

SAMBRA MEETING

Held 7:00 PM on Tuesday, 13 November, 2018

At Oyster River/Black Creek Fire Hall, 2241 Catherwood Road, Black Creek, BC

MINUTES OF MEETING

In attendance: 39 Residents of the Saratoga and Miracle Beach area. Names recorded on separate sign-in sheet. Directors: Curtis Scoville; Marion Waters; Neil Ross; Jane Bentley

Guests: George Doerksen, Deputy Emergency Coordinator for CVRD; Scott Smith, CVRD Planning Manager; Ton Trieu, CVRD; Howie, CVRD
Edwin Grieve, Electoral Area C Director; Karin Koschack, Friends of Miracle Beach Park

Call to order and Welcome: Curtis Scoville, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Reports

- **Chairperson's Report:** Welcome; overview of the Agenda; highlights from previous meeting
- **Treasurer's Report:**
 - **Income:** Regional District Grant-in-Aid \$600; Interest \$0.05
 - **Expenses:** BC Registry Services \$40; Bank Fees \$10; Cigarette Butt Receptacles \$234.54
 - **Closing Balance \$1544.10**
- **Beach Committee:**
 - meets 4-5 times per year
 - Pleased with the access facilities at Seaman Road – thanks extended to CVRD with funding from SAMBRA, put up cigarette butt receptacles (wish people would use them more often!) and dog waste bag dispensers
 - Shoreline Cleanup held in October with the help of Miracle Beach Elementary students. There was a lot of garbage and a lot of cigarette butts. Once Seaman Rd. opened, Eyre Road garbage facilities were removed (unfortunately).

Old Business

Oyster River/Saratoga Beach Flood Risk Assessment – Final Report – George Doerksen, CVRD

- Reviewed Disaster Mitigation study
- Display maps were available to aid discussion
- Comparison of 1984 and 2018 flood mapping
- 2018 flood boundary includes climate change predictions and storm surge levels
- Area is considered relatively low risk in terms of impact (economic, environmental, injuries, etc.)

- CVRD is pursuing funding from fed. Govt for future study of entire CVRD coast line. Oyster River study area will extend further inland (along the river) than other coastal areas.
- Flood events are becoming more frequent. Data has only been collected for 40 yrs. making trends difficult to establish.
- Questions raised about effectiveness of flood response in Driftwood Road area (regarding Ministry of Transportation). Local residents expressed some frustrations.
- Curtis suggested a future open house with CVRD/SAMBRA/Ministry of Transport to discuss flooding; infrastructures; and road repair issues

Black Creek Oyster Bay Water Service – Neil Ross, SAMBRA director

- Current well water system not sufficient to meet needs of resident during dry summer months as it stands now. Third well is needed. Drill site has been established near Oyster River.
 - \$500000+ grant money from feds is approved
 - The BCOB water service includes properties north of the Oyster in Area D of the Strathcona Regional District (SRD).
 - Possibly complicating the issue are water problems in the Strathcona Regional District. The CVRD and SRD are negotiating terms for drilling the new well in Oyster River Park, which is within the SRD.
- WATUCO is a separate system from the CVRD system and uses Oyster River water. Recent study has been completed and presented to the WATUCO owner.

Mosquito Management Options – Edwin Grieve, Area C Representative

- No dedicated tax service for mosquito control in the CVRD
 - 2016 study identified an invasive species of mosquitoes which is difficult to control. Outbreaks are cyclical so don't usually appear every year.
 - Breed in brackish water (Black Creek estuary) and elsewhere
 - Could reduce habitat by timely grading of roads
 - Curtis suggested integrated pest management could be a future possibility
- (Edwin thanked voters for turning out in good numbers for the election.)

Miracle Beach Park Estuary Trail Closure – Karen Koschack, rep for Friends of Miracle Beach Provincial Park

- Trail begins on the north east corner of Black Creek bridge
- Floods regularly
- Boardwalks have begun to rot and cave in
- BC Parks planned to close the trail but listened to local protests in 2011 and kept it open
- Parks are now planning to close the trail permanently and have removed the boardwalks, citing environmental damage concerns and concern about increasing flooding incidents due to climate change

- Local residents very attached to the park and the trail
- Friends of MBPP have a Facebook page that is attracting increasing followers
- “Friends” want to work with BC Parks. Has had informal discussions with Derek Moore (manager with BC Parks derek.moore@gov.bc.ca)
- Karen has requested a meeting with BC Parks. She is setting up a committee of interested residents
- Suggestion from the floor to contact NDP MLA Ronna-Rae Leonard: ronna-rae.leonard.MLA@leg.bc.ca
- Question – is the planned closure about the environment or about funding?
- Discussion continued with Karen after the meeting

Oyster River Fire Dept.

- New tanker truck accreditation – residents who are not near fire hydrants may be able to save money on home insurance.

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New Business

None – ran out of time

Correspondence - none

Next Meeting – 2019

Adjourn: Neil Ross 8:32 p.m.

Contact Curtis Scoville if you are interested in being on the Board of SAMBRA, have items you would like placed on the agenda of the next meetings or have questions. Phone 250 337-1986 or email SAMBRA@outlook.com.

Reminder: check SAMBRA’s website: www.sambra.ca for more info and links to other websites.