

Shawnigan Residents Association (SRA)

Annual General Meeting

Shawnigan School Theatre

November 24th, 2016

7:30 – 9:00pm

Minutes

Al Brunet made a few **introductory /housekeeper comments** then introduced Garry Horwood to chair the next portion of the agenda

Garry Horwood asked for the **approval of the agenda**, which was unanimously approved. Garry then introduced Calvin Cook (SRA President).

Calvin Cook made some **comments about the purpose and functioning of the Shawnigan Residents Association**, and how the community has come together in a common interest. Garry asked for, and received approval of Calvin's report, then introduced Dewar McCarthy (SRA Treasurer).

Dewar McCarthy (SRA Treasurer) gave the **financial report**, including a summary of revenues and expenditures. Some hi-lights include:

- The association proudly includes 132 volunteers whose tireless efforts have made this year so successful
- We now have 999 paid up members
- \$20,000 in membership fees were collected this year alone
- \$180,000 collected as a result of fundraising
- \$3000 received from corporate sponsorships (i.e. DFH Real Estate)
- \$5000 in Grants-in-Ads from the CVRD
- expenditures included payments for ads; web administration; water testing; promotional material etc.
- The main expenditure was \$145,000 for the legal fees to Farris Lawyers this year. The total paid is \$475,000 of the \$750,000 owed in legal fees to date. Calvin later emphasized that Farris is by far the largest contributor to our campaign against the dumping of contaminated soil in our watershed, by forgiving the billing of hours of consulting fees.
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Garry Horwood asked for, and received approval of the financial report, then conducted

the election of the new SRA board:

- He introduced the 3 proposed executive board members:
 - Calvin Cook retaining the role as President (and assuming the role as Secretary in the absence of a volunteers for this role)
 - Al Brunet retaining the role as Vice President
 - Dewar McCarthy retaining the role as Treasurer
- He then introduced the remaining proposed members of the board, including:
 - Garry Horwood
 - Rod Macintosh
 - Jerrod Pinder
 - Alex Acton
 - Declan Powell
 - Natalie Urquhart
- Garry called “three times” for nominations from the floor. None being received the board, as presented, was elected by acclamation.
- Garry also thanks the board members who stood down, offering a few additional comments on **Grant Price** for his very active 5 years on the board.

Al Brunet expressed how much Shawnigan School has contributed and become such an integral part of our community. He then introduced David Robertson, Headmaster of Shawnigan School.

David Robertson (Headmaster of Shawnigan School) talked about his role, and that of the school, including:

- The school includes approx., 500 students, and 300 staff (both full time and part time)
- The “gates are always open” promoting an inviting atmosphere to people who have business with the school, or those just curious...with the only expectation that visitors show courtesy and respect to the ground and activities going on within.
- The activities and behaviours of students and staff have strived to build bridges, not walls
- numerous students volunteer within the community
- 70% of the students come from within Canada, while the remainder come from across the rest of the world
- Students are taught that everything works from respect and role modeling. They are not, nor aspire to be seen as an elitist school. They try to create an environment of looking after one another.

- Consistent with our fight against the dumping of contaminated soil in our watershed, David said, “first you act with your heart” (i.e. something feels wrong here), “ then you act with your head” (i.e. and this is what we are going to do about it).

Calvin Cook thanked David and reiterated how much our fight relies on volunteers from the community and how Shawnigan School is the “backbone” of that fight.

Calvin then updates us on the status of legal actions:

- The CVRD has 60 days to decide whether to take their fight to the Supreme Court of Canada, which is the last and final option around overturning the current decision, i.e. the CVRD’s inability to deny the dumping of contaminated soil based on current zoning bylaws. Calvin was not aware of any final decisions by the CVRD on this matter.
- The SRA is still waiting for a decision on our Judicial Review of the Environmental Appeal Board decision. The judge promised it no later than mid December.
- Calvin then open up the floor for any question...the majority of which pertained to the dumping of contaminated soil.

Al Brunet then thanked the crowd (which numbered between 50-60), and adjourned the meeting.

Minutes prepared by Grant Price on November 25, 2016