



**Rutland Residents Association
Rutland Strong**

Tuesday October 15, 2024

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Quorum / Roll Call (10% of membership)**
3. **Welcome to all members and guests**
4. **Adoption of the Agenda for this Meeting.**

Motion to Adopt – Chris B., Seconded by Nick A.

5. **Adoptions of Minutes (of the Previous Monthly Meeting).** The June minutes are unavailable.

6. **President's Report**

We sent a letter of congratulations to the Kelowna Chinese United Assoc. (KCUA) and hope to work with them in the future. Renxian Tan their vice president is also a member of the Rutland Residents Assoc. The KCUA invited our executive to their Tree Planting Celebration at Ben Lee Park in honour of Ben Lee and his work for Rutland.

The city is going to create an all ages Rutland Activity Centre on Gray Rd at the old Interior Health Building across from the Army and Navy club. A link to a survey about this was sent out to the membership. The city is also looking at “refreshing” Lion’s Park which houses Rutland’s Cenotaph. Lynn is in contact with the Park’s architect and has expressed that this park means a lot to our Rutland History. (If there are rutland residents who have information on the history of Lion’s Park Lynn would like to hear from you. Contact her at president@rutlandresidentsassociation.ca)

Motion to Adopt – Roxanne C., Seconded by Marianne B.

7. **Treasurer's Report**

Motion to Adopt – Cindy A., Seconded by Roxanne C.

Question do we have enough money for Director’s Insurance. Lynn answered we do for this year but if people wish to donate it will help the Association to continue to represent Rutland Residents.

8. **Committee Reports**

8.01 Safety Concerns Committee – We made note that: *“We feel compassion and understanding that unhoused people and people with substance use problems have overwhelming needs which concern all of society. We also feel that the lived experiences of housed residents, including their concern for personal safety and property crime are often minimized or ignored.*”

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Safety Concerns Committee cont'd

We discussed concerns for the Mental Health and well being of housed Residents who increasingly feel threatened by people on the streets who abuse substances, drug dealers, street entrenched people, and predators who follow the unhoused. We discussed that residents now feel more unsafe and on alert when seeing someone new in their neighbourhood despite what the city surveys says.

We feel that Parking Variances at New Developments which *decrease* parking within a development in turn create congested un-safe streets because there is less room for pedestrians and alternative vehicles on these side streets. This is not working or safe for the current residents living in these areas.

People in Rutland need parking space within developments as much as other areas of Kelowna whether they rent or own property. Rutland often has several people in a household working in various parts of the city and each need a vehicle to get to their work place.

Streets used to have shoulders, these have been replaced with bicycle lanes which sometimes are not visible from driveways unless the vehicle pulls into the bicycle lane to check for oncoming traffic. This is unsafe for both the driver and bicycle riders. Both bicycle riders and vehicle drivers should employ defensive riding and defensive driving.

We have continued concerns with addicted street people and the amount of garbage, drug paraphernalia, feces, and urine that are left where they gather. Also street workers (hookers) are becoming more visible in some residential areas close to low barrier supportive housing. Children often live in these areas and should not be subjected to these activities.

Hospital Auxiliary Thrift volunteers often encounter homeless people at their parking in the back of the Auxiliary building, they often feel threatened and now only go to their cars if someone goes with them. The volunteers are often older and feel very vulnerable especially if approached by the unhoused.

BC United (*when they existed*) held a press conference to say they would put a Red Fish Treatment Centre into Rutland. The Safety Committee discussed this and feel strongly that this would further negatively affect Rutland which has already done it's share with the 6 low barrier facilities within it's boundaries. If a Treatment Centre is still in the works it should be put into a different part of Kelowna or a different area of the Okanagan since it would be servicing all of the Okanagan.

Note: Members can join the committee by contacting the President Lynn J.

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8.02 OCP and Development Concerns Committee – Discussion was made at the last meeting that there may be more Capital Projects in other areas but with research we found the Capital Projects in Rutland carry the most costs than in other areas.

Note: Members can join the committee by contacting the President
president@rutlandresidentsassociation.ca

9. Old Business: There was no old business.

10. New Business

10.1 Open Discussion by attending members.

During open discussion a motion was passed that we ask the successful candidates of the Provincial Election who will represent the Rutland area to attend our next meeting. Nick volunteered to contact the MLAs.

11. Motion to Adjourn

Moved by Nick A. seconded by Roxanne C.

**Next General Monthly Meeting:
November 19, 2024,
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm
150 Gray Rd
(The Army Navy Club)**

All Rutland Residents are welcome to attend whether paid members or not.