

WEST SECHELT COMMUNITY **ASSOCIATION**

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 12TH JANUARY, 2010

Attending:

Ken Matheson - President
Michael HOW - Secretary
Donna Perry - Membership Secretary/Treasurer

David Johnston - Director
Charlotte Mallory - Director
David Thomson - Director

Guest Speaker:

Mary Blockberger
President
Sunshine Coast
Botanical Gardens
Society

Apologies:

Gail Riddell - Director

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- 1. Call to Order.** The Meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm, with 61 Members and public present.
 - 2. Adoption of the Agenda.** That the Agenda be adopted as amended and as circulated. Proposed David Johnston, seconded Michael HOW, all in favour.
 - 3. Membership and Finance.** The Membership Secretary/Treasurer reported 93 members of the Association in good standing. The Association bank balance stood at \$1,099.10, as at 8th January, 2010.
 - 4. Adoption of Previous Meeting Minutes.** That the minutes of the previous public meeting, the Annual General Meeting, be adopted as circulated and published on the Association's web site. Proposed by Donna Perry and seconded by Michael HOW. All in favour.
 - 5. Matters Arising.** The following items of business arose from the minutes:

5.1 Capital Projects. The President outlined some of the higher priority items which the Association has forwarded to the District of Sechelt (DoS) for consideration as capital expenditures. They include continuing requests for road and sidewalk improvements, local sewer line connections, beach accesses, parks development and improved park facilities. He mentioned that an application has been made for route signage to be supplied for the Botanical Garden.

5.2 Bligh Road Completion. There has been no further correspondence on the subject of Bligh Road being completed to facilitate development.

5.3 Association Membership Drive. The president reminded the meeting of the need to build a strong membership base so that the Association will be recognized by the authorities as representing a large proportion of the population of West Sechelt. There will a Membership drive in the Mall on Saturday, 30th January, 2010. All members are asked to ensure that their membership dues are paid promptly.

6. Correspondence.

6.1 Medicinal Marijuana – Growth and Use. The President referred to a letter which the Association presented to our Member of Parliament, Mr. John Weston, on the subject of medicinal marijuana growth and use, after an Association Member had reported that a neighbour grows and uses medicinal marijuana, to the detriment of the Member's use and enjoyment of his property. Mr. Weston replied that the Association would be better off to contact the Minister of Health, Ms. Leona Aglukkaq, directly, as that is the Ministry which authorizes and licenses these operations.

6.2 Covered Bus Stops. Michael HOW reported on a conversation he had had with Mr. John Sagman, the Transportation Manager for the Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD). Mr. Sagman said that he is just about to go to the tendering process for the promised covered bus stops for the Sunshine Coast. There will be up to 25 such covered stops, of which West Sechelt can expect one.

6.3 Increasing Acts Of Vandalism. The President said that he had written to both local papers recently, to deplore the apparent increase in acts of vandalism in West Sechelt, particularly the destruction of a flagpole, which was flying the Canadian Flag at half mast in honour of the most recent Canadian dead in Afghanistan.

6.4 Coloured Water Flow. A Member had contacted the President about their concerns over a flow of orange coloured water from the land near the Botanical Gardens. The President said that he has been assured by the authorities that this water is harmless.

7. Referrals. The President reported on three of the current development proposals:

7.1. Resland Developments. This development is east of McCourt and south of Jasper, down to the highway. The status is that the developer is waiting for approval for the land for the first 14 units to be rezoned from R3 to R1.

7.2 Seaview Villa Estates. This development is waiting for an acceptable revised plan to be submitted by the developer, after the initial revised plan met with universal condemnation.

7.3 Silverstone Uplands. Also referred to as the Sangara Property, the Silverstone Uplands development is moving along very slowly, and the Developer announced a further meeting with the DoS, which is scheduled for 14th January. 2010.

7.4 Area Map. John Bell suggested that a map be made available in the future so that members could more easily visualize where the various developments are located throughout the area.

8. New Business. The following new business was dealt with:

8.1 Association Registration Form. The President confirmed that the Association's Registration Form had been submitted, and that, therefore, the Association is in good standing.

8.2 Official Community Plan (OCP). The President reported that the OCP committee of the DoS has been meeting every three weeks or so for the past two years. There has been no further recent correspondence, but he was optimistic that the process would get under way again soon.

8.3 Sewer Commission. The President reported that the DoS have been approached by LEDCOR, a company offering a free trial of their new, self-contained, sewage treatment plant. The offer would be using the Boydel System and it is contained in two 48' containers, and can be operated by one person who does not require a professional ticket. Further information should be available soon, and the DoS sewer committee is considering the offer. The Sewer Committee is scheduled to meet again on January 18th.

8.4 Association Advertising. The President asked that Members talk up the Association among their friends and neighbours, to increase the level of understanding in the community about what the Association is, and what its aims are. He said that the Directors would try to raise our profile by letters to the press, etc.

9. Next Directors' Meeting. Scheduled for Tuesday, 9th February, 2010.

10. Next Public Meeting. Scheduled for Tuesday, 16th March, 2010.

11. Adjournment. There being no further business, Michael HOW proposed that the meeting be adjourned. All in favour.

The Meeting was then addressed by Mary Blockberger the President of the Sunshine Coast Botanical Gardens.