



**Southeast Vancouver Seniors
Arts and Cultural Society
Meeting # 39
Champlain Heights Library
April 19, 2011 at 10:30 AM**

Minutes

Present: Tom Chin, Bert Massiah CCS, Lorna Gibbs (Chair), George Grant VFK, George Anderson, Des Burke, Margaret Homonnay CHCC, Philip Mah, Manfred Hagen CHCC, Barbara Warner, Wendy Emslander, Leah Dalton, Donna Davies, Gail McKay SVPC, Mohinder Sidhu, Fran Grant, Harjinder Hothi, Sudinder?

Regrets: Pat Deibert, Keith Jacobson KCC, Joan Wright SVNH, Kamlesh Sethi, Florence Fung, Amarjeet Gill, Linda Hagen, John & Helen Pawluk, Jagit Kaur Mann, Florence Fung, Mabel Leung, Rajinder Pendakur, Margaret Gilbert, Joyce Leong, Jean MacPherson, Mike Gong, Jim Lin, Abdul Shaikh, Pres. CHCC, Arleen Cave, Chris Podlecki KCC, Jody Gunderson CHCC, Margaret Vasicek CHCC, Jukka Vuorma SCC, Charito Gailling VCH, Constable Heather Brown CPC, Louise Seto SVC.

1. Introductions & Welcome - Meeting called to order at 10:30 am.
2. Approval of Agenda: Moved by Des Burke, 2nd by Donna Davies, carried.
3. Approval of Minutes of Meeting #38, Mar. 17, 2011: Moved by Donna Davies, 2nd by Des Burke, – Carried.
4. Lorna introduced Alison Moody-Stuart, Branch Manager of Marlin Travel at Champlain Mall who spoke on travel. Marlin Travel is a division of Transat A.T. a Canadian company with headquarters in Montreal (TSX: TRZ.A TRZ.B). They are an *Airmiles* sponsor.
Alison emphasized the need to purchase adequate travel insurance when traveling beyond the BC border. While Canada has a universal medical program the system does not provide uniform or standard benefits across the country and is very deficient in covering international travel. Travel insurance costs are determined by number of days out of province, age and preexisting health problems. Annual policies are available for frequent travelers. Policies may also be available that cover visitors. They may be purchased in advance or after the visitor arrives. If purchased in advance coverage is immediate, if purchased on arrival coverage takes effect 48 hours after arrival. Check that your policy covers all planned activities and has 24/7 contact number for assistance.
Alison noted the passports are the best identification to use when traveling, even within Canada. Passports are mandatory if traveling into, through or over the USA. Airlines will not issue international tickets without a valid passport. The name on the airline ticket must be the same as that on the passport.
Alison described the Cash Passport, a prepaid VISA card, accepted worldwide where VISA is available. The cards are preloaded with a minimum \$250 and maximum \$9,000.00 and can be reloaded. The cards are not linked to bank accounts. The cards do have an initial cost and possibly other fees and costs.
Alison described some of the Cruises available, including Alaska. Her company does some block booking and is able to offer some discounts. Last minute deals are displayed on a sign at her office on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

5. Committee Reports:

Presidents Report: Lorna reported on the success of the book launch April 8, 2011. 109 people signed took the time to sign in at the event held at Sunset Community Centre. Many more attended as all seats were taken. The launch was well supported by the six constituent groups who prepared luncheons and contributed recipes to **Meals & Memories**.

250 people took part in the various luncheons. New Horizons people commented that Meals & Memories is one of the most successful projects in the three years of the program. A special thanks to John Wright and the staff at SVNH for their contribution of time, effort. SVNH hosted four of the six luncheons. A big thank you Donna and Gail for staffing the sign in table and for selling books. A few books are still available at \$25.00 each. Contact Lorna or George if you wish a copy. They make wonderful Mothers Day gifts.

Lorna reported on a meeting with Stephen Mancer of Lumina Marketing. His firm promotes and facilitates *Life Lease Housing*. Life Lease is a concept that has been available to nonprofits for several years. It works best when the nonprofit has an under utilized land asset. SVSACS does not have the means to engage in the concept.

Annual General Meeting: Bert Massiah will lead the nominating committee and determine the date, time and location of our 2011 AGM.

May meeting date: Regular date conflicts with May long weekend. Next meeting **Wednesday, May 18, 2011** at 10:30 am in Champlain Room at Champlain Heights CC.

Earth Day April 30, 2011 at Everett Crawley Park 11:00 am – 3:00 pm. Joint VFK/SVSACS display. George and Lorna will be on site at 10:00 am to set up. Mohinder and two other South Asian ladies, Donna, Tom, George A. & Margaret H. will assist throughout the day.

South Hill Festival: May 28, 2011. SVSACS will display. Volunteers needed to staff.

Digital Camera Workshop: Four sessions: Tuesdays June 7, 14 and 21, 2011 10:30 – noon at Champlain Library. Saturday June 18 field trip. 8 to 10 SVSACS members indicated they will attend. A further four from SVNH also wish to be included.

6. New Business: Suggested that the free movie day be moved to Tuesdays. **SVSACS requests input on this possible change. Send your thoughts to svsacs@gmail.com**

7. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at noon.

Upcoming events: April 26, 2011 – Free Food Security Workshop #1 – SVNH - 3:30 pm sign up at foodsecurity@southvan.org or call 604-324-6212

April 27, 2011- Strawberry Tea – Champlain Heights Community Centre – 2:30 pm \$5.00 per person - to register, please call Champlain Heights Community Centre at 604-718-6575 or

E-mail: margaret.vasicek@vancouver.ca

VFK committee meets April 28, 2011, 7:00 Room 202 Killarney CC.

Free movie: Friday April 29, 2011, **Whale Rider** at Champlain Heights Community Centre - 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm. Tea and talk from 1:00 pm.

Champlain Heights Community Centre - 3350 Maquinna Drive Vancouver V5S 4C2
604-718-6575 <http://www.champlainheightscc.com/>