



Glenmore Valley Community Association

Minutes of the September 23rd, 2009

General Meeting

Kelowna Bible Chapel

Directors in attendance: Kim Dodds, John Harling, Marlene Miller, Bruce Gillon, Alex Midtdal, Dan Midtdal and Kim Ouellette.

31 members and guests entered their name on the attendance sheet.

Item

Details

1. President Kim Dodds called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM and welcomed the members and guests to the General Meeting.
2. Kim introduced the directors.
3. Kim Dodds gave a quick sketch of some of the Glenmore issues.
4. Announcements.
 - There will be a draw for some door prizes at the end of the meeting.
5. Guest Speakers. a) Kim introduced, Melanie Steppun, Valary Chidwick, and Janice Loukras of the Cool Ways to School group at the Glenmore elementary School. This pilot group grew out of a Kelowna Walkability workshop. The object was to make it possible and safe for elementary students to walk or cycle to and from school. The parents and students conducted surveys to investigate obstacles and roadblocks that made it difficult for the students to use active transportation to get to school on a daily basis.

The group was able to use student consultants from most of the faculties at UBCO. It was discovered that pedestrian signal timing is based on 6.1 seconds per lane for the average unencumbered athletic male to cross a street. Just about everyone else needs more time than that. For example; small students, mothers with buggies, people using a walker or wheelchair and seniors. It was also found that students who walked or rode to and from school had a much better understanding of the geography of the neighbourhood between home and school than those who were driven to and from school.

Active transportation gives elementary school students the opportunity to be responsible, autonomous and have cognitive development. A large portion of the parents that currently drive their children to and from

5. (Guest Speakers – Cool Ways to School continued)

school would like their children to walk or cycle if the barriers were removed.

The group has made a map showing the active transportation routes to Glenmore Elementary School as well as the blocked routes and the improvements needed to allow easier routes. The group is working with the city to implement improvements.

b) Traffic on Valley and Sexsmith Roads. Dan Midtdal outlined the problems regarding traffic on Valley Road North and Sexsmith Road. Over the past four years GVCA has worked to draw attention to the traffic situation along this corridor. Even though Valley Road is not an authorized truck route, it is used by trucks all through the day. Incidentally, many trucks have been observed to use the authorized 7AM – 7PM truck route before and after the authorized times.

Use the City's 'Eagle Eye', at www.kelowna.ca to report road problems. The City also has an e-mail address of ask@Kelowna.ca for residents to enquire about city matters. Problems can also be reported to GVCA at info@glenmorecommunity.com.

Through correspondence with the city the GVCA has tackled concerns as they arise, some issues can be dealt with on an ad hoc basis however others require long term study by consultants.

The City has responded with a series of upgrades to local roads.

- The \$11 million Glenmore bypass construction was moved forward in recognition of the traffic impacts in Glenmore and we hope that once built this highway will move traffic off portions of Valley Road.
- With no driveways directly accessing the bypass we believe it to be safer than the current situation and the addition of a separate cycling/walking path will be safer to all who use it.
- The installation of pedestrian operated traffic signals will aid in crossing the bypass.
- New sidewalks are proposed for two sections of Valley Road, from Cross south to Kane and from Cross north to Union although the start date has been moved to 2010
- Proposed roundabouts for the intersections at Valley and Kane and at Valley and Cross are proposed: no start date has been attached.
- Currently there have been no new announcements relating to the intersection of Union Road and Valley Road with its poor sight lines to the south. With completion of the bypass the GVCA will push for upgrades. Perhaps proposed sidewalk construction will improve

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5. (Guest Speakers, item b) continued)

this intersection.

Where do we go from here? Tonight the purpose is to consolidate ongoing concerns of residents of the Valley Road –Sexsmith Corridor and present concerns to the city.

c) Speed Watch. Kevin MacDougall the Community Policing Co-ordinator for Rutland reviewed the Speed Watch program on behalf of Colleen Cornock. There are three Community Police Offices in Kelowna; Rutland, Mission and Glenmore. There are about 90 volunteers in Kelowna.

The Speed Watch program is located in the Mission Office. The Purpose of Speed Watch is to reduce the demands on Police resources by monitoring traffic in various areas, gathering the data and forwarding the traffic reports to the Police department. The Police review the reports and base their enforcement efforts on the reports.

[6]. After a short recess for refreshments John Harling had tickets drawn for the door prizes. The door prizes were:

A gift basket donated by Paragon Community Pharmacy,
A stainless steel water bottle donated by Marlin Travel,
A \$20.00 Gift card donated by Perks Place,
A flower arrangement from Okanagan Flower Shop donated by Kim Dodds,
A jig saw puzzle and chocolate donated by Cherishables, and
Two wine glasses donated Wine Kitz.

Glenmore Valley Community Association thanks the generous Glenmore merchants who have donated the wonderful door prizes.

5. d) Kelowna Councillor Graeme James was a volunteer reader(wearing an orange tee shirt) at Starbucks for the Raise a reader program this morning.

The city is hoping that the Glenmore bypass will draw traffic away from Valley Road. The project is currently on time and under budget.

An upgrading of Valley Road is not on any plan at this time.

Sidewalk production is decreasing due to increasing construction costs. A fairly constant dollar amount is expensed each year.

A Glenmore Library Branch is on the list.

Item

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5. (Guest Speakers, item d) continued)

Graeme has talked with UBCO and some of the Curtis Road owners regarding bike access from Glenmore to UBCO. It seems to be difficult to get all of the affected owners in one place at the same time to discuss the subject. The City owns some property on the west side of Robert Lake [formerly named McKay Slough]. Something may be possible.

The Glenmore Recreation Centre is front and centre. No details are available as it is in council.

The Biosolid Waste System Composting Facility in Vernon is being brought up to standards. The Facility is a joint project with Vernon and Kelowna.

Several people asked Graeme a wide assortment of questions for which he provided answers.

There may be some movement of the Conservatory Project.

7. Brainstorming groups. Due to the lateness of the hour, this item is deferred to a later meeting.
8. Announcements.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM by general consent.

Minutes recorded by Bruce Gillon