

Central Saanich Community Association

MINUTES

Meeting of February 11, 2025

Held at Central Saanich Lions' Hall

Present: approx. 27 members and guests

Approval of Minutes of January meeting: Approved

Updates:

Civic Redevelopment – An architect has been hired to draw up plans for 1. Town hall, fire hall, police station at the Hovey rd site. 2. Town hall, fire hall, police station and recreational facilities at the Hovey rd. site. 3. Town hall, fire hall, police station and possibly housing and commercial at 1903 Mt. Newton Crossroad. There will be an open house with Mayor, Councillors and staff attending, Saturday at 10 am at the Seniors' Centre in Brentwood Bay. Information Boards will show why its needed, but the architectural drawings are not available yet. The District owns the Hovey rd. site, but the previous owner is taking them to court around the amount that was paid. They want more. Dave L put in a complaint to the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner about this matter. The investigation has started. Everyone is encouraged to fill out the Civic Redevelopment survey that the District has on its' website. Put more detail in the boxes, if the questions don't address your concerns. Council will hold an open house to get feedback on this and other issues at the Brentwood seniors' centre on Feb. 22. Some folks said that Saturday doesn't work for them and they would like Council to schedule them on other days.

1934 Hovey – After our last meeting Aryze held an open house to show the latest version of their plan. They published a full-page ad in the Times Colonist and the Peninsula News Review, showing the logos of 50 supporters. Some CSCA members have followed up with them and found that some of the businesses were not aware of the ad and some who do not support the project. The CentralSaanich-CitizenVoices.org website is getting a lot of attention and there are now over 300 names on the petition. A Public Hearing is scheduled for March 5 at the Saanich Fairgrounds.

Treasurer's Report: Pieta reported for Jackie that we have over \$1,000 in the bank. (which will increase by \$120 from the 6 membership renewals we got tonight!)

New Business:

Central Saanich Housing Targets Report – There was a discussion about our progress to date on these goals. We are well ahead of expectations.

6996 Central Saanich/7012 E. Saanich – A neighbour immediately next to this property gave a report on this plan for two four storey buildings with 61 studio and one bedroom apartments with surface parking. Several neighbours attended and talked about how their views to the east will be totally blocked. They also disputed the developer's claim that only 2.5 cars go by per hour. One neighbour monitored the traffic one day between 11 and 11:30 am It was noted that the Central Saanich/East Saanich intersection is particularly complicated, with the Island View road intersection right next to it. At the other end of the block, there are significant traffic challenges related to Keating Elementary. The developer would not respond when asked if they would be rentals or condos. Neighbours would be happy with townhouses on the site.

Feb. 10 Council report – Pieta reported on the many issues covered at the meeting, including the notion of having reduced speed limits in the District. One member reported that on Wallace road near the two schools the average speed recorded is 96 kmh. He had proposed that there be a 4 way stop at Wallace and Marchant and that there be raised crosswalks near the schools, but the District does not appear to be proceeding with these ideas.

Agriculture – the CRD is proposing to have a farm “incubator” (small farm plots) on CRD owned property on Bear Hill, called the Foodlands Access Service.

District Public Notification Bylaw – the members endorsed writing a letter to Council asking them to go back to publishing notices of rezonings in the Times Colonist and the PNR.

Community Lunches – the Central Saanich United Church will be holding free lunches on Saturdays at noon in their new hall.

Sequoia trees at Kinbata and Waverly – there are three with roots causing problems to the sewer mains and will need to be taken down.

Next meeting – March 11, 7:45 at the Lions Hall