

November 2, 2013

Blueridge Community Association Workshop

1. Executive Position

- Who will succeed Eric? Do we want to find a Vice Chair for the BCA?
- We agreed to carry this question forward to the next meeting on November 12 and/or the AGM in May.

2. Farmer's Market Money

- What do we do with the BCA surplus of money?
- We agreed that we need to keep approx. \$2500 in the bank for expenditures such as; Blueridge Elementary Library Rentals (in the future if things change), and the Newsletter.
- We brainstormed about where the money could go... kids contests, educational scholarships, special events, block parties, senior activities, Christmas events, free concerts, signage, trail signs, playground improvements, training for community members, Blueridge Creek clean up.

3. BCA Today & Vision for 2014 – Ideas that were brainstormed

- Welcoming new residents
- Development of the website
- Notification of meetings
- Coffee shop
- Connection with School

4. We chose the top ideas:

- Childcare for parents who would like to attend a BCA meeting – would we reimburse parents for babysitters that come to their house or offer a babysitter at the meeting? Is there liability? Can we ask people to let us know ahead of time?
- Free Concerts – Which venue would we use? Local talent? Bring your own lawn chair? Twice per season? What permits do we need? Is there a business association that might help us with this?
- Community Garden – Can we do something in conjunction with the Harvest Project and the Food Bank? Berkley Site? Heather Johnson? Contact the DNV (Garden Smart program).
- Welcoming New Residents - Everyone bring in the addresses of people we know are new to the neighbourhood, make a tab on the website, what would the welcome package include?
- Signage for Pathways – Is the district able to help with this? Where would they be? How much do we need to budget for these signs?
- Notification for Meetings – Signs for more lawns, separate piece of paper to go out with the next newsletter asking people to subscribe to our email list.

5. BCA Website

- More security for the babysitters' list
- Do we want to become involved in social media?
- Put out a survey to ask how community members would like to get their information? Ask what the barriers are to coming to meetings.

6. Should the BCA have a paid subscription directory?

- Which businesses would be eligible, should we start by adding the information on the website? Here are some potential headings... Financial Services, Health and Beauty, Landscaping and Home Repair, Educational, Real Estate, Home Parties, Music.

7. Summary and Action Plan

1. Free Concert – Stephen to gather information in time for the January meeting.
2. Community Garden – Barry to follow-up with Food Bank and Harvest Project, Colleen to follow-up with the District, Eric to follow-up with Heather by Nov 12th meeting.
3. Signage for Pathways – Colleen to follow-up with Alf, ask NSMBA speaker on Nov 12
4. Blueridge Signs – Get a quote for how much this might cost. Angela to follow-up with Jocelyn about signs.
5. Scholarships – Jim, Leslie and Anni to work together for the January 14th meeting to come up with some solutions.
6. Special Events – Agenda item for November 12
7. Welcome wagon for new residents – Leslie to collect some samples of things we could give to people, everyone to bring addresses of people who are new to Blueridge by Nov 12.
8. Website – Graham to add the following items: Welcome to Blueridge, Volunteering Tab, How you get on the email distribution list, a business directory (no date was given)
9. Social Media – Angela will survey whether it's worthwhile to do social media and babysitting for future meetings by November 12.