

## Commons Coordinating Council Notes - July 3, 2018

Facilitators: Deborah Ferens, David Lightly

Recognition that we are meeting on the unceded Territory of the Snuneymuxw

Present: Linda St.Clair, Lynda Toews (new booking coordinator), Laura, Kim Kasasian, Michelle Benjamin, Mitch Miyagawa, Lynn Bowerman, Bob Andrew, Judith Roux (note-taker), George Szanto, Kit Szanto, Brenda Fowler

Appreciation: expressed by Deb for the Soup chefs who make the Saturday workbee an event to be savoured.

Coming Events:

- ◆ Garage Sale: Saturday July 7. Need for volunteers for take-down and clean-up at 4 pm.
- ◆ Fix-it Fair - Same day as Garage Sale
- ◆ Special discussion: **CULTIVATE!** (Arts Council Music and Theatre Festivals -August 17 to 19).

Mitch Miyagawa expressed appreciation for the Commons' welcome and outlined planning decisions:

- Communication: "Cultivate!" Posters up, website updated and brochures coming. Help get out the word!
  - Siting: The theatre tent will be erected on the basketball court of the Elementary school for seven theatre shows. (There will be ticketed events on two evenings. During the day roving performers offer free music. House - upstairs will be the hospitality and green room; PHC eating area for performers to rest. Goat barn will see a cleanup (on Saturday with volunteers from GAC and Field to Table Feast). Stage will be constructed and new doors mounted. Acoustic insulation and rudimentary (barnesy) decoration.
  - Parking: Steve Richard will make sure the west parking lot is graded and surfaced. Part of parking lot beside Rollo Centre will be used.
  - The music will be playing until midnight. Neighbours are being informed.
  - Fragile areas will be designated by Doug. We will take responsibility to close off access to areas like the pond.
- ◆ **Farm to Table Feast** (Agi project under the leadership of Lynn Bowerman - September 8.). Lynn also expressed appreciation for the space on the Commons. Major need for volunteers for set-up and clean-up.  
Event: - Dinner for 350 (tickets sold out immediately). Food comes from local farmers with the objective this year of supporting the skateboard park project. 350 tickets - all were sold within a day. 70 tables needed.

- Concert: Dessert and dancing from 7 to 9 pm. 100 tickets (sold out)
- Timber frame structure will become the bar and mingle-room. Stage in SW corner. Rugs will cover sand.

◆ **Commons FALL FAIR.** Sandwiched between these exciting community events being held on the Commons there'll be the Fall Fair on Sunday September 2, not only with the Great Squash Race, but with the return of the .... GIRO FASHION SHOW! Stay tuned.

- PHC Report. Brenda described the second stage in the Zero-waste sorting project. (First stage saw erection of large transparent canopy.)

Waste-sorting building: pre-fab 8'x12' on piers with green roof. 4' gap between parking area and building (for storage of flattened cardboard boxes, picked up once a week by GIRO) . Building to be located south of the PHC parking area , behind the Mountain-Ash tree (see yellow tape delimiting the space). Electricity will be brought underground (by teck cables) at PHC expense. Erection expected to take one week. Timeline for proposed project: September 17.

This project will be on the agenda for the Sharing the Commons team for any last concerns to be raised.

## Team Reports:

### • TAGS - Trails and Green Spaces

Camp Miriam. For years the young campers at Camp Miriam have engaged enthusiastically with volunteers from the Trails and Green Spaces Team (TAGS) in the control of the invasive plants which had overtaken the wild spaces on the Commons (chiefly Daphne laureola and Scotch broom). Kit Szanto has led the work parties with energy and humour, making the experience the high point in many campers' summer. What had looked like an impossible battle against the invasive plants has become manageable. After 11 years, though, there's a need for a break. Kit has called for a hiatus, with the suggestion that the mandate of TAGS be reconsidered, perhaps inviting the participation of other groups such as GaLTT.

### • Farm Team

- This is the time when we encourage anyone wishing to take part in watering and harvesting to get in touch. (Anne at 247-8287 or Judith at 247-9948). Our Yellow Transparent apples and Blueberries are ready.

- Report from South Gardens: great feeling, beautiful gardens! Lawn mower and weed eater purchased, addition to compost toilet shed built for storage.
- Don't miss the Wednesday Market under the Timber Frame (1:30 to 3:30).
- Apple juicing will start up soon. Call Christine Watt at 247-7478.

### **PMT - Property Management Team**

Ongoing projects:

- parking lot\*
- helping the Sign Team craft the main signage for the Commons.
- prep for Cultivate Festival: protective zone for the environment  
designating a single "smoking" area  
finish garbage cleanup  
build new goat barn doors
- continue with water issues (including regular testing with VIHA)
- Dave Arnell is taking on the re-staining of the Commons Kitchen.
- \* post-Council note on west parking lot: It is happening! Over three days the land was scraped and levelled, all loose surface rocks were removed and 5 loads of driveway crush were spread so far. It will be ready for the CULTIVATE festival.

### **• Covenant Team**

The three parts of the Covenant (Covenant itself, Base-line Report Overview and Stewardship Agreement) are nearing completion and will be shared within the year.

### **\* Communication Team**

- Ongoing discussion on different versions of logo - opinions varied
- Signage - work proceeding well with large "Commons book-ending" signage (with special thanks to Bob Andrew and Don Smardon for fine-carpentry skills)
- Next signage - orientation "You are here" maps.
- Documentation from Hedge Charette (led by Cameron and Laura-Jean) will be posted on the website.

Next note-taker: TAGS team

Next Council: August 7, at 7 pm