

BOARD MEETING Minutes 2010
Wednesday, January 13th at 7:00pm at Harold and Susan Fletcher's

Board Present: Ivana Cappelletto, Rupert Clark, Jude DaSilva, Harold Fletcher, Peter Harvey, and Paul Manson.

Absent: Melanie Vallieres.

Guests: Bill Higgs and Bruce Woodburn.

1. Meeting called to order at 7:15pm. Peter Harvey was M/C acting chairperson in the absence of Melanie Vallieres. The meeting began a little late because several people had difficulty locating the address.
2. Adoption of Agenda M/C.
3. Minutes of meeting dated 2009-12-21 previously approved by email.
4. Introduction of guests: Bill Higgs, Fire Chief for the District of Sechelt; and Bruce Woodburn, resident of Porpoise Drive and former board member.
5. Officers Reports
 - 5.1 President's report unavailable due to Vallieres absence.
 - 5.2 Secretary's report.
 - 5.2.1 Peter Harvey noted that the new Transportation Plan showed little change for Sandy Hook owing to the low population density here.
 - 5.2.2 Transfer of SHCA assets to the new board completed satisfactorily.
 - 5.2.3 Peter Harvey invited all board members to make use of the small office in his driveway. The office contains a computer terminal with internet access, together with a locked filing cabinet (keys held by Harvey and Fletcher).
 - 5.3 Treasurer's report. Approximately \$3900 in total assets. Harold emphasized the need for a reminder to renew membership in the next newsletter.
- 7.3 Peter invited our guests to speak next so they would have the option of leaving the meeting early. The topic brought forward by our guests was the timely one of house sign visibility. Bill expressed the concerns of emergency services in locating addresses in Sandy Hook. The combination of no street lights, odd shaped blocks and obscure house numbers cause difficulties for emergency services. This is especially true for ambulance and police personnel who don't get smoke signals to assist them. House numbers are typically arranged parallel with the roadway, although for visibility it is better for them to be perpendicular and readable from both sides. The commonly seen brass letters on an unpainted wooden background quickly become invisible when the letters lose their shine. Equally invisible are white numbers mounted on pale yellow vinyl house siding. Bill recommended contrasting colours i.e. dark letters on a light back ground.

The example Bill presented as an improvement was the sign used by the Sechelt Firehall – a double sided replica of an aluminium street sign, silver numbers 4½ inches tall, on a green reflective background, hung from a post and pointing out into the street (cost about \$40).

In order to assist emergency services in locating your address Bill made the following recommendations:

- Know your street address, and the nearest landmarks and cross-streets. Put a note of your address beside your phone, either on the wall or on the base of the phone itself.
- When calling emergency services use a landline in preference to a cell phone; this is because a landline automatically transmits address information which a cell phone lacks.
- Flick lights on and off. This feature is currently not available as an automatic option for porch or outside lights, but Bill has been trying to make it a reality.

On the backyard fire issue, Bill favours a brief annual period of a fortnight at the end of October when residents can legally burn off yard waste. His proposal has been presented to DoS council and it has been referred to staff for research, but he doesn't expect any changes this year. According to Bill, when burning was permitted year-round most complaints about smoke occurred in springtime under damp conditions. At the end of summer the dry fuel would burn hot with little smoke. He believes that the current ban on burning is causing a dangerous build-up of fuel in residential areas. Camp fires are still permitted under current bylaws. And he says that council are resistant to imposing a ban on land clearing fires in the DoS since that would make development too expensive relative to neighbouring jurisdictions.

Following this presentation we thanked Bill Higgs and Bruce Woodburn for their informative and interesting presentation. They assured us that they would be willing to make a similar presentation at our "meet and greet" to be arranged for the near future. They declined the invitation to stay for the rest of the meeting.

6. Business arising from minutes and unfinished business.

- 6.1** Park road trail is expected to be completed this year. Perry Schmidt was unable to fit the work into 2009 because the job involves the construction of a difficult set of stairs to reach Sandy Hook Road.
- 6.2** Deerhorn to Sandy Hook Road trail, extending the trail that emerges from Deerhorn Park. Harvey noted that Ed Baxter (resident on Seaview) owns the adjacent property on the northeast side of the easement. Harvey and Clark will look into the potential for this trail.
- 6.3** Decided that we should thank the former delivery persons (by phone and by mail) for their services in the past and invite their continued involvement in other volunteer positions within Sandy Hook community. M/C that Peter Harvey write the letters, and Melanie Vallieres make the phone calls.

Newletter delivery in future will be accomplished by email for the most part. Perspex boxes (to be attached to notice boards) for dispensing paper copies were researched by Jude daSilva. She found that the boxes used by local realtors cost \$50 each. This cost was considered prohibitive, therefore we M/Ced that Harvey and Clark collaborate on making the boxes ourselves.

- 6.4** Newsletter. Ivana suggested an issue date of mid February M/C, then requested ideas for content. Ideas included asking Bill Higgs to submit a paragraph on house signage. Harold emphasized the need for a membership renewal reminder. Rupert promised to get an update from Michael Davidson on the progress of trails and

parking lot in HG. Peter volunteered to ask Bob D'Arcy for a paragraph about Rideshare.

- 6.5 Noted that letters have been written by Peter and sent on December 23rd 2009 to Ken Tang (Director of Engineering for DoS) requesting assurance of funds for 2010 for the repair of subsidence on Deerhorn Drive, and also for the proposed gazebo for Tot Park.
 - 6.6 Meet and Greet. To be held in March. Date and time to be decided at next meeting. If weather permits to be held **outside** at Ivana/Paul's, or alternatively to be held at Peter/Valerie's if **inside**.
 - 6.7 Rideshare. Concerns over SHCA liability, focusing on the hazard to drivers and pedestrians posed by having CoSpot posts located too close to the roadway. Peter will ask Bob D'Arcy for his opinion.
 - 6.8 OCP status. Clark reported that the draft plan, put together with the assistance of Grey Waddell and Sue Jackel, appeared to be thorough and complete.
7. New business
- 7.1 Peter Harvey expressed the need to update the Registrar of BC Societies about the Melanie Vallieres new status as President of SHCA. The position of Vice President now being vacant. M/C Peter to write the letter.
 - 7.2 SHCA archives. Peter invited anyone holding SHCA historical documents to store them in the SHCA filing cabinet, so they can be preserved for future public use.
 - 7.3 House sign visibility. Already covered earlier.
 - 7.4 New dog bylaw. All agreed that the proposed bylaw was nonsensical. M/C that Peter write to DoS informing them that SHCA opposes enacting this new bylaw.
 - 7.5 Community engagement. Ideas to improve. Skipped due to lack of time.
 - 7.6 Board members. How to recruit more. Skipped due to lack of time.
 - 7.7 Open burning (to discuss short periods of open burning). Skipped due to lack of time.
 - 7.8 Silting of ditch/flooding of Sandy Hook Road from build site (location with large pile of concrete blocks.) M/C Peter to write to bylaws personnel to alert them about silting ditch and flooding/freezing hazard for Sandy Hook Road.
 - 7.9 Jude brought to our attention the illegal dumping of household waste (deep freezer full of food, washing machine, barbeque and assorted waste) in the Porpoise Bay Provincial Park on the east side of Sechelt Inlet Road. One of the boulders has been moved allowing people to drive into the park. M/C Peter to write to B.C. Parks, cc to Perry Schmidt DoS.
 - 7.10 Peter informed us that the DoS archivist Ann Watson is a resident of Sandy Hook and is eager to accept documents relating to local history.
8. **Adjournment:** Moved and Carried at 9:35pm. Next meeting to be held Wednesday, February 10th at 7:00pm at Jude DaSilva's house, 6946 Mount Richardson Road.

NOTE: Approved by vote of the Board on 2010.01.21.