



Sapperton Residents' Association

The purpose of the association is to preserve and enhance the livability and quality of the Sapperton neighborhood.

Sapperton Residents' Association Public Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, April 9, 2025 @ 7:30 pm **Location:** Virtual via Zoom

Attendance: 4 residents

Executive: Wilf (Chair), Anita, Eileen, Alysia, Jerry, Sandra, Monica (minutes)

Guests/Presenters: **RCH Redevelopment** – Carol Swan (RCH), Michael Kazda (EllisDon);
Seniors' Support Society – Paul Campbell

City Representatives: None in attendance

1. Welcome and Introduction of Executive

Wilf

- Positions of Chair and Co-Chair: still vacant.
- If anyone is interested, they can put their name forward to join the Executive.
- Reminder to pay \$5 annual dues to Anita, either in person or by sending an etransfer to the RA email.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Wilf

- Motion to approve the agenda.
- Re-ordering of agenda items. Seconded. Vote: Carried.

3. Approval of February 12, 2025, Minutes - moved; seconded; carried

Wilf

4. RCH Redevelopment Project Update -

Michael K. (E.D.)

- EllisDon is nearing the end of the project and substantial completion is on track for the end of May, 2025.
- Final paving and landscaping on the site will be happening within the next few weeks, then equipment removal will begin.
- About a month after May 31, the temporary maintenance building will be demolished and landscaping in that area will continue for six months.
- Work on the inside of the hospital will continue 'til the end of May. Once they have completed this work, RCH will take over as they prepare to transition operations to this new building in 2026.
- The current entrance to the parking off E. Columbia Street will remain in place.
- Anita expressed thanks to the EllisDon team for their help with and financial support and contributions to the recent Trash Mob.
- Michael noted that after May 31, the number of construction workers on site will significantly reduce and so the Securiforce vehicle that patrols the neighbourhood in the morning may not be necessary.

- After May 31, most contact regarding parking issues will be via Carol. The Sherbrooke parkade won't open right away; there will be a gradual opening after May 31 and once patients start using the new building, the parkade will fully open. The existing parkade will be interconnected with the new parkade.
- The re-located helipad will be open once patients start occupying the new building.
- Michael suggested that we have a celebration once the project is complete at the end of May.
- Members of the Executive thanked Carol and Michael for consistently attending RA meetings for the past several years, providing updates, and responding to the concerns and questions of residents. Michael and those in attendance also expressed huge thanks to the two flaggers, Shaushannah and Mace, who have been with the project for the past several years and have worked to keep residents safe and traffic moving on Sherbrooke Street.

5. Seniors' Support Society

Paul Campbell

- This is a group that works to support low-income seniors via a Community Connections Program.
- This is the second year the SSS has offered this program.
- It is a thirty-week program beginning in June and involves getting socially isolated, low-income seniors connected via a meal.
- They are working in partnership with Century House and have activities involving music, arts, and so on, and plan to get speakers to come from Pharmacare, Kintec Shoes, and other organizations to connect with seniors about issues of concern to them.
- The objective is to get seniors connected to their peers.
- They are hoping to expand this year and get Ras involved so seniors can get involved from various areas of New Westminster.
- They are hoping to host six events over the summer, such as a community barbecue, and hope that RAs will get involved in these events as well. They hope RA members will volunteer and also help to identify vulnerable seniors in their local community.
- Wilf said he would like to connect with Paul as he works with a seniors' organization as well.

6. Police Committee Meeting

Sandra G.

7. New Business

- Trash Mob** (Anita) – was held Saturday, April 5. We had a great turn-out on a beautiful, sunny day. There were many people from all age groups participating. It was a very successful community event. The volunteers collected 12.38 kg of garbage and an estimated 3100 cigarette butts from all over Sapperton. Photos of the event have been posted on Facebook and the RA website. A City of New West grant from 2024 helped pay for a new canopy and high viz vests. Anita expressed thanks to everyone who participated and to EllisDon for providing a lunch and for paying for the insurance, to Fresh Slice for providing pizza, and to Passionat8 Realty for providing coffee.
- Easter Eggstravaganza Event** (Anita)– Tasha Henderson is partnering once again with the owner of the Zesty Lemon Clothing Shop to put on this Easter event on Saturday, April 19 from 11 am – 3 pm. This will be an Easter Egg Hunt in which many of the local businesses along E. Columbia Street will participate and a community event, which will include face-painting a market, and so on. They are looking for volunteers to help.

- c. **Emergency Preparedness Workshop** (Anita) – Alysia and Anita met with Cory from the City of New West recently. The idea is to have an Emergency Preparedness Workshop to help residents prepare for all sorts of potential emergencies. Cory suggested a Zoom meeting first at the end of May, then gauge interest for an in-person meeting. The date proposed is May 27. May is Emergency Preparedness Month. Anita sent out a Google form for people to sign up. The Zoom meeting will provide an overview and the in-person meeting will provide more specific information on neighbourhood preparedness and coordination. We will get people to register in advance for this in-person meeting once a date is determined.
- d. **Crisis Response Pilot Project** (Eileen) –The purpose is to bring residents into the conversation regarding homelessness, mental health and other social issues. The City is doing a presentation on its crisis response and the available resources. The meeting will be May 8. Alysia noted that she called this team recently to clean up drug paraphernalia in a local area and they responded immediately. She was impressed by their response time.
- e. **Sapperton Community Yard Sale** (Steve Kasper) – This annual event will be held on Saturday, June 7, from 10 am to 3 pm. Text Steve at 604-862-2040 or email him at stevekasper@remax.net if you would like your home added to the advertised list. He needs people's addresses five days before the event. He will post the participating homes on Facebook and Instagram. Signs around the neighbourhood will be posted by 9 am. Last year, forty families participated. He suggests that if you have friends living in local condos, invite them to use your front yard. Steve has twenty extra direction signs this year, so there will be eighty direction arrows posted around Sapperton pointing to all the participating homes.
- f. **New Westminster Chamber of Commerce** – hosting its AGM on May 20. Can this be posted in the newsletter?
- g. **Newletter** – Anita will post information about the above-noted AGM and promote the yard sale and the Emergency Workshop in the next emailed SRA newsletter.

Final question regarding Sapperton Green being on hold. Response: to the best of our knowledge the project, which has been in the works for twenty years, is on hold due to financial reasons and perhaps also reasons related to the unresolved intersection project at Brunette and Hwy1. It is unlikely that anything will be started soon in that area.

Meeting adjourned: 8:42 pm.

Upcoming Dates:

Next Public Meeting: Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at 7:30 pm – via Zoom