



Southeast Vancouver Seniors Arts &
Cultural Centre Society (Registered Charity)
S-53479

Meeting # 54 held at
Champlain Heights Community Centre
Thursday February 21, 2013 at 10:30AM
www.SVSACS.org – 604-325-0163 Messages
Our Goal: a Dedicated Seniors Centre

Minutes

Present: George Grant, Lorna Gibbs, Kamlesh Sethi, Anna Fiorini, Des Burke, Manfred Hagen, Barbara Warner, Tom Chin, Donna Davies, Mohinder Sidhu, Margaret Homonnay, Pietro Cassano, Bert Massiah, Eddie So, Philip Mah, Naomi Mah, Joan Wright, Abdul Shaikh, Pat Deibert, Ramesh Kalia, Sharon Tong.

1. Call to Order – at 10:30 am Lorna Gibbs in the Chair
2. Approval of Agenda – moved by Des Burke, 2nd by Abdul Shaikh, approved
3. Minutes of Meeting 53 – Corrected to record that **Ramesh Kalia** was one of those recognized Dec 14, 2012 for her volunteer work in the community. Wai Young, MP, made the presentation.
4. Approval of Minutes of Meeting 53 as corrected – moved by Donna Davies, 2nd by Margaret Homonnay, approved.
5. **Reports** - President
 - Change of yearend to Dec. 31 has been approved by CRA. See also minutes of Meeting 53.
 - February 1st George and I attended MP Wai Young's Round Table to consider and discuss the forthcoming Federal Budget.
 - George, Bert, Keith and I attended Meetings at Killarney Community Centre (Jan 29), West End Community Centre (Feb. 4), Hillcrest Community Centre (Feb. 11) where the citizens came together to discuss and register opposition to the proposal put forward by the Parks Board to alter the JOA.
 - February 8th, Several SVSACS Members including George, Belen and Nelson Didulo, Des Burke, Pat Deibert and I attended at Wai Young's office for the Gung Hay Fat Choy Celebration.
6. **New Business:** - A motion was put forward to spend up to \$150.00 on refreshments for our AGM that will take place either May 23 or May 30. Lorna will arrange space at either Killarney or Champlain Heights. Motion carried by show of hands.
 - A motion was put forward to spend up to \$400.00 for the May and June movie luncheons. Collingwood Policing Centre will provide the April luncheon. Motion carried by show of hands.
7. **Presentation on *Down Sizing the Home*** was presented by Loreta Escalante of Sutton Realty with offices at 2607 East 49th; Burnadette Laxamana of my Verico Hometown Mortgage and Marife Sanvictores of Sutton West Coast Realty. Loreta gave an overview of the presentation. They provided advice on housing options for seniors thinking of downsizing. Two handouts, *Aging in Place* and *Helpful Home Tips*, were distributed at the end of their presentation. Burnadette Laxamana offered advice and information on credit and things financial.

- Everyone should check their credit score annually, not just the score number, but what is in ones credit record. Businesses are quick to add information but slow to remove information. As much as 40% of credit information is incorrect. **Burnadette offered SVSACS members a free credit check. Contact her at 604-436-4600, ext. 222 if interested.**

- Beware of scams. Do not respond to on line-loan loan application; never give personal information to anyone over the phone; seek independent financial advice. Beware of collateral mortgages; they may limit the borrowers options. Some banks are using them in place of conventional mortgage.

- Governments, including Canada Post do not communicate via email.

- Keep indebtedness under control. Debt consolidation may be beneficial. (Seek advice)

- Homeowners who purchase selected home improvements may receive up to \$1,000.00 annually in B.C. Seniors' Home Renovation Tax Credit, in both 2012 and 2013, if you spend \$10,000.00 or more in a tax year. Go to [Senior Home Renovation Tax Credit](#) for more information.

Marife Sanvictores spoke about home equity: Seniors who own their own homes mortgage-free are in a preferred retirement position. They can choose to downsize to smaller homes and invest the difference; they can borrow to repair or upgrade their current home – various methods are available to accomplish this including CHIP (reverse mortgages). Seniors thinking of borrowing should take great care and explore their options carefully before making decisions.

- If you decide to use your home equity set out your goals and make decisions carefully.

Each SVSACS member present was given a gift bag with supporting information.

They provided a very nice luncheon at the end of their presentation.

8. Adjournment – at 12:00 pm.

Next movie: **March 6, 2013 – *Calendar Girls*** – Luncheon registration begins February 20.

March 21, 2013 – next SVSACS meeting 10:30 am CHCC.

Spring movies:

Wednesday April 3rd - *A Passage to India* - registration will open on March 20

Wednesday May 1st - *Secret Life of Mrs. Beeton* - registration will open on Apr 17

Wednesday June 5th - *Shakespeare in Love* - registration will open on May 22

Send Donations to assist in our work c/o Huamali & Associates (CGAs)

3380 Maquinna Dr., Suite 100, Vancouver, B.C. V5S 4C6 -Tax Receipt will be issued.

Information: Mail: SVSACS c/o 6260 Killarney St., Vancouver V5S 2X7

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SVSACS PARTNERS are all working together to get a real Seniors Centre for you!

