

June 2026 BCA Board Meeting Minutes

Date: June 9, 2026

Location: online meeting

Chair: Barry Fenton

Members Present: Ted Bancroft, Toby Barazzuol, Michael Bernard, Lesley Brooks, Anni Danielson, Barry Fenton (Chair), Lauren Gorgounis, Elmira Nazar, Mahnaz Fardghassemi, Fariba Leilaby

Left Early or arrived late – Fariba Leilaby, Toby Barazzuol

Absent - Eric Andersen, In-Ah Mellor

Minutes of Meeting

1- Blueridge Elementary Accessible Playground Donation

A proposal was brought forward to donate \$1,000 from the Blueridge Community Association toward Blueridge Elementary's accessible playground project. The board decided on deferring the decision until a later meeting with the full board and with clearer donation guidelines.

- Lack of a clear policy could create problems, and a small group of directors will work on draft guidelines before bringing them back to the full board.

2- Meeting with DNV CAO Mike Fox

The board reviewed a draft set of questions for an upcoming meeting with DNV CAO Mike Fox scheduled for Wednesday, June 17, from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm. Barry explained that the original draft contained a broad set of questions, but some were now outdated or beyond Mike Fox's direct control, including items affected by provincial housing mandates and the wastewater treatment plant situation.

Several practical points were raised:

- The meeting should likely take place in the Sharing Garden if weather permits, with a backup indoor or sheltered option in case of rain.
- The board would like Mike Fox to have the questions in advance, but only after they have been refined.

- The board also wants time in the meeting for Mike Fox to speak about his priorities and vision, rather than only being questioned by the association.
- The meeting is intended for board members rather than the general public, so a strong board presence would help show that the BCA's work is broader than any one individual.

Barry proposed reviewing the draft questions, removing those that are no longer relevant or answerable, and recirculating the revised list to the board before sending anything to Mike Fox. The board agreed with that approach.

3- Blueridge Good Neighbor Day Financial Update

Mahnaz provided a brief update on Blueridge Good Neighbour Day finances, reporting that the event is expected to finish with a profit of over \$2,000 rather than a loss. The board responded positively, noting that this was the first year the event was run more independently and that the results were very successful.

4- Cozy Nights discussion

There was discussion about improving turnout by making the event more inviting to new families and younger residents. Fariba noted that attendance tends to skew toward residents with older children, since the 7:00 p.m. timing can be difficult for parents with young kids. Lesley mentioned she already uses the phrase "come and meet some new people in your area" when introducing the event to new residents.

Lauren suggested that if the community wants to create more buzz, the incentive should not be alcohol-based. She proposed a Canlan-linked reward such as a burger voucher for the winner and a guest, both to avoid insurance concerns and to better align with community values. The board ultimately agreed not to dwell on incentives further and to keep Cozy Nights simple and consistent with the association's approach.

5- Movie night planning

Fariba reported that the movie night planned for Sunday, August 23, at 8:00 p.m. is moving forward. The entertainment vendors have already been paid, and the remaining logistical task is to drop off the parking-related cheque. Volunteers are mostly in place, though Fariba said there is not much for them to do yet unless sponsorships are secured.

To help offset costs, the board discussed seeking sponsorships from local businesses and using the existing Blueridge business directory to reach out to potential sponsors. Fariba also mentioned that, in the past, Cineplex had provided free popcorn, and she wants to explore whether a similar arrangement is possible this year.

A key decision was how to choose the film. Mahnaz recommended trimming the options to four movies and then putting those to a community vote so the film selection can also serve as early promotion for the event. Barry agreed that the shortlist should be available in time for the July 1 bulletin, and Anni suggested posting the poll on the website as well because not everyone receives the bulletin.

Potential movie ideas raised included Inside Out, the new Mario movie, and Toy Story 5. Elmira suggested Toy Story 5 as especially appealing because it would suit multiple age groups, and the board agreed it would be a strong option if licensing permits. Fariba said she would contact the licensing company to find out which films are available and then bring back a short list. Mahnaz said she could then post a social media poll once the shortlist is ready.

6-Bulletin and website promotion

The board discussed how best to promote community events and handle bulletin volume. Barry relayed feedback from a neighbour that Jeff does a great job with the Bulletin, but there is so much content that it can be hard to read. Mahnaz said Jeff is working on a clickable index or link-based structure so readers can jump directly to articles instead of scrolling through everything.

Anni pointed out that the website must also be used because not everyone receives the Bulletin. The group acknowledged that the website is running on a free platform with limited capabilities, so workarounds are needed, but the intent is to improve accessibility over time.

7- Dinner en Bleu update

Mahnaz reported on Dinner en Bleu, saying ticket sales have been slower than in previous years and around 50 tickets still need to be sold. The event had already been promoted through social media and through both packs' weekly bulletins, and the organizers had just reached break-even as of that afternoon, which was positive news.

The board agreed not to send a one-off email blast from the association list, because those emails tend to trigger unsubscribes from the same list used for the bulletin. Instead, the board asked members to circulate the event poster within their own networks and share it with Blueridge residents. The event will proceed even if it does not sell out.

There was also a discussion of the timing. Lauren noted that the date conflicts with Windsor grad-related commitments and the Windsor Theatre Mamma Mia show that same weekend, which reduces the available audience, especially among Grade 11 and Grade 12 parents. Michael suggested that in future years, the organizers ask attendees how they heard about the event so the team can better measure which communication channels are most effective.

8- Community advisory and committee opportunities

Elmira provided an update on the Community Advisory Panel, noting that she has stepped away from attending the meetings. She asked Jeff to post the opportunity on the website and said Mahnaz would also share it on social media. She also mentioned the Canlan Ice Sports Advisory Committee as another opportunity worth investigating, since current updates on it seem limited and it is not clear how active the committee is.

9- Administrative housekeeping and banking

Barry raised housekeeping items related to the association's signing authorities, specifically whether the three new co-chairs should be added and how many total signers should be authorized. The group did not resolve it during the meeting, but Barry indicated it should be updated.

The board also briefly discussed comparing banking services and fees between credit unions such as Blue Shore and VanCity versus the Bank of Montreal. Ted said he had not had time to review the options, so the topic was left for future consideration.

Lauren added that Blue Shore has merged with Beam Credit Union as of January 2025, though Barry noted the brand structure may still be evolving and that local names may continue to be used in some form.

10- Summer meeting schedule

Elmira raised the question of whether the board should meet in July and August or resume in September. Barry said a July meeting would be important, especially because the movie night is happening in August and the board needs to stay on top of permits, movie selection, and logistics.

The group agreed to keep the July 14 meeting and move it online. They also agreed to revisit whether an August 11 meeting is needed depending on how movie night preparations progress. Barry emphasized that the July meeting would help ensure the movie night does not depend too heavily on Fariba alone and that responsibilities are shared more broadly across the board.