



**Meeting:** Abkhazi Advisory Board

**Date:** Thursday, Jan 30, 2025 **Time:** 11am

**Location:** Zoom Meeting

### **Minutes**

**Present:** Penny Crawford, Pamela Madoff, Cherie Miltimore, Jacqui Paulson, Jeff Sheldrake, Dianna Stenberg, Lesley Wood

**Regrets:** Barb Gunn

#### **1. Call to Order**

#### **2. Adoption of Minutes**

Approval of the Abkhazi Advisory Board minutes of October 24, 2024, was motioned by Jacqui, seconded by Penny.

#### **3. Agenda**

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

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

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

**Penny's Discussion** (Garden Volunteer and Board Member)

\*Please note written reports have been sent to board members prior to the meeting.

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

##### **Calendar:**

- TLC will be celebrating 25 years of garden ownership with community support throughout the year. Cherie will plan a special celebration in July with volunteers and TLC members and the Lieutenant Governor?
- Shared new events such as Victoria Conservatory of Music events, Rhododendron Month at the Garden, Design Victoria tours, Summer Cycling to the Garden and International Day of Peace with Vancouver Georgian Diaspora.

##### **Maintenance:**

- Walkway/driveway project will start in March. Cherie and Jacqui will meet with Kieran of Foreground Landscape on Friday Feb 7<sup>th</sup>. Cherie will check on the life span and warranty of the gravel grid.

#### **3. Jacqui's Report (Head Gardener)**

##### **Condolences**



- Expressed condolences for Monday volunteer, Mark who passed away in December

### **Planning**

- Plans to clean up the pond this year, renovate beds surrounding the terrace with bonzai plants, repair tripping hazards on pathways on east path by Georgian Garden and pathway from Teahouse steps to the memorial site.
- May not have Horticultural College students this year and will plan special work parties to tackle larger shrub/tree pruning.

### **Garden Plan and Inventory of Plants**

- Jacqui has developed a map with planting zones. She is creating a database of plants in each zone. This is a living document that can be updated as plants get added or removed.

### **Chipper**

- Old chipper needs to retire. Jacqui has put in a request for a new chipper in the next budget.

## **6. Dianna's Report (TLC Executive Director)**

### **Rezoning**

- Rezoning work with the City of Victoria continues. Payment to creditors will follow once rezoning is finished and funds are received from Aryze.

### **Budget**

- Dianna shared the comparative income statement for this fiscal year noting we had over \$20,000 in net income.
- TLC is moving its fiscal year to January through December. The next fiscal year will be truncated and will run from May through December 2025.

### **Walkway/Driveway Fundraising**

- Grant has been approved and cannot be made public until public announcement is made. Donors can still give towards the project.

### **Landmark Newsletter**

- Spring LANDmark Newsletter will include an article on Abkhazi Garden

### **Volunteer Luncheon**

- Dianna attended the volunteer New Year Luncheon and thanked Jacqui and Cherie for organizing this event.

## **7. Penny's Discussion**



### **Terms of Reference**

- Penny shared a draft of a Terms of Reference with members. Members will email their feedback to Penny so she can make adjustments.

### **Strategic Plan for Abkhazi Garden**

- TLC Board Chair, Jeff Sheldrake and TLC board member and AAB member, Penny Crawford recommend developing a strategic plan for Abkhazi Garden. Members of AAB support having a strategic plan for the garden. More discussion on strategic plan to come at next meeting.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.

**Next Meeting:** Suggested date is Thursday, March 27 at 11am.