



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

**MINUTES OF THE  
BOARD OF VARIANCE**

**HELD FEBRUARY 24, 2023 AT 3:00 PM**

**OKANAGAN LAKE ROOM (COUNCIL CHAMBERS) CITY HALL**

**PRESENT:** Cameron Karpiak  
Caren Walker  
Daniel Schnick  
Reiner Stass  
Teagan Seutter

**STAFF:** Jennifer Pounder, Recording Secretary  
Matt Faucher, Current Planner

**ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 3:06 p.m.

**LAND  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

*As Chair of the Board of Variance, and in the spirit of this gathering, I recognize the City of Vernon is located in the traditional territory of the Syilx people of the Okanagan Nation.*

**ADOPTION OF THE  
AGENDA**

Moved by Member Schnick, seconded by Member Walker:

THAT the agenda of the Board of Variance meeting for February 24, 2023 be adopted:

**CARRIED**

**ADOPTION OF THE  
MINUTES**

Moved by Member Walker, seconded by Member Stass:

THAT the minutes for the Board of Variance meeting of July 26, 2021 be adopted.

**CARRIED**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ORIENTATION**

M. Faucher, Planner, provided an orientation to the Board that covered the following items:

- Bullying & Harassment Policy review.
- Role of the Board of Variance.
- Role of City of Vernon and its employees.
- Rules governing the Board.
- It was recommended that all Board members review the training material provided by Staff containing material from training the Board and Staff received in September, 2022, from Alyssa Bradley of Young Anderson, Barristers & Solicitors.
- Staff further recommended the Board take the following steps when an application is received:
  1. Decide if the application is in the Boards jurisdiction,
  2. Determine the merits of the application, and
  3. Confirm the rationale statements behind the Board's decision.

The following questions / comments were posed by the Board:

- In response to a question, Staff confirmed each application received is reviewed by staff and then forwarded to any relevant city department for consultation, if needed. If there are any concerns or conflicting requests with City bylaws, Staff would provide the Board with an overview to reference when considering an applicants request.
- Staff recommends that each member of the Board visit the address of each application before the meeting, and reiterated that this must be done separately.
- The Board commented they are appreciative of receiving Staffs perspective and also to have the ability to get an inspector or other Staff's opinions as there may be a history that would be beneficial to be aware of.

**ROUNDTABLE  
INTRODUCTIONS**

Roundtable introductions were made by the Board and Staff.

**ELECTION OF CHAIR  
AND VICE CHAIR**

Cameron Karpiak self-nominated for the position of Chair. No other nominations were made. Cameron Karpiak is declared to be the chair of the Board of Variance for 2023.

Reiner Stass self-nominated for the position of Vice Chair. No other nominations were made. Reiner Stass is declared to be vice chair of the Board of Variance for 2023.

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting for the Board of Variance is set for April 27, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Moved by Member Stass, seconded by Member Schnick:

THAT the meeting of the Board of Variance be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting of the Board of Variance adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

**CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

 Chair