

CNFC Board Meeting Minutes: March 24th, 2016
(edited)

*attending: De, Eric, Philip, Michael, Carla, Fred, Mielle
visiting: Mario*

1. Approval of agenda

motion: Carla moves to approve the agenda. Michael seconds. All are in favour.

2. Approval of minutes from February 25th meeting

motion: Philip moves to approve the minutes from Feb. 25th meeting. Michael seconds. All are in favour.

3. Community garden discussion

Mario's presentation: Last growing season, the plot of land Mario and Alanah had been gardening for seven years transitioned into a cooperative garden on CNFC property. Other individuals accessed private garden plots, and chickens were given the run of fallow areas. A reasonable tenure is needed for the garden so that those involved feel secure enough to invest their time and labour into it.

Discussion regarding the management of a community garden and the inherent value of supporting local food production.

Motion: De moves: The CNFC Board encourages Mario and Alanah's community garden initiative, and grants a two-season tenure of use. The Board grants this tenure of use on an arms-length basis (ie: the Board does not want to be involved in the administration of the garden or to collaborate on any initiatives at this time). The Board requests that Mario and Alanah continue to invite and facilitate community access to and involvement in the garden, continue to process compost and build soil, and continue to offer workshops. Fred seconds the motion. All are in favour.

The secretary will draft a memo to Mario informing him of this, to first be circulated to the Board for approval.

4. manager's report:

General overview: *new timesheet and scheduling system; new hiring cycle; new fresh local juice sales; store re-organization.*

Finances: *conversion to quickbooks; compilation of year-end financial information.*

5. Educational gazebo

Discussion: *concern regarding meeting the deadline. Is there room for the CNFC mission statement and appreciation of land purchase donors?*

6. Committee reports

Land Committee:

-Re: vacant room below the cafe: The Land Committee does not recommend renting it at this time.

-Re: Jam Session Rental: discussion of issues and the importance of a lease agreement. Suzanne and Fred will have a conversation with the jam group and report back next meeting.

-Re: Grounds: Laura is willing to do an estimate and design for landscaping. Limbing is still needed in front courtyard.

Fun Committee: *The committee needs to take a hiatus.*

Finance Committee:

Response to last month's Board approval of a loan for the courtyard:

As the CNFC needs to show a certain cash flow contractually with Vancity, our capital projects funds cannot come from 'pre-pay' store funds. De will write a letter to the private donors who have generously offered to lend the CNFC funds explaining this situation.

General Discussion:

-What about a fence? We really need one!

-Funds for a wheelchair ramp may be found through other means: an accessibility grant.

Update on tax question: *there is still a chance that the contributing capital from the members of an organization might not be taxable as revenue. Jodie inquire further.*

Idea for future fundraising endeavours: create a charity or not-for-profit which addresses community needs.

7. Courtyard quotes

In the interest of an open and transparent process it is best practice of have a call for bids for future work contracts.

8. Composting toilet proposal

Idea: the CNFC could partner with FOCl to build and install solar composting toilets.

9. Executive session

In-camera discussion