

Newcastle Community Association – Regular meeting

Tuesday, November 1st, 2022, at 7PM on zoom

The meeting was called to order by NCA President Karen Kuwica at 7:08PM.

1) Review and adopt minutes of October 3rd, 2022.

A motion to approve by Nancy Mitchell and seconded by Darryl Gyorfi.

Passed.

2) New Business

President Karen Kuwica received an invitation from the Naut'sa mawt Community Wellness Network to attend a forum on November 10th, 2022. The invitation was emailed to all NCA members.

3) Illuminight Planning and Volunteer positions.

- Illuminight 2022 starts Dec 1st with Block Party on Sunday Dec 11st from 4 to 7.
- Robb Squire volunteered to coordinate the beverages.
- Canvas on the 500 block of Vancouver Avenue to close the street was done and submitted to the city.
- Fred MacDonald volunteered to look after the required insurance.
- Karen Kuwica volunteered to communicate with the community policing about the street barricades.
- Red Hot Pepper food truck has been confirmed.
- Discussion took place about who should be invited to be evaluators for the neighbourhood Christmas light displays. Also, the need for a volunteer to look after the preparation of the swag bags for the evaluators.
- We need a volunteer to order the tent and chairs and oversee the installation.
- Belinda Climenhaga volunteered to coordinate the bake sale.
- The NCA received donations toward the Block Party and the Illuminight events. Thank you to the donors.
- We need a master of the power volunteer (extension cords installation, etc.),

- We need a master to look after heaters.
- We need help with the installation of the sign to take place Nov. 19th or 20th, weather permitting.
- We need volunteers to distribute flyers. Suzanne and Trish will look after the building delivery.
- Nancy Mitchell is the coordinator of the membership table. Irene volunteered to assist on the first shift from 4-5 PM.
- We need a volunteer to look after the recycling and waste management.
- We need a volunteer to collect and distribute dry food donations.
- Robb Squire will submit a proposal for a potential colouring contest for children who attend the event.
- An updated volunteer sheet will be distributed.

4) **Illuminight Bake Sale.** (Discussed above)

5) **Block Party, Sunday the 11th of December.** (Discussed above)

6) **Safety Rally**

A second safety rally to take place; date and place to be determined.

7) **Developments Update.**

Nancy Mitchell reported the following:

- The “Station” development on Terminal has received a building permit, not sure when the construction will start.
- 250 Terminal rezoning application should be submitted in 4 to 6 weeks.
- BC Housing submitted a rezoning application for 355 Nicol Street for 35 units, 5 stories building. It is 5.2 metres over the 14m height limit for this location.
- A proposed 6 units building corner of Cypress and Terminal submitted to City January 2022. No update.
- It was noted that the cost of building might impact construction to proceed.

8) **Neighbourhood and Block Watch Updates:**

- Last week a tent was set up on Newcastle Avenue. Resident called the non-emergency RCMP number. Soon after the community policing addressed the issue, and the tent was removed.

- Trash from a recent pit fire on the beach off the Q. E. Park was collected.
- A car parked at a resident carport on Mount Benson was damaged the night of October 31st.
- 2 explosions were heard by 311 Mount Benson; RCMP attended right away. The source of the explosions was not determined.
- Officers on bike were observed patrolling on Mount Benson.
- Sadly, the 7/11 convenient store on Terminal Avenue is closing at the end of the month. Following constant social disorder and loitering, they initially reduced their hours of operation and now must close their operation.
- Fred MacDonald noted that recently some cleaning was done on the property of 475 Stewart Avenue and 575 Stewart. Positive news.
- There were 3 adjacent properties on the 400 block of Vancouver Avenue acquired for development but are now rentals.
- Discussion took place about informing community policing of the vacant property on 575 Stewart and the potential vulnerability for vandalism.
- As a proactive initiative, Nancy Mitchell will draft an email to Dave Laberge about concerns related to Caledonia Park usage during the winter. Last winter there were unlawful encampments and waste management issues.

Check out our website at: <https://newcastlecommunityassociation.ca/>

Next meeting: Tuesday December 6th, 2022, at 7PM via zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15PM

Submitted by Suzanne Groulx