



Massey Victory Heights Residents Association

Membership Meeting, 22 September, 7 PM

Mount Zion Lutheran Church

(10th Ave and Cumberland, lower floor)

DRAFT Minutes

Executive present: Sherry Messenger, President; Derek Deacon, Vice President; Deb Thomas, Secretary; Danielle Karlsson, Treasurer; Terry Tomcko, Webmaster; Chester Kmiec, Director at Large.

50+ attendees (not including executive and mayoral candidates)

1. Welcome
2. Land acknowledgment
3. Introduction of the Executive
4. Review of agenda
5. Introduction of Mayoral Candidates
 - Ken Armstrong, New West Progressives
 - Chuck Puchmayr, Independent
 - Patrick Johnstone, Community First

Brief speech from each - why they are running for mayor.

Patrick Johnstone and Ken Armstrong also introduced other candidates in the New West Progressives and Community First teams.

For further information on the platforms of the candidates for mayor, see:



<https://www.chuckpuchmayr.ca/> (Chuck Puchmayr)

<https://dev.nwprogressives.ca/> (Ken Armstrong)

<https://www.patrickjohnstone.ca/> (Patrick Johnstone)

6. *Predesigned questions to candidates*

- a. Traffic: What are your thoughts about the Bridge construction regarding the number of lanes being constructed and traffic coming into the city?
- b. Safety: What are your thoughts about expanding bike lanes and the location of these lanes in New West? Are they safe for drivers and pedestrians?
- c. Affordable Housing:
 - i. The city has recently committed (with the province) to building student housing near Douglas College. What else can the city do to support affordable rental housing for students and low – income residents in New Westminster?
 - ii. What is your position on lane way homes?
- d. What is your stance on the removal of the “Royal” from the New Westminster moniker as well as the “Crown” from the logo?

7. *Questions from the membership*

- a. Street Lights– concern about safety due to dim lighting. 8 yrs out. Need sooner than promised.
- b. How can we improve voter turnout
- c. Taxes – Resident stated that we are paying the 2nd highest property taxes in MetroVancouver.



- d. Schools – Resident stated that there are not enough schools to accommodate planned density.
- e. Bridgenet – Fiber optics. Resident felt that this was not a good investment - expensive and not well-used.
- f. Is there any initiative to protect houses from 50s, 60s, 70s as the City currently does for older homes like those in Queen's Park?
- g. Resident was concerned about tree overhang on sidewalks & meadow naturalizing.
- h. Residents felt that we needed public washrooms in Westburnco Park.
- i. Are taxpayers getting good value for money? If no, what would you do about it?
- j. Comment – concern about decisions on which the resident felt that we did not have enough input – recycling depot, new pool, rec centre.

We have not included verbatim accounts of the answers given by the candidates as it would have been difficult to record their words accurately. Anyone unable to attend this meeting who would like answers to these questions, is encouraged to contact the candidates directly.

8. Closing remarks

President Sherry Messenger closed by thanking the candidates for their time and residents for attending.



She also encouraged local residents to join the MVHRA Executive to ensure we can continue to advocate on issues of concern to our residents.

She reported on two upcoming activities:

- The Halloween House Decorating contest in October – see <http://www.masseyvictoryheights.com/halloween.html>
- Renewal and new member forms to be distributed in late November with a holiday greeting.

To join or renew now, download the form under Forms at <http://www.masseyvictoryheights.com/index.html>

9. *Adjourned* at 9 pm.