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## QUADRA CEDAR HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Quadra Cedar Hill Community Association

Minutes General Meeting

27th January 2015

Open Meeting at: 7:00 pm Chaired by John Schmuck, President

1. Present Minutes – Art Beck

Minutes are on the web site and a printed copy is available for viewing at the break

1. Treasurers’ Report – Dodie Fraser

Revenues for the year amounted to 11, 606.39 while expenditures were 12,528.07, with funds available of 5,465.71

1. Membership Report – Rikki Bowman
2. Carole Ireland – update re Cedar Hill Recreation Campus

Sampler week had a tremendous response even had a “dance for brain” course

Maintenance crew have worked on hole nine drainage issues and have now moved on to hole one, Cedar Hill is now trying to do all its drainage work in house

Proposed neighbourhood sign arrived with a missing cap, once that is fixed the sign will go up. The QCHCA will have exclusive use of one full side of this sign.

Tournaments are booking up fast

The Cedar Hill pulling together team has been very active around the park

1. Newsletter – discussion Peter Haddon

More articles this upcoming newsletter - going to eight pages

We always welcome more suggestions for innovation and articles

This will be first copy that we will email, so give us your email address

This copy will not be folded, so area reps will have to fold them, again we are always looking for volunteers to help with household deliveries

1. QCHCA website [www.QCHCA.org](http://www.QCHCA.org) Kevin House

In addition to the meeting minutes, we post upcoming community events, and upcoming development proposals

We hope to have a questionnaire available on the website by Sunday Feb 8, 2015

1. QCHCA 2015 Executive Search -

Our next meeting in is our Annual General Meeting March 24th so we will be looking for people to put their names forward to sit on the executive. If interested please contact John Schmuck or Susan Haddon

1. Pulling Together Program reports
* Cedar Hill Park (Peter Haddon)

We meet Monday mornings at 9 am so please let us know if you are interested and we can put you on the email list as to where we are working from week to week.

Feb 21st Bowker Creek work party 9 till noon, coffee provided and hopefully will be joined by the Green Team. Hope to liberate some trees originally planted by the scouts

Friends of Cedar Hill Park are looking to join the Bowker Creek Initiative

* Playfair Park (Pam Sinclair) Spring 2015 Work Schedule

Dates:

Saturday, Feb 14th            9:30 am to 11:30 am      Meet at the Judge Place entrance

Monday, March 2nd                 “                   “                         “    “      “        “

Saturday, March 7th                  “                   “                         “    “

Saturday, March 14th                  “                   “                         “    “

Monday, March 23rd                 “                  “                         “     “

Saturday, March 28th               “                    “                       “     “

Monday, June 1st “ “ “ “

Monday, June 8th “ “ “ “

1. 2015 QCHCA Projects:
* **March 24th QCHCA AGM and new executive elections**
* **May 26th QCHCA General Meeting**
* **Playfair Picnic** Sunday, July 19th 16th annual from 12 till 3 pm
* **Music in the Park (Rutledge only 2015)** Aug 4th and Aug 11th

Every Tuesday July to August in various parks around Saanich Community has just taken off with this event. We will be looking for volunteers in the near future

* **Hot Dog QCHCA fundraiser sales**

Held at Lumberworld - dates to be announced for 2015

* **Rutledge Water park project**

Have had preliminary meeting with Saanich Parks, and will be doing consultation during the next year, with public meetings etc., will be forming a committee soon to get the process underway

* May 9th 11 am to 1 pm Graffiti cleanup, meet in the parking lot at Playfair Park more details in the next newsletter. Wear your old painting clothes.
* **Cedar Hill Park Master Plan**

It is the largest urban park in Saanich, so hope to establish a Charter for the Park in order to keep it as a park in perpetuity.

1. Cook Street Complete Streets
* Update received from Ivan Leung completion hoped for mid May, will have new raised bike lanes, rain gardens, update will be in newsletter.
* Drew Van Brunt (resident on Cook Street) - Wants to establish a initiative to lower the speed limit because of the proposed narrower streets. Wants to get QCHCA support to take it to Council.

Also had concerns about the new trees to be planted, he was opposed to the planting of Gary Oaks

Wanted to open up the tree discussion with Saanich

1. Playfair Park Pathway –

Will not start till late August or September, Parks will get back to us with more details

AREA DIRECTOR REPORTS:

**BRAEFOOT:** Bob Trotter nothing to report

**CRAIGMILLAR**: Karen Dearborn not present

**REYNOLDS / QUADRA**: Chris Bartlett

**CLOVERDALE CORE**: Kevin House

Mid town park has now opened its coffee shop

**CEDAR HILL**: Lana Burns not present

**COOK / TATTERSALL**: Chris Bhopalsingh

Clovelly subdivision, Its about a 50 50 split between those in favour and those who opposed

**COOK / TOLMIE**: Eric Higgs

**QUADRA / SWAN LAKE**: Ruth Emery

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* BREAK \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\****

9) Dr Nancy Turner UVIC Environmental Studies –

“**Almost lost – the ecological treasures of Cedar Hill Park”**

Dr. Nancy Turner was introduced by Eric Higgs. Highlights of her presentation:

Region is typical of a Garry oak ecosystem as it is part of the dry Douglas fir zone, so it gets less rain than the rest of the island. It is also a very diverse system.

First nations used the area to harvest camas bulbs. These bulbs had to be pit cooked before being eaten. It was managed by having “cool” fires to keep areas open from brush over growing the area. On Vancouver Island over 10 million bulbs would have been harvested a year.

By 1846 there were 160 acres in European cultivation

Cedar Hill Park was converted into a dairy

Perimeter trail was completed in 1967

In 1986 neighbours stopped a proposed subdivision for part of the park

1990 Kings Pond was cleared

Nancy then showed slides of some of the native plants found in Cedar Hill Park

She then showed how the camas was harvested by digging down to get the older bigger bulbs, this production system was used for thousands years

The fires promoted the wild strawberry growth as well as the camas.

 The park is the headwaters of two major creeks –Bowker and Colquitz

 Chum and Coho salmon used to come all the way up Bowker creek

The fire of 1990 helped the camas and miners lettuce the next year, however it also helped promote the growth of broom two to three years later.

Nancy concluded with a question and answer period.

For greater detail of her presentation, visit our website www.qchca.org

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.