



**Sunshine Valley Ratepayers Association
Annual General Meeting
January 9, 2010
10am – 12pm
SCCC Recreation Centre, Sunshine Valley, BC**

Minutes

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Mernie Jacobsen, Arne Zabell, Ryan Ellan, Melissa Ellan, Rick Gagnon, and Kathleen Poulton

Meeting called to order at 10:10

VERIFICATION OF QUORUM

Quorum was verified as per the Association's bylaws that require at least ten members in good standing be in attendance.

INTRODUCTION and WELCOME from President – Arne Zabell

PROCEDURAL OVERVIEW

The meeting will be conducted according to Roberts Rules of Order (robertsrules.org)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Approve the agenda with addition of Community Announcement under New Business.

MOVED by Melissa Ellan, SECONDED by Arne Zabell and PASSED.

GUEST SPEAKER

Dennis Adamson – Electoral Area "B" Director

The Sunshine Valley Advisory Planning Commission (APC) is meeting again next month (February 2010). For updates on the APC check the FVRD website:

<http://www.fvrd.bc.ca/InsidetheFVRD/CommunityPlanning/Pages/SunshineValley.aspx>

Sunshine Valley Garbage Contract – There have been changes to the garbage contractor however all service for Sunshine Valley residents remains unchanged. Data will be collected over the next year to determine if fees are accurately set. For more information or suggestions regarding the garbage services please email Dennis Adamson at dadamson@fvrd.bc.ca

Fire Insurance – Arne and Dennis gave a brief update on the issue with fire protection in Sunshine Valley. The water system didn't pass inspection and the residents of Sunshine Valley have never been fully protected from fire due to the classification and low number of firefighters on the Sunshine Valley Volunteer Fire Dept. SVUL (Utilities Ltd) has received a report showing a water utility upgrade est. at 1.5 million dollars. The upgrades are required to get the outdated water system to where it needs to be. SVDL/SVUL is looking into how to get government assistance with this as the entire bill now rests on the end water users. What can the FVRD do to assist with this?

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: *Approve the minutes as circulated for the Semi-Annual General Meeting of June 28, 2009*

MOVED by Ryan Ellan, SECONDED by Melissa Ellan and PASSED.

MOTION: *Approve the minutes as circulated for the SVRA Director's Meeting of December 4, 2009*

MOVED by Barb Bell, SECONDED by Arne Zabell and PASSED.

TREASURERS REPORT

Mernie has streamlined the book-keeping process and has begun to use Quicken to assist with the management. The SVAC (Active Communities) accounts have been separated from the SVRA accounts as of April 2009. Dennis Adamson approved a Grant & Aid for the SVRA in the amount of \$4000 which was received toward the end of the year.

MOTION: *Approve the Treasurer's report for the period December 31, 2008 – December 31, 2009*

MOVED by Jim Benbaruj, SECONDED by Melissa Ellan and PASSED.

CORRESPONDANCE

Questions arising from the SVRA Winter Newsletter

1. What does DL 1798 mean?

DL 1798 is a surveyed 10 hectare piece of crown land which starts on one side of the forestry bridge with approx a hectare on either side and goes for approx 5 hectares straight ahead. The SVRA made application to have this land turned to the community to manage. The Ministry of Forestry has been given control of this land. Mike Peters, who is linked to Forestry and Tourism, is taking active management of this property. The goal is to work with Mike Peters to gain access and benefits for the community. The Bigfoot Boulder Co, here in Sunshine Valley, has volunteered to manage the snow clearing duties of the parking/staging area of DL 1798 at no monetary gain.

2. Does the SVRA have the Water Report?

No, the SVRA does not have the Water Report. It does exist and is known to be in SVDL's possession and will be released in the near future.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Increasing SVRA Membership

Active membership has struggled over the past year. Membership averages around 50 people. Any suggestions on increasing this number are welcomed. A definition of a ratepayer is a tax payer – everyone is a tax payer and everyone is welcome!

2. Trail Development Report

2009 has been an incredibly successful year for trail development.

- Riverdell Trail has been opened for a number of months. New signage is set to be put up in spring 2010
- 11 Mile Trail has been opened for hiking – it starts in Huckleberry past the Hope Slide. Eventually that trail will go to the top of the Coquihalla.

Eaton Lake trail (which is not currently within the Active Communities trail inventory) starts from the transfer station and by next year, hikers should be able to make it all the way into the lake.

There is a community map in the works that will show the trails around the area. Also, there are grants available for job creation that will allow 6-7 individuals to be paid to do the trail work. The trail work has been funded and supported through the SVRA and SVAC (Active Communities) but would not be possible without the volunteer hours put in by Gordon Zucht and many other hard working individuals.

Thanks!!

3. Sunshine Valley Active Communities (SVAC) Report

Walk the Valley- The walking group has been meeting in the valley since August 1st. Fitness Trainers have facilitated very informative workshops. Snowshoeing workshops will be getting under way very shortly – watch for the flyers and signage. The community has gained 6 brand new pairs of snowshoes and will be purchasing 7 more pairs.

Winterfest 2010 – Winterfest will be held on Saturday February 13, 2010 at the Sunshine Valley Inn. There will be dog sledding, snow sculpting and a bonfire. Potluck dinner will follow in the evening.

Community Garden – Two large grants for the garden have been declined so the SVAC will be looking at different avenues to pursue. We now have 3 individuals certified and trained as square foot gardeners. There is a great sign for the garden and a signup sheet if you are interested in having your own plot.

Cooking Classes – The first set of classes was a huge success and fun was had by all. Another class will be running in August – September 2010. Also, watch for classes on canning and preserve making.

Spirit of BC - Only 34 days until the 2010 Olympic Games!!! The torch is coming through Hope on Sunday February 7, 2010 at approx 9am. Sunshine Valley's Kate Zabell is going to be seen carrying that torch and Barb Bell will be carrying the torch for the Paralympics Games. So come out and support the games wearing your red & white.

Heritage Association – Event will be held in Hope on Saturday January 23, 2010 to connect community groups.

4. Recreation Funds Update

On November 28, 2009 the SVRA partnered with Langley Diving and the Hope & District Recreation Centre and put on a Discover SCUBA event. 22 community members came out and participated in the event and enjoyed the experience of SCUBA diving. The Hope Standard did an article on the event in their Dec 4, 2009 issue. A portion of the Recreation Funding was used to fund the day making it free for all participants. Thanks to Ryan Ellan for making this event happen

5. Sunshine Valley Entrance Project Update

The SVRA has been granted the authority to manage the Sunshine Valley entrance garden. The goal is to get the entire community involved as well as SVDL. There will be a community event inviting input and thoughts into the restoration project in the spring.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Community Day

There has been discussion around holding a community day with all the groups in the valley. SCCC, SVFDD, APC, SVRA, SVDL/SVUL, SV villages and all local businesses. The goal of the event is to clarify the different community groups, meet one another and learn how to work together more efficiently. One suggestion was to have each group set up a table display and information and hold an open house. The 2010 SVRA executive will discuss this further and determine how to move forward with the idea. "The Sunshine Valley Trade Show"

2. SVRA Goals for Future Consideration

- Water Utility upgrade Issues
- Empowering the 2010 Executive to make necessary changes to SVRA documents to meet the requirements for grant approval by the BC Lottery Corp.
- Supporting the Sunshine Valley Volunteer Fire Dept.

3. Community Announcement

The Spirit of BC Hope Region committee would like to host the Russian Mogul team with a meet-and-greet at the Sunshine Valley Inn once we have their schedule. It will give community members who don't have tickets to the games a chance to see some Olympians in person.

Posters and phone calls will be used to communicate the date and time between January 27th and Feb 8th

APPOINTMENT OF 2010 EXECUTIVE

Nominees:

- Ryan Ellan
- Melissa Ellan
- Mernie Jacobsen
- Kathleen Poulton
- Catherine Freimark
- Barb Bell

All nominees were elected. The new executive will meet after the AGM to assign board positions.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: *To adjourn the meeting.*

MOVED by Jim B SECONDED by Melissa Ellan and PASSED.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:55 am.

**SVRA Directors Meetings are held on the 1st Friday of each month (except in July and August) at the Sunshine Valley Inn from 7-9pm
EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND!**