

# **Otter Point and Shirley Residents and Ratepayers Association**

## **Board Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** August 24, 2009

**Time:** 7:30 pm

**Place:** Meeting Room, The Sandpiper

**Present:** Arnie Campbell, Wayne Fritz, Fiona McDannold, Brenda Mark, John Charles, Erik

James, Sandra Barta

**Regrets:** Bob Phillips

### **1. Adoption of Agenda**

Moved by John Charles, Seconded by Wayne Fritz. Carried subject to adding a new item (5.7 - CRD Letter Concerning the Hartland Landfill).

### **2. Appointment of Recorder**

John Charles to be followed by Wayne Fritz, Brenda Mark, Fiona McDannold, Erik James, Sandy Barta and Bob Phillips

### **3. Approval of the June 18, 2009 Board Meeting Minutes**

Moved by Fiona McDannold, Seconded by Erik James. Carried

### **4. Old Business**

#### **4.1 Outstanding Correspondence**

##### **4.1.1 Letter From the Minister of Forests and Range - A. Campbell**

Arnie reported that Minister Bell had replied to our Oct. 18, 2008 request for a meeting. Minister Bell indicated that he saw no need to meet with OPSRRA representatives at this time. No further follow-up will be taken by OPSRRA at this time.

##### **4.1.2 Letter from the Minister of Community and Rural Development – A. Campbell**

Arnie reported that Minister Bennett had replied to our October , 2008 letter requesting a meeting to discuss local governance options. Minister Bennett indicated that as OPSRRA had recently met with Ministry officials to discuss these issues, there was no current reason for him to meet with OPSRRA. He also referred OPSRRA to a Regional District Task Force Report to the Union of BC Municipalities to be released for discussion this fall as it might address some local governance concerns.

##### **4.1.3 Letter to the CRD Board of Directors – A. Campbell**

Arnie reviewed the letter which asked for CRD Board support for carrying out a local governance study for Otter Point and Shirley-Jordan River. It also pointed out that recent judicial decisions setting aside six local land use bylaws due to CRD procedural errors in establishing the voting system used to pass CRD

bylaws in the JdFEA between April 2006 and December 2008 would require resolution through the full CRD Board. (See the full text in the forthcoming August 2009 OPSRRA Newsletter)

4.1.4 Letter from CRD Parks and the Ministry of the Environment – A. Campbell  
Arnie reported that replies had been received to OPSRRA letters expressing support for the establishment of a Muir Creek park. Both replies acknowledged OPSRRA support but made no commitments about the establishment of a Muir Creek Park. No further follow-up is planned at this time.

## **4.2 Business Arising From Previous Meeting**

### **4.2.1 JdFEA Parks and Recreation Commission Recreational Programming Policies – B. Mark**

Brenda reported that some discussion but little progress had been made to date about how JdFEA Parks and Recreation Commission funding for local recreational programming could be effectively made available to support recreational programs located in Otter Point and Shirley/Jordan River. The major problems appear to be related to the transition from SEAPARC to the JdFEAPRC and uncertainty about JdFEAPRC policies concerning local community recreational initiatives. Discussions are expected to continue within the JdFEA Parks and Recreation Commission and with Commission staff.

### **4.2.2 Review of Draft Rural Resource Lands OCP and Zoning Bylaws – A. Campbell**

Arnie reported that the participating JdFEA Advisory Planning Commissions had completed their public reviews of these bylaws. JdFEA planning staff were reviewing comments and recommendations obtained from various agencies. It is expected that the JdFEA Land Use Commission will be dealing with the bylaws this fall. OPSRRA has not taken any position concerning the draft bylaws and will need to decide whether it wishes to do so in the near future.

### **4.2.3 Meeting with Endar Ilkay – A. Campbell**

Arnie gave a brief report on a June 19, 2009 meeting with Mr. Ilkay (see July OPSRRA Newsletter) at which Mr. Ilkay discussed his current proposals to develop two pieces of property west of Jordan River and south of the West Coast Road – adjacent to the Juan de Fuca Marine Trail. It is anticipated that both of the properties on which the developments are being considered would require rezoning.

### **4.2.4 Update on WFP and TimberWest Private Forest Lands – A. Campbell**

Arnie reported that the WFP lawsuit to overturn zoning changes to its forestry lands in Otter Point, Shirley and the Rural Resource Lands had been successful as the courts had concluded that the CRD had made a procedural error in the constitution of the voting system used at the CRD Board to approve JdFEA Land Use Committee recommendations for the period April 2006 - December 2008. A new CEO (Mr. Frasher) had also been appointed for WFP. During general discussion, it was pointed out that a new Official Community Plan and zoning bylaw for the Rural Resource Lands was expected to be enacted by the full CRD

Board before Xmas. This would establish an updated local regulatory and zoning framework for WFP lands in the Rural Resource Lands. However, a public review and changes to the Official Community Plans and Zoning Bylaw in Otter Point and Shirley-Jordan River had not yet started and were not expected to be completed until well into 2010. Accordingly, WFP lands in Shirley/Jordan River and Otter Point would revert to local regulation through the outdated 1993 Sooke land Use Bylaw.

It was also pointed out that the validity of the existing Official Community Plans for Otter Point and Shirley-Jordan River, all bylaws, rezonings, subdivisions and other related land use decisions made by the JdFEA Land Use Committee during the April 2006 - December 2008 might also be successfully challenged. This could potentially call into question much of the recent land use planning and development throughout the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area. It was decided that OPSRRA should write Mr. Hicks, the Regional Director (with a copy to the chair of the CRD) raising these concerns and asking how these issues were to be dealt with. It was also decided to write a letter to the new CEO of WFP introducing OPSRRA and encouraging him to engage in broad community discussions about WFP's future plans in Otter Point and Shirley-Jordan River.

#### 4.2.5 Community Sawmill Concerns – A. Campbell

Arnie reported that the issue was still unresolved. OPSRRA will try to determine how the JdFEA plans on proceeding.

#### 4.2.6 Recent membership and Publicity Activities.- A. Campbell and W. Fritz

Four initiatives are underway. An advertisement outlining OPSRRA's role will appear in the September edition of the Rural Observer. A brochure providing background information about OPSRRA has been updated. Approximately 50 copies will be produced for distribution. An article about OPSRRA's establishment in 1992, its mandate and activities is being developed for the August newsletter. This will be followed up by a membership survey (both electronically and through a mailer) asking if members are getting their \$5 membership fee in value from OPSRRA and inquiring as to what role OPSRRA should be playing in the future.

## 5. New Business

### 5.1 Meeting with the Assistant Deputy Minister of Community and Rural Development – A. Campbell

Arnie gave a brief summary of the meeting OPSRRA held on July 16th, 2009 with Mike Furey, ADM and Garry Paget, Executive Director of Governance Structure Branch about local governance issues facing Otter Point and Shirley-Jordan River..)

### 5.2 Planning for an Autumn Town Hall Meeting – A. Campbell

Arnie reported that Keith Martin (MP), John Horgan (MLA) and Mike Hicks (Regional Director) had agreed to participate in a Town Hall meeting on October 14, 2009 at the Shirley Community Hall. It was agreed that the meeting should generally focus on Otter Point and Shirley/Jordan River concerns and should

consist of opening comments, a question & answer session, a coffee break and closing comments. Planning for the meeting will be finalized at the September Board meeting.

#### 5.3 Tentative Meeting with the Strategic Vision Advisory Committee – W. Fritz and A. Campbell

Wayne reported that consideration is being given to calling a late September meeting of the Strategic Vision Advisory Committee. The timing and agenda will be dependant on the availability and interests of the members.

#### 5.4 William Simmons Memorial Park and an Adjacent Lot – A. Campbell

Arnie reported that there is a small lot owned by 3L Property adjacent to the William Simmons Park which might be available to add to the park and used to erect some type of community or park facility. Brenda Mark noted that the JdFEA Parks and Recreation Commission were aware of this.

#### 5.5 Clean up of Priest's Cabin in Shirley – B. Mark

Brenda reported that the JdFEA Parks and Recreation Commission was likely be seeking volunteers for a work party in September/October to help clean up material from an abandoned log cabin on a small park in Shirley. Commercial contractors will remove the roof but volunteers are needed to help collect and remove related material.

#### 5.6 Fall Membership Meeting – A. Campbell

Arnie pointed out that planning should soon begin for the customary OPSRRA Membership Meeting in November. There was some discussion about the tradeoffs between holding the meeting on an evening versus a Sunday afternoon. Planning for the meeting will be on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

#### 5.7 CRD Letter Concerning Landfill Changes – A. Campbell

Arnie reported that the CRD had sent OPSRRA a letter outlining new policies concerning what materials could be placed in the Hartland landfill effective March 2010. An article about the changes in policy will be included in an OPSRRA newsletter.

## **6.0 Updates on Responsibilities of Directors**

### 6.1 Land Use Committee

Wayne reported that at its July 21/09 meeting, the LUC recommended that the CRD Board approve a request to relax the height and floor area requirements for the construction of an accessory building in Shirley/Jordan River.

### 6.2 Liaison with the Regional Director

Nothing to report

### 6.3 Liaison with Shirley

Fiona reported that the recent Shirley Days was a success with good community turnout. The Shirley Education and Action Society has identified watershed protection as one of its major concerns.

### 6.4 Liaison with MLA

Nothing to report.

#### 6.5 Strategic Vision

See agenda item 5.3. An additional 100 copies of the *Strategic Vision for Otter Point, Shirley and Jordan River* was produced for distribution at a cost of approximately \$194.

#### 6.6 Governance Activities

See agenda items 4.1.3 and 5.1.

#### 6.7 Regional Growth Strategy Review

Nothing new to report although the recent court decisions invalidating some JdFEA bylaws should lead to greater discussion of how lands west of Sooke fit within the Regional Growth Strategy.

#### 6.8 OPSRRA Website

Sandy reported that pictures from the William Simmons Community Park Cleanup were now posted on the OPSRRA website.

#### 6.9 OPSRRA Newsletter

A draft of the next newsletter will be circulated to Directors for comment this week.

#### 6.10 Publicity

See agenda item 4.2.6.

#### 6.11 Community Bulletin Boards

Erik James, John Charles, Arnie Campbell and Wayne Fritz volunteered for a work party to clean and assess maintenance requirements for OPSRRA community bulletin boards. Bob Phillips will be coordinating this..

#### 6.12 Treasurer's Report

Not available

#### 6.13 Membership Report

Erik reported that there had been no change since his last report.

#### 6.14 Update on JdF Parks and Recreation Commission and SEAPARC

Brenda reported that the JdF Parks and Recreation Commission was developing a neighbourhood stewardship agreement for a small park on Eagle Crest Drive in Otter Point.

### **7.0 Date for the Next Board Meeting**

Wednesday September 16, 2009 with September 17 as a fallback date.

### **8.0 Adjournment**

Adjourned at 9:40 pm on a motion from Wayne Fritz.