

NEWSLETTER - JUNE, 2011

Mark your Calendar! The Public Hearing for the redevelopment of the Arbutus Shopping Centre is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, July 12th. At the regular Council meeting on June 14th, the Planning Department presented a 55 page report to Council recommending that Larco's redevelopment proposal for the Centre be allowed to proceed. It took Council less than 10 minutes – with no questions asked – to agree with Planning. Because rezoning is involved, the proposal must go to a Public Hearing. What is a Public Hearing? It is the community's opportunity to have its say about the redevelopment plans. You can read all about Public Hearings at http:// vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/mayorandcouncil/publichearings.htm.

We need every one of our members to speak at the meeting! It will held in the Council Chamber at City Hall at 7:30 p.m. Because Arbutus is not the only item on the agenda, the hearing will probably be scheduled for more than one day and may even be on a Saturday. Speakers are allowed 5 minutes to speak but you don't need to take the full time. It is important to say something about the redevelopment that concerns you or your neighbours. You can register to speak, on-line, or by phoning Lori at 604-871-6355, ahead of time, or at the Council Chamber 30 minutes before the start of the meeting. We'll be contacting you again soon about the public hearing. We definitely need your participation!

Our Annual General Meeting on May 24th was well attended even though the Canucks were playing! The minutes of the meeting are attached to this e-mail. Your 2011-2012 steering committee includes Marion Boyle, Afton Cayford, Marie Clarke, Jim Finch, Bill Haberl, Kary McGavin, Josie Timewell, Jason Zheng, and me, Doreen Braverman.

The important decision made at the meeting was to register our association as a corporate society with the Province of B.C. Our name will be Arbutus Ridge Community Association – ARCA. Most of Vancouver's residential communities are registered. With so many neighbourhoods demanding involvement in shaping our city, it is important that we have official status with unlimited life expectancy. All members of the society must pay dues.

The panel of urban specialists, Patrick M. Condon, Ned Jacobs, and Lewis N. Villegas was very well received. You can read a summary of their presentations on our website at http://arcca.info.

Speaking of Dues – membership fees are now due! Our fiscal year runs from May to April, so your fee is valid through to April 30, 2012. If you did not pay your fee at the AGM, please mail or deliver it to our Treasurer, Marie Clarke, at 402-3905 Springtree Drive, Vancouver, V6L 3E2. You will receive a membership receipt. Dues are \$10 per person, \$20 for family, \$30 for a business. Of course, donations are always welcome. We use the fees to pay for meetings, notices, and printing costs.

Talent Needed! Our committee needs help in two important areas: social networking and public relations. If you have expertise in either of these areas, we would appreciate your help! Please contact me, Doreen Braverman, arcca@shaw.ca or phone me 604-263-6051.

We also need more volunteers to distribute literature and to phone members who do not have e-mail. For distribution of literature, contact Josie Timewell, josietimewell@gmail.com or phone 604-879-8115. For phoning members, contact Kary McGavin, kmmcg@shaw.ca or phone 604-261-4891.

We are saddened to tell you that a long standing ARCCA member, Jack Syrett, died on June 9th after a brief battle with cancer. Jack lived in Arbutus Village. Our condolences to his family.

We welcome your suggestions and support!

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