

June 2025 BCA Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

June 10th, 2025 - In-Person Meeting - Walpole Crescent

Members present:

Barry Fenton, Eric Andersen, Lauren Gorgounis, Anni Danielson, Fariba Leilaby, Elmira Nazar, Mahnaz Fardghassemi, In-Ah Mellor, Michael Bernard

Chair - Lauren Gorgounis

Secretary - Mahnaz Fardghassemi

Order of Business:

1- BGND

- Blueridge Good Neighbour Day took place, and it was well attended, with roughly over 2400 people at the event. It was the highest attendance in the past 5 years.
- Mayor Little was also present at the event.
- It was noted that some residents had made complaints/comments with regard to the high price of the hotdogs; all proceeds from the concession stand went towards paying for all the free activities at the event. Noted for future events, this should be communicated in advance to all residents.
- The BCA table was well set up and managed, and everyone seemed to enjoy the 'fun facts about Blueridge' idea. Aim to improve and maintain this approach for future events. Thank you to Lesley Brooks for organizing this.
- The silent auction was well-received and brought in great revenue for the event. The online auction approach was well received.
- Social media posting of 'Thank you' posts is still pending - In-Ah to follow up with Nicci to ensure this is done.
- 50/50 was not well organized; therefore, it did not happen at the event. Should this happen in the future, more attention would be necessary to ensure success.
- Many residents wanted to make donations; however, the event was not set up to receive those donations. In the future, a cash donation as well as a square donation system would need to be planned for
- Many residents were saddened by the news that BGND may not be planned for next year due to the lack of volunteers. The team that has been managing this event for the past few years is now stepping down. Many new volunteers will be needed in order for this event to continue. Requests for support will be made in the fall to determine if we will have BGND next year.
 - A suggestion was made to hold smaller events rather than one large one; however, the problem of volunteers remains.
- Financials for BGND pending return of treasurer, Ted Bancroft

2- Community Advisory Panel (CAP)

- The BCA is to send a letter and/or email requesting that the meetings be moved to a better timeframe so that members of the board can attend. Currently, the meetings are

held 4 pm, which makes it difficult for members to attend as they are at work. These meetings are aimed at having community members attend and not staff. Elmira is to send this letter.

3- Blueridge Sharing Garden

- Going forward, the sharing garden will be known as Blueridge Garden. This space has become a great gathering place for community members and gardeners with great experiences, and they are happy to help and share their knowledge.
- Currently, there is a waiting list for boxes for next year.

4- Project Community

- The online form for submitting applications by vendors will be amended to narrow down the parameters of offers. Future offers will aim to have vendors publish rates, provide special rates, and offer clearer and concise timeframes of offers.
- There is a need to hear from the local community to know if they are using the vendors from Project Community and to receive more feedback.

5- United Strangers/Mount Seymour Frontage

- The area next to the mailbox with the overgrown grass right in front of United Strangers, measuring roughly 40ft x 30ft
- The aim is to have attractive community entrance areas for all of Blueridge and Seymour Heights. Currently, this space is not welcoming and/or useful.
- Michael to speak to Christine and Joe (owners of United Strangers) to determine who owns the land and if they would be interested in the BCA helping to plan and execute a beautification and/or functional approach to this area.
- If space is owned by the DNV, the BCA would need to discuss with the district to see what options would be approved/allowed by them for this space.

6- Community Board - update

- North Van Community Association Network (NVCAN) has approached the district to support this initiative. Currently, the district is reviewing this and considering funding the community boards.

7- Chemtrade

- At the AGM last month, the mayor said that there was still time for public consultation before this matter gets finalized.
- BCA to advertise more about the meetings so that residents can obtain more information and be able to make informed decisions to support or not to support this matter.

8- Miscellaneous

- Elmira to contact Ava, the previous year's scholarship winner, to see if she would be willing to help with the 'Spotlight on Volunteers' initiative - more information to follow in the coming months.

- BCA volunteer job descriptions are currently being written by Mahnaz, more to be provided next meeting.

The next board meeting will be online. We will skip July, as most board members will be away. We will have the next meeting in August.