



Sandy Hook Community Association

5916 Skookumchuk Road, Sechart, BC, V0N 3A4

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Number-2 April 2007

YOUR OFFICERS

President

Peter Harvey—885-4833

Vice President

Sue Jackel—885-2348

Secretary/Treasurer

Bob D'Arcy—885-5766

Past President

Joan Pedlar—885-7680

Public Works Director

Bruce Woodburn—885-9402

At Large

Gray Waddell—885-5606

Mike Sutcliffe—740-8133

Sandy Hook Community Association Annual General Meeting

THE Most important meeting of the year anywhere.

A "can't miss" event!

Thursday, May 31st, 2007 at 7:30 PM

Sunshine Coast Arts Centre Gallery (corner of Medusa and Trail)

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Members and non-members alike take this opportunity to get up to date.

Special Speaker—Reports—Elections—Open Discussion of Issues

FREE REFRESHMENTS

PLEASE ATTEND —MARK YOUR CALENDAR

(See some legal stuff about this on the other side)



Sechart Heritage Forest—Some highlights:

- ✓ A new development is going in at Bob Road and a chain is up blocking your way across the property where the old trail ran. Your hard working crew has built a new entrance trail just on your right as you come up to the chain posts. The new trail takes you right into the SHF and the trails you are used to. We have been in touch with both the District and the new property owners to work on a permanent easement or allowance here so it can never be blocked again.
PLEASE DO NOT CROSS THE PRIVATE PROPERTY
- ✓ Just waiting for the nice spring weather to put up the new signs changing the main trail to the Gertrude Pacific Trail in honour of this Sandyhooker who worked to get us all this wonderful piece of forest.

Hidden Grove—Developments

- ✓ There is a new trail about half way in that ducks around and takes you up to the top of the lookout point. Give it a try.
- ✓ The regular trails have all been cleared (at press time) of all the fallen trees and hazards.
- ✓ Our application for a grant to the TD Bank Environmental fund has been turned down for now but we are working on other sources so we are ready to roll when permissions are received.
- ✓ The Advisory Board of the Community Forest has recommended working with us to save Hidden Grove. We are in the process of following up with them and the province to get started on the handicap trails.
- ✓ The District is reviewing the files to look at re-applying to the province for Park or some preserved recreational status.

All in all, lots of work for your little committee.

A Couple of Friendly Reminders



1. That Dog business again. Most of your Association Board are dog owners so we are not picking on lovers of the mutts. It is just that some do feel uncomfortable when a dog that is not on leash in approaching or even nearby. Besides it is against the law to let a dog run loose even in your yard—he might run out at someone.

For your dog's sake too. We have seen some really close calls with cars and a run over dog is a lost friend. So a few thoughts for your fellow Sandyhookers:

- Always keep your dog confined in your yard or on leash when out in the residential area.
- Don't let your dog bark at length and at early or very late hours.
- Pick up after they do that thing.



2. Parking on the Road. Sandy Hook Roads are narrow and it is down right dangerous to park even partially on the road in many places. We all moved here because it is beautiful and many of us maintain lovely yards with gardens.

Some folks are leaving their cars, trucks, trailers, boats and RVs on the shoulder or even right on the road for long periods. No one wants to dodge around them and no one with a nice yard or view wants to look at a long term parking lot.

The District bylaw officer acts on a 'complaint basis' so if he receives a complaint about problem parking he will respond and the vehicles can be towed and the owners fined. Most of your fellow Sandyhookers are considerate and do not complain until the parking violation is really long or bad. Please reciprocate by not giving anyone cause to complain and keep Sandy Hook looking nice, natural and uncluttered.

Bear Aware.

The weather is warming up with the approach of spring and soon our local black bears will all be awake and hungry. Some bears and their new cubs will check out Sandy Hook for food. Garbage, compost and fruit trees are all food sources for bears.

Bears that learn to associate humans habitations with food are at risk of being labelled "problem bears". These "problem bears" are destroyed by wildlife officers who have neither the time nor the resources to trap and relocate bears. Cubs are destroyed along with their mothers.

Sandy Hookers need to keep our neighbourhood free of bear-attracting food sources to prevent the needless destruction of "problem bears".

What can you do to help?

Garbage should be stored in a secure location (shed, garage) and put out on Garbage Day morning, not the night before.

Compost is great for garden waste, but kitchen waste should be put in the garbage or garbage disposal unit.

Ideally, all fruit should be picked as it ripens and fallen fruit should be removed. A healthy, well pruned fruit tree produces higher yields and less spoiled fruit. Winter is the best time to have your fruit trees pruned. Apply dormant oil insecticide before blooms appear.

You may wish to remove fruit trees that you do not plan to harvest.

Remember: "a fed bear is a dead bear". Lets keep our bears alive and in the wild.



Another Wild Animal to watch. Those raccoons look kind of cute but be warned that they can be very vicious. They can kill a dog or cat easily. They love your garbage too and are very clever at getting into it.

Mayor, Councillors and Community Associations have dinner together.

On March the 12th at the Seaside Centre the District of Sechelt hosted a dinner attended by two representatives from each of the seven community associations, the Mayor and four of the District councillors. The goal was to open dialogue between the District and the Associations so that problems might be cleared before they become serious issues. Both sides to listen to the other.

The meeting started with a setting of ground rules for the meetings and who might participate.

Specific issues raised at this first meeting included:

- Bylaw enforcement or lack of it
- Who submissions to the District should go to and what to do when no answer is received.
- The mess at Kontiki Road in East Porpoise Bay
- The new policy for the Spring cleanup and how the prior policy was not economically sustainable.
- The revised rules for the Variance Board were explained.

And much more that can be reviewed on the sechelt.net website.

It was agreed that meetings will be held quarterly.

Some AGM Legal Stuff

1. **Submission of Additional Items for Agenda** - New items only must be submitted in writing at least 2 weeks prior to the meeting. Submissions should be made to the Secretary or President.

2. **Voting** - only current paid up members may vote. Renewals may be obtained at the meeting. New members must be paid up 10 days before the AGM in order to vote.

3. **Board of Directors** -
 a) a nominating committee has reported that the following will be standing for re-election: Sue Jackel, Bob D'Arcy, Gray Waddell. Serving out their two year terms and standing for 2008: Joan Pedlar, Bruce Woodburn, Peter Harvey, and Mike Sutcliffe. Standing for first time: Rupert Clarke.

b) no nominations can be made from the floor.

c) Any 5 members may place in nomination, in writing another member provided the name is submitted to the secretary no fewer than 5 days before the AGM.

d) We can have up to 12 directors plus the Past President. Please consider joining the board. It can be good fun and helpful to your community.

e) the board can appoint additional new directors after the AGM and we welcome candidates.

e) Officers are elected by the board at a later meeting.

We need Directors

It is important to spread what little work there is around and it is just as important that we hear as many different views on Sandy Hook matters from the whole community.

You can be a big help. Join the board of the Association. It is easy—about once a month, a couple of hours at one of the houses in Sandy Hook. You get to express your ideas and make things happen.

Membership Renewal

If you have not renewed, please do—we need your backing to keep up our work on your behalf. Renew online too.

Sandy Hook Community Association—Annual Membership (Jan-Dec) \$10.00 per person

Name(s) _____

Sandy Hook Address _____

Mailing Address (if different) _____

_____ Postal Code: _____

Phone (_____) _____ Email (PRINT CLEARLY—used for receipt) _____

Enclose cheque for dues and either drop in the special mail box at the Tot Park (Deerhorn/Skookumchuk) OR Mail to: Sandy Hook Community Association 5916 Deerhorn Drive, Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A4 OR pay online www.sechelt.net