about ‘specialty’ recycling options, such as those initiated by Granville Island and Fountain Terrace. At Fountain Terrace, recycling options now include bins for expired batteries, light bulbs, small electronics and other items. As well, organic compost bins on Granville Island are now available to us for biodegradable deposits.

Gillian will ask Martes from Fountain Terrace to attend our next meeting on October 5, 2011 to outline these options.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:15 p.m

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 5, 2011, 7 p.m. in the Boardroom of the False Creek Community Centre.