

Shawnigan Residents Association

Board Meeting

Dinter House, Shawnigan School

September 15th, 2015

Minutes

- 7:00pm **Call meeting to order** - Grant
- 7:01pm **Board members and Guest Present** –
Board members present: Al, Grant, Lois, Calvin, Dewar, Netta, and Garry. Megan was absent. Guests: Barane and Keith Bridge (...acquaintance of Netta)
- 7:05pm **Approval of Previous Board Minutes** –July’s minutes were “formally” approved, Subject to a small spelling mistake on page 2, under “SRA Governance Committee”...the word should be “dumping”, not “dumbing”.
Note: August 18th meeting was cancelled, so no minutes.
- 7:10pm **Review outstanding actions** :
- Netta to work with Victoria and Anne Marie to complete a SRA brochure. The purpose of the brochure was confirmed as a “take away” tool to promote awareness of SRA (and it’s website with goals, objectives and activities), plus as a tool to increase membership. – **Action: Netta will send out a draft before next meeting that will focus on what the brochure should include.**
 - Calvin will contact Andrew Weaver and follow-up to assist in making sure Mary Pollock’s office follows up on his report (e.g. undertakes to do some core sampling on Lot 21, and not just surface sampling). – **Calvin mentioned that Pollock’s office has made no comment to do a core sample. He also mentioned that Steve Nazar, a retired engineer who specialized in contaminated soil, would be working with Andrew Weaver.**
 - Calvin received support from the board for the wording of advertising for a new Communications Director. He will now advertise on our website and use social media. – **Still outstanding.**
 - Al will contact Chris to introduce some disclaimer language on our website relative to comments made by residents (e.g. re-tweets), that are posted on our website, but may not be supported in whole or in part by the board. - **Done**
 - Action: Al will “run” with the idea of a mobile billboard presented by Mark Granfar, and let us know what he comes up with. – **Al mentioned he couldn’t find a mobile billboard we could use, but will continue to pursue the issue.**
 - Lois will prepare are article for the Focus, as a result of her attending a meeting of the state of libraries and library funding in the area. In part it is to communicate the idea that the SRA is involved in more that just the fight against the dumping of contaminated soil in our watershed. **Done (in September’s Focus).**

- Calvin will speak with RCMP Sgt. Scott Stephen to see if lake patrols can add an element of education to boaters where their “large” wakes cause damage...damage they can be held liable for. The SRA recognizes this is a recreational lake, and while some would like to see all motor craft off the lake, “going back” isn’t a likely option, but with education and awareness we should be able to mitigate the worst of it. This is an area we need to stay on top of, given the fast changing designs of new boats and marine toys enjoyed by many residents and visitors alike. - Done
- Grant was to ask Kelly for a copy of the presentation, or other related material that we could put up on our site. – no presentation available, as the real content was delivered verbally.
- Lois felt that the Water portfolio was another area that could get higher profile with residents as to what we are doing. Grant was to give some thought on how this could be done. – Grant will prepare a summary for the AGM.
- Al would draft a letter (on behalf of the SRA) to Mary Pollock that would be presented to her at her constituency office by a resident holding one of our “Save Shawnigan Water” posters. – Al is organizing a demonstration to be held at Polleck’s constituency office.
- Action: Netta will follow-up with Chris on the upgrades to the website, and report back at next meeting. The board was reminded they authorized a payment here, and this issued should be monitored until the action is complete and monies paid. See invoice attached.

7:30pm **Committee reports** -

- Legal Action Committee – Calvin
 - Calvin mentioned that a Judge still hasn’t been assigned for our “Judicial Review”; cross examination dates should fall between Sept 17th and Oct 9th; and we are still waiting for material from SIA.
 - The CVRD’s challenge to the BC Supreme Court on zoning issues and SIA’s lands use has been delayed to Nov 2.
- SRA Governance Committee – Lois
 - The board supports keeping the “office” open, but few have the Saturday mornings available to volunteer. Undeterred, Lois is willing to organize volunteers (from the board, or others) to staff the office on Saturday mornings 9:00-Noon.
 - We are still looking for an “OPEN” neon sign to make it more obvious when the “office” is open.
 - Action: Al will check with Shawnigan School to see if the theatre is available on Thursday, Nov 19th . If not, he will see what other Thursday is available and let the rest of us know so we can work around the new date.
 - Action: Calvin will see if our lawyer (Sean) is available to attend the AGM and give an update.
 - Action: Grant asked Graham, who is available and willing to manage the part of the meeting associated with electing the new executive. I will send out a separate email on this topic.

- Al has organized an “all parties” meeting of candidates for the federal election. All have agreed to attend (except the Conservative candidate) on Oct 15th at the Shawnigan School theatre, between 6:30 – 8:30pm. The school will also be participated to involve students in the election/democratic process.
 - Action: Calvin will prepare and send a formal thank you letter to the Youbou Community Association for their support in our fight against the dumping of contaminated soil in our watershed.
 - The CVRD is interested in creating a bylaw that would allow for larger lots to have recreational vehicles park on them during summer months. The issue is a very contentious one on Cowichan Lake, but the CVRD want to create a bylaw that would also apply to Shawnigan Lake. Barane will monitor the issue, and let us know when it is presented to the Shawnigan Lake Advisory Planning Commission for their input and discussion....likely later this year. I’ve attached a related document from the CVRD explaining the issue, and their proposal.
- Membership Committee –Dewar
 - Katie gave an update and ask the boards support on a few issue, which she received:
 - The use of “Paypal” is supported, on the understanding it will cost approximately \$.70 on every \$20.00
 - Membership dues paid in a calendar year only covers that calendar, regardless if it is paid near the end of the year.
 - Unspecified contributions to the SRA will have the first \$20 (assuming it’s at least \$20) used towards the contributor’s membership, and the rest towards the “legal action” fund. To this end it is critical we at least get email information when receiving contributions.
 - Katie is preparing an operational manual, so that her future replacement doesn’t have to start from scratch.
 - Katie will have membership information ready and available for the AGM.
- Finance Committee – Dewar
 - Dewar mentioned there is \$4500 in the operating fund, and \$4500 in the Legal action fund
- Water Committee – Grant
 - The CVRD’s survey on water will shortly be sent to all Shawnigan residents. The SRA board supports the survey in principle and have put a short message on our website. Anne Marie will also put it up on our Facebook page.
 - Grant attended a site visit at Peter Nash’s home, where he was looking for help with shoreline remediation, caused by large wakes from boats pulling boarders, or wake surfers. David Polster, an expert in this field will attend a second site visit next Tuesday. I’ll let the board know what comes of the visit.
 - It was recognized that even with our long hot summer Jeralyn Jackson, a CVRD employee, who manages the weir has done an excellent job in

keeping the lake level near normal levels. Action: Grant will send an email to Jeralyn expressing our appreciation, and copying her bosses.

- Grant mentioned that Sonia is working on a bylaw to create zones around the lake where activities that create large wakes (boarding and surfing) would be restricted, e.g. “no go zones” down the Arm; Cedar Maker’s Bay; around the islands and in Strathcona Bay. Grant has been asked to comment on the proposal, and will continue to monitor this initiative.
- Municipal Status Committee – Al...no report
- Communications Committee – Al...no report
- Government Liaison Committee –Garry
 - Garry met with the RCMP Sergeant Scott Stephen to discuss lake monitoring. Garry found out they conducted patrols every weekend between the last weekend on June through to the Labour Day weekend in September.
 - The RCMP office is scheduled to move to their new location across from the Mill Bay Ambulance hall, sometime near the end of next summer (2016).
 - Garry would like to create a questionnaire that the SRA can send out to members/residents to ask what issues they would like the SRA to work on. Katie offered to help Garry, given she has taken courses on avoiding “survey bias”, plus has familiarity with the “Survey Monkey” software.
- Student Committee –Megan...no report

9:00pm

Adjourn

Next Meeting: Tuesday October 20th , 2015