

**Meeting:** Abkhazi Advisory Board

**Date:** Friday, March 18, 2022

**Time:** 11am

**Location:** Zoom Meeting

## **Minutes**

**Present:** Jane Anderson, Cathy Armstrong, Pam Madoff, Cherie Miltimore

**Regrets:** Samantha Beare, Barb Gunn, Jacqui Paulson

### **1. Adoption of Minutes**

Approval of the Abkhazi Advisory Board minutes not possible as members present at this meeting were absent last meeting.

### **2. Agenda**

**Cathy's Report** (TLC Executive Director)

**Jane's Report** (Informal Friends Group)

**Jacqui's Report** (Head Gardener)

**Cherie's Report** (Abkhazi Garden Site Manager)

### **3. Cathy's Report** (TLC Executive Director)

**Rezoning - Anticipate Further Square Footage Needs of Garden** – add square footage for bikes and garbage storage or expanded greenhouse. Heritage house and summerhouse would not change.

**Rezoning – Parking** – parking required for business and gate visitors. Encourage public transit and bike riding. Already experienced 20 years of parking in neighbourhood. Ask neighbours for a letter of support for a variance.

**Rezoning – Green Applications** –green choices for the garden such as compost, grass/clover, changing the heads for irrigation, rain barrels, electric lawn mower and leaf blower, bikes etc. Jacqui will write a paragraph and add photos.

**Ukraine Donation** –plant sales or gate donations on Canada's National Garden Day, Cherie to ask Jacqui.

### **3. Jane's Report**

**Density/Donation Question** – will 70% of the density not being used convert to a donation? Will Aryze get a tax receipt? Cathy replied that Arzye has not asked for one.

**Next AAB Meeting** – the next meeting falls on Good Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. The following date on April 22 is before our plant sale. Cherie suggested we move the next AAB meeting to Friday, May 20.

#### **4. Jacqui's Report (written)**

**Irrigation System** – testing irrigation system at the time of meeting. Major freeze happened in the perimeter line which has caused cracked piping and will need to be replaced.

**Storm Drain** – drain in northwest corner appears to be blocked. Will investigate further.

**Hornbeam Trimming** – the hornbeam hedge on the west side (service area side) and on the south side (boulevard side) by Bartlett trees has been trimmed.

**Student Pruning** – Students from the Pacific Horticulture College came to Abkhazi Garden to prune on February 24<sup>th</sup>.

#### **4. Cherie's Report – (Abkhazi Garden Site Manager)**

**Neighbour/Fence** – neighbour has sent bylaw regarding size of the fence on west side of the garden. Cherie contacted city to see if 6 foot fence with cedar railings would be allowed. By law passed her on to zoning who passed her on to the planning department.

**Plant Sale** – coming up on Saturday April 23 and Sunday April 24. Posters made and Cherie will share the two day event with media.

**Volunteers – New** – Darren signed up to do compost and Irene signed up to garden on Mondays. **Volunteers Needed** - gate greeters and docents. **Spring Start** - Gate greeters start Saturday, March 19. **Volunteer Exchange Pass** – is back this year. Pass sent out with March E-News and hard copies handed out to garden volunteers.

**Spring Fairfield** – Abkhazi Garden has a table from 12-2pm on Sat March 19<sup>th</sup>. Will have a draw for High Tea, prizes for kids, info about TLC which is celebrating 25 years, hand outs on plant sale and documentary.

**Year of the Garden 2022** – As a member of the Canadian Garden Council, Abkhazi Garden will be in Coffee Table book and on Canada's Garden Route. We will also have a discount on registration to the International Garden Tourism Conference.

**Chelsea Fringe Festival** will be held in the garden on May 28<sup>th</sup>. Music will be playing through out our opening hours all with a theme of garden.

**Canada's National Garden Day** - on Saturday June 18<sup>th</sup>. Music planned for this day.

**Abkhazi Garden Activity Book** – it has been completed and is ready for printing.

**Abkhazi Garden Documentary** – Geoff Bird gave a presentation to the Rotary Club at the Union Club on Wednesday morning. He talked about doing a documentary on Abkhazi Garden as a site of war memory. He showed pictures of the Abkhazi's in the union club and pictures of Nicolas's prisoner id tag and Peggy's numbered red armband.

**Tours** – several volunteers have signed up to give tours. There is a garden walk and tour training on Monday and tour training on Tuesday of next week. Gate greeters and docents can give tours. Barb will be organizing tours for \$15/person, \$12 of every \$15 will go to the garden. School groups will be given tours as well.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 11:50 am.

**Next Meeting:** will be Friday, May 20, 2022 at 11am by zoom.