

Glenarye Community Association

President's Report for 2016/2017

2016/2017 has been a busy year for the Glenarye Executive and Community. While we organized and hosted a number of events and initiatives to bring our community together as usual, we also have had a couple initiatives that were a departure from our recent history of mostly being an events committee. We are working to do a better job of engaging and encouraging our neighbours to share in and take ownership of this community.

So here's what we've been up to:

The Children's Christmas party is a quiet event that is a nice way to take a break from the madness of the holiday season. The kids made crafts, decorated cookies and had a sing-a-long. They also had a special visit from a certain red-suited someone who shared a treat while parents took pictures.

The Children's Christmas craft sale was held in the Glenarye school gym and the funds raised went to the Women's Transition House along with an additional \$100 from the Glenarye Community. This is a great event where the kids can buy small gifts for family members.

Christmas lighting contest is always a fun night where the executive gets to drive around the neighbourhood looking at Christmas lights and chooses a winner: the Seward family on Dundonald, who graciously donated the winnings to Glenayre Elementary that they might help out a local family in need to enjoy the season.

New Year's Eve Celebration: This year we had our bi-annual New Year's Eve party. We held the New Year's party at the Community Center and limited our ticket sales. We had a great potluck dinner from our exceptional bartender was on hand to pour the drinks and there was a great evening of dancing and celebrating provided by DJ. Thank you to all those that organized the event, it was a fun filled evening.

Police Information Session: Constable Angela Fisher of the Port Moody Police Department and Constable Jenny Chung of the Transit Police attended our May meeting. We invited the neighbourhood to attend to learn about things like crime statistics in Port Moody and what we should anticipate with the Evergreen Line. We are hoping to do more of these types of information sessions this year.

Easter Egg hunt: This is a fun filled morning for the kids. They get to hunt for eggs, have a visit from the Easter bunny and maybe even win a prize. The Easter Egg hunt is also the kick off for our...

Membership drive: it began at the Easter egg hunt as usual and then continues door to door by community volunteers, organized by myself. The membership drive is our main source of funding to host our community events.

Glenarye scholarship award: this award is given to a grade 12 student that is a resident of Glenarye. The recipient this year was Daniel MacDonald who is pursuing an apprenticeship in the sheet metal trade.

Idea Jam: This is a topic that we'll get more into a bit later on, but we on the executive are hoping to be able to engage with those in our neighbourhood who maybe can't commit to joining the executive, but still want to contribute to making Glenayre a great community with their ideas, expertise, skills and resources.

Summer Picnic: This was the second year we held a picnic at Ailsa Park. We had Sportball, hot dogs, a bouncy castle, and a watermelon eating contest - our community brought the good time! Our thanks to Suncor for donating money to help make this event a success!

Zoning discussion: this started a couple years ago, when the "monster home" controversy first started to boil out on loco Road, and the City reached out to tell us that they were planning a neighbourhood-by-neighbourhood study of the matter. We shared that information in the newsletter and were patiently looking forward to hearing more, only to discover through Svetlana and her involvement in the Community Planning Advisory Committee that Council thought that the general mood in the neighbourhood was that we were happy with the pace and shape of development, whereas the conversations we are hearing locally were of concern for various aspects of the new houses being put up. With the help of Councilor Barb Junker, we wrote council a letter about it, and attended a meeting to support the Councilor's motion to have an open house here on September 25. It was very well attended - there are a lot of passionate voices here in the neighbourhood. The Planning Department is scheduled to bring their survey results before Council November 21; we continue to press for information so we can keep the neighbourhood up to date.

Halloween fireworks – Peter Jeffery's of Celebration fireworks did another fantastic job again this year, as well as our volunteer assistances (Jenn, Joel, and Mike, along with some of Port Moody's volunteer firefighters). We held the colouring contest again this year and Corbin was very excited to use a Wile E Coyote style plunger start the show. I received lots of comments from residents about how great the fireworks were again this year. They sure lit up the sky and we were very fortunate that the weather cooperated for our community to enjoy an amazing display.

Community newsletter: This was prepared by me and delivered to everyone's home by community volunteers organized by Karen MacDonald. The newsletter is also posted on our website.

We had good community support at most of our events. We definitely live in a wonderful community and I couldn't imagine our neighbourhood without all of these great events. No event can happen without the hard work and dedication of the volunteers and those of us who form the executive all help out where we can. I want to thank everyone for all their dedication and hard work. We are going to be working this year to engage more people who are not part of the executive to help with our different events. Not only will we benefit from new people and ideas, but we hope to avoid volunteer burn-out for those of us who are putting a lot of time into it right now.

In closing I'd like to say that the executive has done a fantastic job of not only organizing and hosting all of the events within our community, but beginning an exciting revitalization process. I know this will continue for the year ahead.

I have enjoyed being the president of the Glenayre Community Association and look forward to continuing with the executive.

Thank you.

Zac Jacobson

President, Glenayre Community Association