

BONSOR 55+ SOCIETY

Bonsor 55+ Centre - 6533 Nelson Avenue, Burnaby, BC V5H 0C2 – phone 604-297-4580 – Fax 604-297-4583

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

August 12, 2022

A. Albert –Mah Jong, Table Tennis, Traditional Tai Chi

MAH JONG – Currently has 62 members or maximum of 15 tables of 4 players each. They play with 3 types of Mah Jong sets – Hong Kong style, Taiwan style and Vietnam style. With the Taiwan style becoming popular, they don't have enough Taiwan sets to go around. There are very few places selling them. To keep the game going they went out scouting and managed to purchase several sets, thereby depleting their group account with a shortage of around \$300 for this year. They are not expecting any financial issue for next year. They will be submitting Form D for fund application. This is the first year of operation for the newly formed management team.

TABLE TENNIS – Currently has 228 members. They have tried different playing formats for running the game smoothly -initially with both reservations and drop-ins method. Since last week they dropped all reservations and have drop-ins only. To avoid congestion, the first session divides everyone into two groups with a 15 minutes offset between them. Play time is 30 minutes from there on. It seems to resolve many issues. There is still an issue of skill level grouping, especially with the entry level skill groups. Group leaders and monitors show a high level of co-operation and dedication to the well-being of the group.

TRADITIONAL TAI CHI –This is a group where Tai Chi movements are practiced with utmost concentration and quietness. As there is hardly any equipment required and the members show the utmost peaceful and endurance behaviours, there is hardly issues coming from this group.

B. Brian – Chess, Computer, BSAC, Publicity

CHESS – Still have not heard from this group

COMPUTER EDUCATION – Shut down for August but available if help needed.

BURNABY SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BSAC) – No Report.

PUBLICITY- No Report.

WEBSITE – Soo Hoe continues to post new information on the website. Groups are encouraged to sent in up to date information since most content is pre Covid.

C. Ernie – Bus Committee

BUS COMMITTEE – Unfortunately, some trips have had to be cancelled due to last minute cancellations due to ill health of participants. Overnight trips are all booked at this time.

D. George – Karaoke

KARAOKE – Report submitted by Rudolph Cheng

Karaoke reopened with a size of 37 and was divided into 2 groups to sing on alternate Sundays. We tried this out to manage the size of our gathering each Sunday to minimize the risk of COVID-19.

Over the 14 Sundays from Apr/24 to Jul/24 many issues that we were unprepared for happened to us and required us to deal with them on the fly. These included problems related to our equipment, connectivity of the equipment, availability of volunteers, availability of DJs and operational logistics. With a bit of luck and the collective effort we managed to resolve them without having to cancel the sessions impacted.

However, the singing participation for these 14 Sundays was very low. They were between 7-12 attendees per session. We need to make some changes to improve participation when we feel that we can safely handle a group size of 25.

To prove that the karaoke program can get more of its members to come out to sing and that our volunteers can really handle the traffic, we decided to do an experiment. For 6 Sundays between Jul/31 to Sep/4 we will let all our members (combining group 1 and group 2) participate. We'll analyze the results of these 6 Sundays to make further decisions on how to properly run the karaoke program with more members coming out to participate.

I am encouraged to report that on the Jul/31 Sunday we had 18 participants singing a total of 58 songs and on Aug/7 Sunday we had 17 participants singing 54 songs. The participation is moving in the right direction!

George also reported that Grace had submitted our mid-year financial report to Karuna together with the cheque of \$370 covering the contribution of the current karaoke membership.

E. Freda –Tennis, Walking Club, Bingo & Choir

TENNIS – I am pleased to say Tennis is up and running with a new executive.

They are meeting regularly Monday Wednesday and Friday with players coming and going as it suits their schedules. They had a very enjoyable Pizza Day recently after their games it was well attended and fun. So far all is going well.

WALKING GROUP – No Report.

BINGO – Bingo has continued since we started up earlier this year. Raj calls and I help set up, collect and pay out wins. We usually have 10 to 14 players who seem to really enjoy their outing. Phyllis is doing a good job often calling and running the games. Raj and I continue to be involved weekly but wish we could get other volunteers involved as this group should be run by themselves. Help or suggestions would be welcomed

CHOIR – No Report.

SUNSHINE - No Report.

F. Karuna – BEARS

BEARS – Everything is going well. BEARS is gearing up for their annual fall sale.

G. Louise – Social Line Dance & Practice Line Dance

SOCIAL LINE DANCE – This group is meeting regularly and continues to have more members return. Currently Block 1 has an 80% attendance, Block 2 has a 60% attendance and Block 3 has a 50 % attendance. They have planned a dinner on August 17th at the Grand Crystal Seafood Restaurant to celebrate their groups resurgence at Bonsor. The Executive of this group meets regularly every month to discuss any issues or concerns.

PRACTICE LINE DANCE – This group would like to thank the Board of Directors for allowing their meeting time on Thursdays.

H. Mary – Badminton, Snooker, Open Studio, Website

BADMINTON – Badminton will be holding their registration early in September, and in keeping with the "Burnaby First" policy will be holding registration for Burnaby residents first, with a second registration date for others wanting to join. A lottery will be held at the main building to fill remaining spots, with Senior Staff, Board members, and representatives from the Badminton Group to ensure this will be a fair and proper lottery. A large "thank you" to the hard-working and diligent Executive for their excellent work in 2021/2022 to try to accommodate all members in a fair and safe way.

SNOOKER – The Snooker Group continues to thrive, with ongoing tournaments both in house, and in the local league. They will be organizing a "yea- end" dinner at the end of August, and plan to hold their YGM in September.

OPEN ARTS GROUP –This group needs a larger space, as new members join. They were invited to participate in the Mulberry's Annual Art Walk on August 6th, featuring arts and crafts from seniors in Burnaby. They had a large display, enjoyed by the many people attending this event. and had many inquiries on the Bonsor 55+ Society and our activities. They did our Society proud.

I. Pat – Social Dance (Mon/Wed & Tues/Thurs) & Weight Room

DANCE - Monday/Wednesday – Thank you for sending the invitational email for oral report from us Yes, we have lots to report...especially because I/we, with Pat have worked very hard from the beginning of the re-opening and have great news of success to report and share.

As you may know we have 3 social, senior dances running at the present time. We have worked

with the group leaders and helped the 2 (Monday & Wednesday) afternoon dances to re-start. Now they are running well with the help of the kind volunteers together. The communication is going well and effectively. We just got some figures for their active attendance at their Wednesday dance - they had 136 participants.

DANCE - Tuesday/Thursday – We're also working hard to organize and support the Thursday night dances. We have 4-5 volunteers on those nights as we have more activities involved. We have live music, 2 different bands are playing alternately offering great ballroom dance music. At one of the recent dances we had 107 participants. That will increase as people feel safe and enjoy themselves.

It's wonderful to see the happy faces. I think dancing is the best "social exercise"!

The only issue we have had since the re-opening is the somewhat reduced and limited timeframe. As we all know the shortage of the security staffing is the reason. Hoping that we can extend our happy time hours and dancing longer soon.

Before Covid our hours were: 7:30 -10:30 pm, with half hour break time.
Now as we have to clear the building by 9:45 pm: 7- 9:30 pm, with only 15 minutes break.

Reports given by Elizabeth Revoczi

WEIGHT ROOM – Everything is running smoothly.

J. _____ –Sing A Long, Tai Chi-Yang Style

SING-A-LONG – No Report.

TAI CHI (YANG STYLE) – No Report.

K. Glenis – Coffee Bar/ Baking

COFFEE BAR – No report.

BAKING – No Report.

L. Brenda – Health Alert , VOBS, BPSW & BSRS

VOICES OF BURNABY SENIORS (VOBS) – VOBS is looking for seniors to join a free Creative Writing Workshop for seniors from September 13 to mid February at 10:00 am each week. The instructor has been teaching the course to seniors at Shadbolt for many years. To register, check the poster on the Bonsor website and at Vobss.ca which also has a profile of instructor Shawna Paul.

PARTNERS IN SENIORS WELLNESS – No Report.

OFIG INVESTMENT – The investment group is having difficulty in getting their members back in person. They made up a poster to attract new members from all the centres but with no response. Paulo himself will be away from September until January. If people don't step up by month end he is going to write the Centre and give up his room on Monday afternoons. They will continue via Zoom which to my mind would turn them into a private group?