

Newcastle Community Association (NCA) – Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, March 4th, 2025, at 7 PM on Zoom

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

- 1. Election of Chair:** Nancy Mitchell moved to elect Karen Kuwica to be the Chairperson. Seconded by Suzanne Groulx. Motion passed.
- 2. Quorum Present:** Nancy Mitchell noted that the NCA had 90 paid member and at least 10% or 9 members were present which constituted a quorum.
- 3. Approve the Agenda:** A motion to approve the agenda was made by Peter Giovando and seconded by Suzanne Groulx. Motion passed.
- 4. Approve the AGM Apr 2 2024 minutes:** A motion to approve the minutes from the 2024 Annual General Meeting was made by Suzanne Groulx, and seconded by Michael de Champlain. Motion passed.
- 5. Unfinished Business from the Last AGM:** No unfinished business.
- 6. Financial Report:** NCA Treasurer, Fred MacDonald submitted a report on the association's finances from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024. Total revenue in 2024 was \$5554.46 from memberships; donations; the summer BBQ and Christmas dinner; and an operating grant from the City of Nanaimo. Total expenditures were \$4474.45. He projects similar revenues and expenditures for 2025. Director Nancy Mitchell moved that we approve the financial report for 2024 and accept the budget for 2025. Director Peter Giovando seconded the motion. Motion passed.

7. President/Director's Reports:

President Karen Kuwica provided an overview of developments in Newcastle in 2024.

- The year began with a press conference at City Hall where BC Housing announced that they had leased the temporary housing at 250 Terminal Avenue for 3 more years under the current operators. There is still no timeline for construction of a new permanent building on the site.
- NCA Executives Nancy Mitchell, Suzanne Groulx and Belinda Climenhaga attended the annual City of Nanaimo neighbourhood association engagement forum on May 22 2024 where our 3 priorities for 2024 were presented. These were: traffic calming Stewart Avenue; improving neighbourhood safety and security by establishing a vacant property bylaw and safe-proofing bus stops on Terminal Ave N; and exploring the concept of a dog park in the neighbourhood. The NCA distributed a Stewart Avenue Traffic Survey to residents by email in November 2024. The results have been provided to the City.

- NCA Executives Nancy Mitchell, Karen Kuwica, and NCA resident Patti Ramson participated in a City of Nanaimo community engagement forum regarding neighbourhood *Form and Character Guidelines*. Nancy submitted written comments on the guidelines on behalf of the association in Dec 2024. Karen, Nancy and Peter Giovando met with city planning staff on Feb 27 2025 to review our comments. The guidelines will be finalized and presented to City Council in April 2025.
- The NCA Executive did a tour of Cornerstone, the supportive housing development on Prideaux Avenue. Since the residents of 250 Terminal Avenue were moved there and replaced with “lower acuity” occupants, there has been a slow-down in activity in the neighbourhood.
- The NCA held our annual BBQ in June and ILLUMINIGHT dinner in December. Both events, held at the Nanaimo Yacht Club, were very successful and well received.
- The NCA organized a Emergency Preparedness Seminar on Feb 24 2025 held at the Nanaimo Yacht Club with presentations by City Emergency staff.
- There are currently two development projects in the neighbourhood: the Station on Terminal Avenue (69 units) and Seaglass on 360 Stewart/ 345 Newcastle Avenue (17 units). The Station is expected to be completed in December 2025 and Seaglass anticipates occupancy in 2026.
- The 7-11 on Terminal Avenue will be rented out as a Pharmasave.

8. Elect or Appoint Directors (maximum 11)

All current directors are willing to carry-on their positions. Motion from Michael de Champlain to acclaim the current Directors seconded by Robb Squire. Motion passed.

- Karen Kuwica was acclaimed as NCA President.
- Fred MacDonald was acclaimed as Vice President and NCA Treasurer.
- Belinda Climenhaga was acclaimed as the Secretary.
- Peter Giovando was acclaimed as a Director.
- Darrel Gyorfi was acclaimed as a Director.
- Nancy Mitchell was acclaimed as a Director.
- Suzanne Groulx was acclaimed as a Director.

9. New Business: No new business.

10. Terminate the Meeting: The meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm

Submitted by Belinda Climenhaga, Secretary