

Otter Point and Shirley Residents and Ratepayers Association

Minutes of the Directors' Meeting February 4, 2008

Date: February 4, 2008

Time: 7:30 pm

Place: SEAPARC Meeting Room

Present: Arnie Campbell, Ken Pungente, John Charles, Wayne Fritz, Maureen Nelson, Erik James, Bob Phillips

Regrets: Sandy Barta

1. Adoption of Minutes

The agenda was adopted, subject to the addition of item 4.1.3 (Invitation to the Sooke Volunteer Recognition Award Ceremony). Moved by Ken Pungente, Seconded by Wayne Fritz

2. Appointment of Recorder

Maureen Nelson was appointed as recorder for the meeting.

3. Approval of January 7, 2008 Directors' Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved. Moved by Ken Pungente, Seconded by John Charles

4. Old Business

4.1 Outstanding Correspondence

4.1.1 Letter to CRD re More Resource Lands OCP Public Hearings – A. Campbell

No response has been received to date. OPSRRA will follow up when the Resource Lands OCP is brought back for public input.

4.1.2 Letter from Minister Coleman re Auditor General Study Request – A. Campbell

Minister Coleman acknowledged receipt of a copy of the OPSRRA letter to the Auditor General supporting an inquiry into the release of Western Forest Products private forestlands from Tree Farm License 25 without community discussion or compensation.

4.1.3 Invitation to the Sooke Volunteer Recognition Award Ceremony – A. Campbell

OPSRRA was invited to send a representative to the award ceremony. A. Campbell will attend on behalf of OPSRRA.

4.2 Business Arising from the Meeting of January 4, 2008

4.2.1 OPSRRA Presentation at the Jan. 8, 2008 LUC Meeting – A. Campbell

The presentation asked a number of questions about the process through which future zoning bylaw changes would be made. A copy of the full presentation is available in the February 2008, OPSRRA newsletter.

4.2.2 Regional Director's Response to the Questions Asked at the LUC Meeting – A. Campbell

Erik Lund sent a letter responding to the questions raised by OPSRRA at the LUC meeting. He indicated that: it would be the intention of the CRD to support the community through their OCP and the RGS if future annexation requests were made; CRD Planning Services intend to begin work on a comprehensive zoning bylaw once the current proposed changes are passed; Planning Services staff will be utilizing the work of the Zoning Advisory Committee; Planning Services staff intend to obtain public input into the draft zoning bylaw.

4.2.3 OPSRRA Position at Public Hearings re Rural and Forestry Zoning Changes – A. Campbell.

A. Campbell made submissions on behalf of the Board of Directors at the public hearings for the zoning and OCP bylaw changes being proposed by the CRD. He subsequently received an e-mail from an OPSRRA member saying that the general membership had not been asked their views in advance of the submissions. His reply was that there was not enough time to hold a special membership meeting to discuss the submission and that he was always clear that the submission was only from the Board of Directors. There was general agreement by the Directors that that A. Campbell should also make a submission at the 3rd reading by the CRD for the bylaw if this was practicable.

4.2.4 Community Notice Boards – Bob Phillips

An additional 11 community bulletin boards could be located by community mail boxes in Otter Point and Shirley. Material to make seven boards is currently available. Of the boards to be built, two will be larger to accommodate local signage needs.

4.2.5 Nominations Committee – A. Campbell

Maureen Nelson will join Arnie Campbell and Ken Pungente on the Nominations Committee. Four persons have been identified to date as possible new candidates to run for OPOSRRRA board positions.

5. New Business

5.1 Concerns Raised about ATV Traffic – A. Campbell

Some local residents have expressed concerns about the impacts of ATV traffic along the hydro right of way and at the end of Tugwell Road. A. Campbell indicated that he and director James along with three other residents planned to take a hike in this area in the next few days and would report back on what they learned.

5.2 Changes in Zoning and Related Property Assessment Values –A. Campbell

Given concerns being expressed about how proposed zoning changes might affect property values, A. Campbell has contacted the BC Assessment Authority to determine when any related reassessments might occur. The BC Assessment Authority indicated that market decisions determine assessed property values and that it did not anticipate doing any reassessments of any lands which might be rezoned before October 2008 at the earliest.

5.3 Directors' Decisions re Standing for OPSRRA Elections – A. Campbell

All Directors except one indicated that they were prepared to stand for re-election, although some indicated that they might reconsider if other candidates were available.

5.4 Updates from directors on Assigned Responsibilities

5.4.1 Land Use Committee – Ken Pungente, Wayne Fritz

At the Jan. 8, 2008 LUC meeting:

- Duncan Kerr representing Western Forests Products made a presentation arguing against proposed zoning bylaw changes to the Forestry and Rural zones;
- A. Campbell of OPSRRA submitted a number of questions to LUC concerning the process through which zoning changes are made (see item 4.2.1);
- LUC is considering the establishment of a mechanism to obtain advice about agricultural related policies in the JDFEA; and
- a rezoning/OCP change application from 3L Developments was tabled.

5.4.2 Liaison with Regional Director – Maureen Nelson

Nothing to report.

5.4.3 Liaison with Shirley – Maureen Nelson

The Guiding Owl Corporation is working on the access road to connect Seaside Drive with the new subdivision.

5.4.4 Liaison with MLA – A. Campbell

A meeting with John Horgan is being scheduled in the near future.

5.4.5 Developing a Strategic Vision Project – W. Fritz

The next public information forum will be “Governance Options for Otter Point and Shirley” and will be held on the evening of Feb.19, 2008, at the Otter Point Fire Hall. A meeting with the project advisory committee is being arranged. The next stage of the project will focus on obtaining community involvement in the development of the strategic vision.

5.4.6 Governance Studies – A. Campbell

East Sooke and Metchosin, with assistance from a provincial government grant, are exploring the feasibility of amalgamating with each other. If it proceeds, a joint decision is expected this summer.

5.4.7 OPSRRA Website – Sandy Barta

No report.

5.4.8 OPSRRA Newsletter – A. Campbell

The latest newsletter has been distributed.

5.4.9 Publicity – J. Charles

The priority is still to recruit new members.

5.4.10 Community Bulletin Boards – B. Phillips, W. Fritz

See item 4.2.4 above.

5.4.11 Treasurer’s Report – A. Campbell

The overall financial balance is \$6,218.52, with \$5,835.22 to be used for Strategic Vision Project expenses, \$383.30 for ongoing OPSRRA activities, and \$11.11 in petty cash for OPSRRA expenses.

5.4.12 Membership Report

No new members to report

5.4.13 Update on Muir Creek – A. Campbell

The CRD Parks Commission is recommending a Muir Creek Park (from the shoreline extending up both sides of Muir Creek) on their long-term strategic parkland acquisition list.

5.4.14 Update on SEAPARC and JDF Parks Commission – K. Pungente, J. Charles

Ken Pungente was elected as Vice-Chair of SEAPARC. The JDF Parks Commission had no meeting in January.

6. Adjournment

Moved by W. Fritz