



**Sunshine Valley Ratepayers Association
Directors Meeting
April 5, 2007
SCCC Recreation Centre, Sunshine Valley, BC**

MINUTES

DIRECTORS PRESENT

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

Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: *Approve the agenda as circulated with the following additions: Social Events, Junior Lifeguards, Emergency Social Services, BC Assessment*
SECONDED and PASSED.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: *Approve the minutes as circulated from the March 2, 2007 Directors Meeting.*
SECONDED AND PASSED.

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

CORRESPONDENCE

One new membership and two membership renewals were received in March.

An e-mail was sent to Stacey Corriveau of the Fraser Valley Centre for Social Enterprise informing her that the Ratepayers will not be participating in the March 26th workshop on enterprising non-profits.

An e-mail was sent to Chris Weicht informing him that the SVRA board approved of his proposal to give a history presentation for the agreed to honorarium of \$100.

An e-mail was received from Chris Weicht informing the SVRA that he would like to make his presentation on June 3, 2007. Chris also provided a copy of his bio and promotional material related to his book.

A letter was received from Gerry Bender informing the SVRA that he would like to operate the radio station as a community service/hobby and not as a business.

The SVRA was copied on a letter from Don Bender, representing the Sunshine Valley water customer user committee, to Pieter Bekker regarding ongoing issues and concerns with the water rate application submitted by Sunshine Valley Developments Ltd. (SVDL).

The SVRA was copied on letters from Pieter Bekker to Don Bender and SVDL regarding the water rate application submitted by SVDL.

A letter was sent to Arne Zabell regarding the SVRA's support for the Bear Aware program in 2007.

A letter was sent to the Sunshine Community Co-operative Club (SCCC) regarding the donation of their recreation centre for a history presentation on June 3, 2007.

A letter was sent to Arne Zabell requesting that the SVRA be notified on any mining or aggregate removal activity near the Sunshine Valley community.

A letter of invitation was sent to the Skagit Environmental Endowment Commission regarding a tour of the Sumallo Valley and the feasibility of conducting a habitat study of Sunshine Valley.

BUSINESS

- **Community Water Update**

Don Bender informed the board that the deadline for SVDL to submit a written work plan from a qualified engineer to the comptroller's office detailing a state of the system study of both water systems in Sunshine Valley was today. Don discussed the letter he sent to Pieter Bekker that requested copies of all amendments made to the water tariff, correspondence between the comptroller's office and SVDL, insurance documents, accounting reports, receipts from the new chlorination system that was installed, tax information, and work and maintenance logs. Don reported that in Mr. Bekker's letter of response to him it stated that the documents relating to the water tariff are in the possession of SVDL and that providing copies of all correspondence between SVDL and the comptroller's office would be too costly as it is in excess of 350 pages. The letter stated that any cost of copying these documents would have to be covered by the user committee. The letter also stated that SVDL has not submitted an annual report for the years 2005 and 2006. Don is considering sending a letter to the comptroller asking how the \$30 interim rate was determined in the first place. These items will be discussed in greater detail at a public meeting scheduled on April 14th by the user committee.

- **Social Enterprise/FM Radio Station**

A letter addressed to the SVRA board from Gerry Bender was read aloud. In his letter, Gerry stated that he wished to withdraw his interest from the SVRA radio station proposal because he does not vision this as a viable or sustainable venture. Gerry stated that if the SVRA does not proceed with their plans for a commercial radio station, he will consider attaining a private radio licence. Barb will send an e-mail to the Hendrichs

informing them that the SVRA will not be purchasing their radio station equipment as we are unable to come up with the necessary funds.

- **Website Report**

Website traffic is up slightly from the month prior, but is still down slightly from January. Everything is operating satisfactorily.

- **Canada Day 2007**

A grant request of \$820 was made to Canadian Heritage. The SVRA should know of their decision by mid-April. We are currently looking for a charitable recipient for the 50/50 draw and ideas for door prizes. Please inform Kate of any corporate sponsors who might be able to assist us in covering the cost of a portable toilet, decorations, youth activities, etc. We are looking for approximately 20 sponsors this year. As background information, the cost of the portable toilet last year was \$260. Don Bender can provide the music. If not Don, Gerry can also. Celebration will be held on June 30th this year. We cannot commit to a walk this year. No fireworks display because of high cost of liability insurance and fire risk. Kate is proposing some sort of youth award. She will circulate information as soon as it becomes available.

- **150th Anniversary of British Columbia**

Ideas continue to come in for a Sunshine Valley reunion for former residents. A good person to talk to is Donna Wade for past residents and contacts. This anniversary will most likely be a significant addition to the 2008 Canada Day celebration activities. A separate committee needs to be formed for this event.

- **Policy and Procedure Manual**

The new SVRA policy and procedure manual was distributed to the board. The manual describes in detail the responsibilities of being a board member, job description for each of the executive positions, how to avoid conflicts of interest in conducting business, mission statement and more. The cover picture is of the bluffs near the airstrip.

Discussion as to whether the manual will be made available on the website has been tabled to the next directors meeting.

- **Board Member Resignation**

Barb received an e-mail from Kate informing her of Kate's decision to resign from her position on the board of the Ratepayers. Kate will continue to serve the board as chair of the Canada Day and BC 2008 committees. Kate will also continue to be active as a member of the water customer user committee. Kate has served on the SVRA board for the past four consecutive years and the board thanked her for dedication and service.

- **SVRA Newsletter**

The SVRA is looking for someone to assist in the publication of its newsletter. Ideally, this person will be familiar with Microsoft Publisher, be able to collaborate with others and have good editing skills. The newsletter needs to go out in May. We are looking for story contributions and reports from our membership on what we are doing. This is a great opportunity for anyone wanting to learn new skills. For more information, please contact Kate Zabell. Kate will assist in publishing the upcoming newsletter and hopefully, this person will be able to take over beginning with the winter newsletter.

- **Sunshine Valley History Presentation**

The board was agreeable to the June 3, 2007 date for the Chris Weicht Sunshine Valley history presentation. Chris would like to make this a lunch presentation. The board agreed to provide sandwiches and beverages. Chris will bring his own equipment but will need a projection screen. Norm Bell said he has a screen he can bring from home. The Sunshine Community Co-operative Club has agreed to provide the use of their recreation centre free of charge for this public event. Ben will send Chris an e-mail informing him that we have finalized arrangements.

Arne Zabell, Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD) Area B Director, addressed the board regarding their recent inquiries regarding Bear Aware and mining/aggregate activity. Arne stated that the FVRD does not have funding this year to support Bear Aware. In regards to mining/aggregate activity, Arne stated that the application by Argus Aggregate is an expansion of an existing site located just past the Hope Slide. Activities would include the drilling of test holes and there may be future plans for a rock crushing plant on the site. Arne stated that there are also plans to remove feldspar mineral from the SVDL side of the Hope Slide. This is a one hectare site and the application is for the removal of approximately 70-80 tonnes of material. Activity will consist of removing large rocks by truck. On Tuesday, the FVRD staff will comment on the application.

- **Adopt-A-Highway**

The next SVRA Adopt-A-Highway cleanup has been scheduled for May 27th. Volunteers should meet at 10:00 am at the mailboxes near the entrance to Sunshine Valley. New volunteers should contact Norm Bell. All volunteers must have a signed waiver on file and participate in a short safety demonstration prior to the cleanup.

- **High Speed Internet / Lookieloo**

At a March community meeting, representatives from Lookieloo gave a presentation to Sunshine Valley residents on the services they provide. Representatives stated that they may be able to use the dark fibre that is already installed in the ground and with a letter of support from the SVRA, may be able to access this dark fibre from Telus in order to provide high-speed internet to our community.

MOTION: *To send a letter of support to Lookieloo in accessing the dark fibre owned by Telus for the purpose of providing high-speed internet service to residents in Sunshine Valley and to copy the Fraser Valley Regional District.*
SECONDED AND PASSED.

- **2007 Fraser Valley Community Conference**

TABLED—until more information becomes available.

- **Junior Lifeguards**

Inquiries have been made as to whether the SVRA will offer a second training course for Junior Lifeguards in 2007. Full cost of the training course is provided by the Hope and District Recreation Commission. Not sure if there are funds to cover cost of taxi transportation. The Rec. Commission has set aside \$1400 for Sunshine Valley youth

activities. The next course starts in mid-April and runs until June. The SVRA will assist parents in registering youth for the courses sponsored by the Rec. Commission.

- **BC Assessment**

There may be a public interest in having someone from BC Assessment speak at an upcoming directors meeting on common questions homeowners have regarding their latest assessment. Barb Bell will look into this further.

- **Emergency Social Services**

Barb stated that residents in Alpine and Cedar need to contact the Ministry of Highways regarding ditches, culverts, etc. There is a potential for record flooding due to the large snow pack. All emergency personnel are on standby and the rivers are being monitored. The point of contact at Ministry of Highways is Bob Hacking.

- **Social Events**

Linda Carter listed some social events residents may enjoy participating in. The third annual Bacchanalia party in Hope is the last weekend in May. Linda will look into what the ticket cost is and look into bus transportation from Sunshine Valley.

Barb Bell stated that for the next directors meeting she is looking into inviting someone from the RCMP to give a talk on how to identify grow-ops and meth labs in our community. More information will be provided.

MOTION: *To adjourn the meeting.*

SECONDED AND PASSED

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

Next Directors Meeting is Friday, May 4, 2007

7:00pm – 9:00pm

SCCC Recreation Centre, Sunshine Valley, BC

Everyone is welcome to attend!