

Terms of Reference for the StreetLife and Community Engagement Committee

~ Bringing Community Alive ~

Purpose:

The Street Life and Community Engagement Committee is a standing committee of the Board. The Committee fosters and supports the development and implementation of street, neighbourhood, and community-wide activities and initiatives that reflect the FGCA's mission, purpose, and values, and fosters engagement between community members and between FGCA and the community, as noted below.

Responsibilities:

Responsibilities – The Committee will work on the following areas, over time and as volunteer capacity, resources, and available partnerships permit:

1. Community Engagement/Strengthened Sense of Community

In partnership with FGCA staff and community partners, the committee carries out community events in Fairfield/Gonzales that promote the values of the FGCA and bring together community members to foster a sense of belonging and community, contributing to the creation of a connected, collaborative, inclusive, and sustainable neighbourhood. Examples of events carried out in the past include potlucks, seasonal celebrations, and the annual community wide yard sale.

2. Assess and Develop Methods of Communication to Community Members

The committee will monitor innovative methods of community engagement that may be used to reach more community members, such as social media, contributing to the FGCA's newsletters as appropriate, and additional projects that arise. Previous examples include posting on the FGCA's social media sites, contributing to the Observer, and a community asset mapping project to creatively disseminate valuable information about community resources to community members.

3. Build Neighbourhood Resiliency

The committee will provide opportunities for community members to come forward with their ideas for improving the quality of life in the Fairfield Gonzales area. This includes, but is not limited to, Neighbourhood/Block Watch programs, disaster response preparedness, and placemaking efforts that develop neighbourhood and community resiliency.

Committee Structure:

1. Membership:

Committee members are appointed by the Board. Recommendations may be put forward by the Committee. The Committee will have a minimum of 3 members. The number of committee members will be determined by the committee.

Any FGCA member in good standing is eligible for membership on the committee. A person who is not a FGCA member but nevertheless wishes to join the Committee may do so as a volunteer.

Committee membership may be terminated by the Board in accordance with Section 4 of FGCA Policy 6.3.1 "Committee Terms of Reference".

The Executive Director is a non-voting member ex-officio.

2. Committee Officers:

As per Section 5 FGCA Policy 6.3.1 "Committee Terms of Reference", the Committee will have a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary. The Committee Chair and Vice-Chair are elected by the Board, and are to be Board Members unless otherwise approved by the Board. The Secretary is elected by the Committee. Committee Officers are appointed for one-year terms.

Each Committee Officer is to carry out the duties outlined in Section 5 FGCA Policy 6.3.1 "Committee Terms of Reference" and in any related FGCA Job Descriptions.

Communications and Reporting:

Minutes shall be prepared, and reports submitted to the board as per FGCA Policy 6.3.1.

Meetings:

The Committee shall meet as frequently as it determines, but at least quarterly, and shall determine what rules of order to follow. Quorum shall be a simple majority of the committee.

Support Needs:

The Committee shall be supported by the Executive Director or assigned staff in minor matters such as meeting scheduling, printing, etc. More significant allocations of time or financial resources require board approval.

Revised Draft: September 13th, 2019

Amended by the Committee: September 16, 2019.

Reviewed by Governance Committee: January 23 2020.

Approved by the Board of Directors: February 3, 2020.