

Sandy Hook Community Association

Board Meeting Minutes

Approved December 5, 2011

Monday, November 7, 2011 at 7 PM at Mike Hertz's home, 5881 Deerhorn Drive

Board Members Present: Kirk Exner, Gray Waddell, Gene Scanlan, Harold Fletcher, Valerie Nash, Michael Hertz, Rupert Clark, Neil Edmunds

Board Members Absent: Melanie Vallieres, Peter Harvey

Chair: Kirk Exner Minutes: Gene Scanlan Guests: None

1. Call to Order: 7:01 PM
2. Agenda was approved with the following change: item 7, Boat launch update will be reported by Kirk.
3. The minutes of the October 12, 2011 Board meeting were adopted as corrected, including the correct spelling of Neil Edmunds' name and the number of members (per Harold, 70 paid members are indicated by the financial records): moved by Valerie, seconded by Gray.
4. Officers' Reports
 - A. President's Report (Kirk):
 1. Kirk reported that he has heard positive things about the boat launch work; Brent Jorgens discussed the work with Peter and is very positive. However, some people are resistant to change and have complained about boats being moved and the location of the kayak rack. This project shows the importance of information flow, as many people did not move their boats and some boats are abandoned. This phase of the project will be completed soon. Valerie reported that some people had even called the District to complain. Kirk said this all reminds us there is a diverse community here with many differences.
 2. Kirk reported that he had also spoken with some residents about plans for the tot lot gazebo; there could be some concerns. Mike suggested that possibly we should have a meeting to let people voice their complaints. Kirk suggested that signage direct people to the SHCA web site. Valerie suggested presenting people with some choices for the design of the gazebo as a more positive approach to getting them involved. Kirk pointed out that the tot lot fence was really the District's call, and it will probably be the same for the gazebo. Mike said we could advocate to the District, show them a design choice, and also possible issues. Kirk said our role for projects such as this is to serve as a facilitator.
 3. Kirk mentioned he had sent thank-yous to the District for their work on the boat launch.
 4. Kirk raised discussion of the Meet and Greet (item 12 on the original agenda) and said that, due to some break-ins in his area, he would probably not

host it. Suggestions for alternate locations included the Art Center (Gray), or Rockwood (Valerie). Kirk said he would like to make it a festive occasion, and would be willing to DJ at it. The event would be targeted for the 3rd Saturday in January from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM (January 21, 2012). Mike (originally Valerie) agreed to check about the availability of locations for this date and time. Wine and cheese could be served, with possibly music. Tot lot improvements, including the gazebo and opening up other land, could be presented with poster boards and having “like – not like” stick-ons for people to post. Valerie and Kirk agreed to work on this. Neil will check with the District about the boundaries of the tot lot and Neil and Kirk will measure the park.

B. Vice-President’s Report (Gray): 1. Gray reported he had attended meetings of the Committee of the Whole (COW) and the Council (1 meeting). The Planning Committee was cancelled. 2. He also attended the G-8 meeting; no representatives from West Sechelt or East Porpoise Bay attended. 3. He also attended the November 8 All-Candidates session sponsored by the G-8; 13 candidates participated, including all 4 candidates for Mayor.

C. Secretary’s Report (Gene): 1. Membership is still at 70.

D. Treasurer’s Report (Harold): 1. Harold submitted the financial report for the period ending October 31, 2011; SHCA has a balance of \$3,618.17 as of that date. 2. Sandy Hook Day receipts have not yet been submitted.

5. Emergency preparedness program (Melanie was not able to be at the meeting but submitted an email update on November 3): 1. Melanie’s email said that she, Susan Soux, and Marcia Mason met and discussed what types of emergencies can affect us in this community. They agreed that, in order to help each other, every household has to be ready itself and therefore needs the tools and motivations to be ready. They believe the Meet and Greet could be used to get people’s inputs and possibly have a guest speaker present; this could also opportunity to collect data from members and would offer another incentive to show up for the event. Susan agreed to ask through her Red Cross contact for someone who could come and inform us about this topic. 2. Melanie also reported that she had contacted Bill Higgs, the Fire Chief, about the lane between Sandy Hook Road and Porpoise Drive. He said that the lane is not considered necessary for emergency access, but he encouraged any efforts to get the lane open. Doing so will reduce the amount of combustible garden waste. Melanie had drafted a letter to neighbors who would be affected, but decided to talk to them instead. Susan is concerned about liability issues if there is easy access. 3. The Board discussed the gate issue and Kirk said he would follow up with Melanie about her report. Valerie suggested raffling an emergency preparedness kit at the Meet and Greet, and soliciting community input there about the issue rather than having a speaker. Gene suggested having handouts about emergency preparedness available. The Meet and Greet could therefore include the tot lot forum, the emergency preparedness forum, and seeking other ideas and volunteers from attendees.

6. Sandy Hook Community Plan (Kirk): 1. Kirk said that people need to know what we do, and our focus for next year. We need something more specific than the OCP, put it on

paper, and solicit membership and support. A document about +/- 5 pages could be included in a binder for new members, which would also include information on SHCA, trails information and our internet link. Our #1 asset is we are both a walking community and a green community, so we can set an example. If we have a general community plan on paper, we can build our programs around it. We should talk about a plan, reach consensus on what it should be, and put it down in writing as an adjunct to the OCP. Valerie suggested pulling statements from the OCP and showing these mean to Sandy Hook. Kirk said he sees the plan as having an expanded mission statement, generic information about SHCA, and what we do, possibly also an identity/logo piece. Neil agreed this would be good to have. Kirk said the objective would be to bring people together and get people involved, and to get the organization to move forward; also, it would enable us to attract people to the Board. There was an extensive discussion of the perceptions of the "old" SHCA Board and its accomplishments versus those of the current Board, and of establishing an identity for SHCA. Valerie questioned this approach, saying we had already done this through the community survey and our workshop session in which we identified three areas for our work in 2011 – 2012. Kirk said the plan would enable us to represent ourselves to the community better, and bring stability and a sense of purpose to our work; people have ideas, but we need to do them and we need the people resources to do things. Valerie felt the Board was doing very well, while Kirk felt it could do better. Neil said we should not try to take on too much. Kirk said the plan will help bridge the gap to those here who feel alienated from us and everyone will work together. Valerie suggested having the Hidden Grove group at the Meet and Greet as one way to bring people together; Gray and Rupert will approach the Sechelt Groves Society about this. Kirk agreed to draft a community plan for the Board's review at the December Board meeting.

7. Boat launch update (see earlier discussion).

8. Bylaws revision (Mike): 1. Mike reported that he had made the proposed changes in boldface on the current Bylaws and he reviewed and distributed them to the Board.

9. Newsletter (Mike): 1. Mike said that the Fall newsletter will include articles on: tot park developments, boat launch information and updates, emergency preparedness, the late summer regatta, By-laws, the Meet and Greet, the need for volunteers, updates on Hidden Grove, and other items.

10. Dock issues and Hidden Grove update (Rupert): 1. Rupert reported that Bob Darcy had received a call from the BC Ministry of Environment, Land, and Parks that they may protect Hidden Grove in perpetuity. Also, Michael Davidson will be obtaining in about three weeks a tracked dump truck to haul 98 cubic yards of crusher dust for Hidden Grove trails; volunteers are needed to assist with this project. Rupert reminded the Board that the Sechelt Groves Society volunteers and others meet every Wednesday at 9:00 AM in the Hidden Grove parking lot. 2. On the dock issue, Rupert reported that, over a period of time, he has photographed all of the illegal docks in Sandy Hook and had sent these to the Provincial Department of Lands and Agriculture. They need specific addresses for these. Rupert is still gathering information and this could become a major issue and should be a future discussion item for the SHCA Board.

11. Age-related grants (Gene): 1. Gene reviewed an email from the District about the availability of age-related grants. After considerable discussion, it was decided that, due to the short deadline and the necessary application process, SHCA would probably not apply. The information was forwarded to Mike and Valerie for further review.

12. Next meeting: Monday, December 5 at Gene's home, 5878 Skookumchuk Road.

13. The meeting adjourned at 9:37 PM.