



**Sunshine Valley Ratepayers Association
Directors Meeting
February 2, 2007
SCCC Recreation Centre, Sunshine Valley, BC**

MINUTES

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Barb Bell, Norm Bell, Beata Korabek, Ben Barnett, Sharon Bender, Linda Carter

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm.

There were brief introductions from each Director on the Board.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: *Approve agenda as circulated.*
SECONDED and PASSED.

GUEST SPEAKER

Stacey Corriveau (Director, Fraser Valley Centre for Social Enterprise) and Sid Gould (Member, Fraser Valley Centre for Social Enterprise)

Stacey and Sid gave a talk on how the Fraser Valley Centre for Social Enterprise can assist enterprising non-profits groups (ENPs) in areas such as:

- finding grants and assist in writing proposals
- feasibility planning, strategic planning and managing risks
- finding job skills training or job shadowing opportunities for employees
- board leadership and development training
- finding partnering opportunities with charities, industry and vocational schools

Sid provided some examples of how non-profits in the Fraser Valley have partnered with charities and industry. He cited some of the advantages and challenges associated with such partnerships.

Sid and Stacey stressed that for societies, such as the Sunshine Valley Ratepayers Association (SVRA), some of the burdens would include: governance issues, deciding where profits would go, developing a long-term business plan, and finding start-up money. Governance is perhaps the biggest challenge. Businesses run best when quick decisions can be made by a single person not by a governing board. There needs to be a single vision of what the business expectations are. There also should be clarity on what the path forward for the business will be. There needs to be agreement on where the profits will go. What happens too often is that ENPs take too many of the profits at the end of the fiscal year, not leaving enough money for the business to

build an adequate cushion. There should be a long term strategic plan (i.e., 5-10 years). Social costs also need to be managed adequately. If the social aspect is to provide training opportunities, what will the cost be? Whether or not social costs need to be sustainable is currently being looked at.

In general, for a radio station, your advertising needs to be cost competitive. If the radio station was a social enterprise (i.e., job training for at risk youth), then advertisers may see a benefit in paying non-cost competitive advertising rates since they can use their advertising support in their own marketing material. A big challenge will be finding enthusiastic people who are willing to spend a lot of time. Grant money may be available for start-up costs associated with a NEW business for a small community such as Sunshine Valley. Funding possibilities include a Federal Communications grant and funding from the Rural Secretariat. Social benefits might include internships for BCIT students, public access airtime, highways information, safety information for residents in Sunshine Valley, emergency services, etc. CRTC regulations may be modified if there is a specific need by the public.

Stacey mentioned that the next social enterprise workshop will be held on March 26, 2007 in Chilliwack. This training is similar to what the board members attended previously; however, this training includes the content requirement needed in order to apply for a \$10K grant that can be used for a feasibility study. Stacey will get back to the board with more information on this workshop.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: *Approve the minutes as distributed from the December 1, 2006 Directors Meeting.*
SECONDED AND PASSED.

TREASURER'S REPORT

MOTION: *Approve the Treasurer's report for the month of January 2007.*
SECONDED AND PASSED.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence from the SVRA to Arne Zabell of the Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD) was sent on January 22, 2007 requesting access to funding opportunities from LocalMotion, Spirit Squares and Towns For Tomorrow.

Correspondence from the SVRA to Arne Zabell of the FVRD was sent on January 24, 2007 thanking him for speaking at the Annual General Meeting on January 13, 2007.

Correspondence was received from current members paying their membership renewal dues and from new members signing up.

BUSINESS

- **Community Water Update**
Don Bender spoke to Rick Couroux on February 1, 2007 to check that status of the water utility engineering study that was submitted on behalf of Sunshine Valley Developments, Ltd. to the Comptroller's office. According to Mr. Couroux, nothing has been received yet from the Deputy Minister indicating whether the information provided is adequate. If found to be inadequate, water rates in Sunshine Valley will return to the rates they were at prior to the interim rate increase. Also in speaking to Mr. Couroux, Don inquired why there are seven water licences issued for Sunshine Valley that involve at least two different client numbers. Don will brief the board what he finds out in regards to this.
- **Spirit of BC**
Spirit of BC Volunteer Appreciation Gala will be held the evening of February 10th at the Hope High School. Event is open to any past or current volunteer in the Hope Region. Tickets are free and are available from either Barb Bell or Kate Zabell. Dress for the evening is semi-formal.
- **Social Enterprise/FM Radio Station**
Already addressed during guest speaker presentation
- **Website Report**
Website traffic is about the same as December. Number of unique visitors is up from last month.
- **Training Opportunities**
United Way is sponsoring two training sessions, "Conflict Resolution" and "Five Year Strategic Planning". Dates are not immediately known. If interested in either of these sessions, contact the board for more information.
- **Drainage Plans in Sunshine Valley**
This should be a matter that residents take up with their STRATA. Board member requesting this agenda item was absent.
Tabled until more information becomes available.
- **SEEC Funding**
Board member requesting this agenda item was absent.
Tabled until next meeting.
- **Canada Day 2007**
Cover letter needs to be drafted by the Secretary to Canada Heritage for grant application.
- **SVRA Notice Board**
A discussion between directors was held to find out who has the key to the notice board. It was not determined who last had the key.
- **150th Birthday of British Columbia (2008)**
The Province of British Columbia will be sponsoring grants to help communities celebrate the Province's 150th birthday in 2008. Residents are asked to think of what they would like to see happen in Sunshine Valley to commemorate this event. Ideas included: walking trails, home coming event for former residents, etc. The board also asked for volunteers interested in writing up a short history of Sunshine Valley to be submitted to the Province to be included in their promotional material.

MOTION: *To adjourn the meeting.*
SECONDED AND PASSED.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.

**Next Directors Meeting is Friday, March 2, 2007
7:00pm – 9:00pm
SCCC Recreation Centre, Sunshine Valley, BC
Everyone welcome to attend!**